

## REVIEWS

## PRACTICAL ANAESTHESIA FOR LUNG SURGERY

By Ruth Mansfield, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A. and Richard Jenkins, M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A. (Pp. 193; indexed; 43 illustrations. 50s.) London: Bailliere, Tindall and Cassell Ltd., 1967.

ANAESTHESIA is a comparatively new specialty in the field of Medicine, which received rapid development during the Second World War 1939-1945 and has since been accorded a place of honour alongside the other specialties. As scientific medicine advanced through the decades, the Doctor now sought new territories; to-day, we pay tribute to the pioneering efforts of those illustrious figures of the past; for history will record that no part of the human body is beyond the reach of the Surgeon or the Physician.

This latest work by Drs. Mansfield and Jenkins, should be read by all DOCTORS—for its essential practical approach to lung disease; is clearly and concisely stated as the book unfolds. For selective reading of general interest the following chapters are recommended:—Chapter 1, Broncho pulmonary anatomy with relation to pathology, pg. 1-7; Chapter 3, page 55, on interaction of drugs poses a perennial problem which must be carefully considered when treating our patients; Chapter 4, page 64, Pre-operative physiotherapy by specialist physiotherapists:—on postural drainage, etc.

The successful outcome of Surgery is a result of careful planning and never ceasing appraisal;

which necessitates team work between Physician, Surgeon and Nursing Staff. There are special chapters in this book of importance to all those directly involved in the treatment of lung disease and chest injury. The chapter on control of secretions, lists all the methods available to prevent soilage of healthy lung during operation, however the choice of any particular method would be determined by: (1) the age of the patient, (2) the pathology present, and (3) the experience of the anaesthetist. All the methods available are well illustrated. The review on bronchial blockers, double lumen and single lumen tubes, in particular, is complete.

All anaesthetists should read this book, and should possess a copy for reference, for in the final analysis it will be due to their skill and critical judgement that they will in no small measure contribute materially to the efforts of the surgical team in guiding a patient safely through Surgery.

This book is well produced; the numerous figures supporting the text make for easy reading. This book is recommended to both experienced and trainee anaesthetists.

W. Pais

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CANCER OF THE NASOPHARYNX—A Symposium organised by the International Union Against Cancer. UICC Monograph Series No. 1 Edited by C. S. Muir and K. Shanmugaratnam Munksgaard, Copenhagen P. 259. Price 105 Dan. Kr.

This is a collection of papers presented at a Symposium held in Singapore by the Pacific Area Sub-committee on Geographical Pathology of the International Union Against Cancer with the object of discussing a cancer of primary importance to the people of the Pacific area. The papers presented cover the epidemiological aspect of nasopharyngeal cancer and also include investigations on its morbid anatomy, ultrastructure, biology and anthropological and genetic aspects. Diagnosis, treatment and medical history are also discussed. As such, it is likely to be of interest not only to workers in cancer, but also to doctors in the Pacific area in that they

can glean from it much information of interest. Significant findings include the conclusive proof of the origin through ultrastructure and tissue culture, the negative results in the search for an environmental cause, and the demonstration of a marked racial predominance.

However, it is quite obvious that this volume is more a Report of the Proceedings of the Symposium rather than a monograph, for one expects from the latter a balanced presentation of a topic or hypothesis from one or more authors, and in the case of multiple authorship, the usually severe editorial control permits a proper interlocking of the various presentations

of expertise. It seems a recent fashion for professional bodies to eschew the designation of "Proceedings", and "Reports", which are, nonetheless, the correct indications of such collection of papers. Hence, it would be necessary to point out that in a true monograph on a topic such as this, the treatment and diagnosis appear sketchy by comparison, the presence of a paper on snuff

strangely out of place; and the significant difference in methodology in studying epidemiology ranging from sources such as National Registry of Cancer, to the findings of a single institution of biopsies and death. Clearly as a Conference Report, it is both interesting and valuable, but the improper use of the term monograph mars rather than improves its worth.

Gwee Ah Leng

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THE PATIENTS' PROGRESS Ed. Felix Masti-Ibanez M.D. Publications, New York, N.Y.  
Page 148. Price unmarked.

In these days of "modern" medicine with a preoccupation amounting to obsession in methodology, technology, instrumentation, and scientific exactitude, the patient as a human being is frequently overlooked, and in fact has often been redistributed in terms of a number of phenomena in cardiology, neurology, psychiatry, biochemistry, electrophysiology and statistics. However, a clinical man must remain patient-orientated for his concern is with the restoration of a man to normality from his restrictions arising as a result of disease processes, and it is certain that whatever the future development of medicine, short of the eradication of all diseases which would be an impossible dream, the clinician's role must remain in demand, and the doctor, with service as a goal, must never lose sight of the patient who is the only reason for the clinician's existence.

From this aspect, this book is a timely contribution in that it provides a proper perspective in

history of the patient in relation to his environment, and in providing this panoramic view, the physician comes up as a living image progressing from sorcery to humanitarian until the present day technician which many thinking medical educators deplore. It should be a must for the general reading of medical students and would be a reminder to the teachers especially those who pride themselves as pure scientists preferring the level of hormones and amino-acids to the feelings and emotions of a patient.

The book is very readable, and delightfully presented both in literary style and in physical appearance. Its small size belies its importance. The inclusion of a source bibliography or reference list would greatly enhance its attraction—a remission which I hope will be put right in the next edition. The only criticism would be its inexplicable omission of India and China, and in that sense would be more appropriate under a title "The Western Patients' Progress".

Gwee Ah Leng