

BOOK REVIEWS

LEGAL ASPECTS OF HYPNOSIS. By WILLIAM J. BRYAN, JR., M.D. Springfield: Charles C. Thomas; Toronto: The Ryerson Press. 1962. \$11.50.

THE FIRST SECTIONS of this book deal with laws regulating the practice of hypnosis and previous court decisions relating to hypnosis, and will be of considerable interest to all physicians who have an interest in this technique. The remainder of the volume deals with the use of hypnosis and hypnoanalysis in the investigation of crime and briefly with the use of hypnosis in international propaganda and "brain washing." This makes most interesting reading, but will not be of primary interest to anaesthetists in the professional sense.

R.A.G.

DRUG THERAPY. By FRANK C. FERGUSON, JR., M.D. Philadelphia: Lea & Febiger; Toronto: The Macmillan Company of Canada Ltd. 1962. \$8.25.

To QUOTE the preface, "this book is entirely a compendium of personal opinion." This is possibly the only way in which the author could conceivably deal with the vast field of drug therapy in a book of 389 pages, but in the opinion of the reviewer it does nothing to enhance the value of the book. General anaesthetics are dismissed in some nine pages and the presentation is quite without value. Its whole tone is summarized in the following quotations under the heading "Choice of Drugs": "Selection of anaesthetic is often based upon supposed differences in safety. Such differences have never been proved and if existent are inconsequential" and "Of inhalation compounds, cyclopropane . . . must be considered the standard for use."

This reviewer finds it difficult to justify the existence of this volume.

R.A.G.

MANUAL OF ANESTHESIOLOGY FOR RESIDENTS AND MEDICAL STUDENTS.
By HERMAN SCHWARTZ, M.D., S. H. NGAI, M.D., and E. M. PAPPER, M.D. Springfield: Charles C. Thomas; Toronto: The Ryerson Press. 2nd edition. 1962. \$6.50.

THIS SMALL VOLUME is an excellent introduction to anaesthesia. The emphasis on basic physiology and pharmacology as an approach to the specialty will appeal to teachers, and there is a surprising amount of "headline" information included for a volume of 189 pages. It is undoubtedly most useful for medical students and junior internes.

R.A.G.