

Book Reviews

indicate the range covered in this section, a pattern copied throughout the book.

Each section is prefaced by a short introduction, and each author is given a brief, but useful, biographical note.

There are many translations from the German and French, all of which will provide the English reader with a most useful source for some of these valuable, and otherwise inaccessible, papers.

Omissions there must be in such a work, as the compilers recognize in their preface, and it is perhaps quibbling to suggest that the curare experiments of Benjamin Brodie (1811) might have included those in which tracheostomy was combined with artificial respiration: and that Crile's classic paper on 'anoci-association' might have been reproduced, though there is compensation for this in Cushing's *Avoidance of Shock in Major Amputations by Cocainisation* (1902), in which Crile's work is mentioned, as are the famous 'ether charts' developed by Cushing and his student colleague E. H. Codman.

Anaesthetic apparatus does not unfortunately receive a separate section. This is an important omission, though many interesting plates of apparatus are reproduced, notably those of Paul Bert, of Priestley, and of Cotton and Boothby, whose nitrous oxide/oxygen/ether apparatus of 1912 heralded the change from the older rough and ready methods to some degree of accuracy in administration of gases. The carbon dioxide absorption apparatus of Jackson (1915) deserves mention, but the work on this subject of Snow (1850) and Alfred Coleman (1862), both of whom developed apparatus, is not mentioned, and was evidently not known even to Waters.

These are minor omissions which in no way detract from the value of these volumes, from which every anaesthetist could extract valuable information, and to which the historian will inevitably turn in any future study of the history of anaesthesia. And what an excellent thing it is to find complete indices in each volume.

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