

BOEKBESPREKINGS : BOOK REVIEWS

VOGBALANS

Fluid Balance in Obstetrics. Deur Philip Rhodes, M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S. (Eng.), M.R.C.O.G. Pp. x+169. R2.50 netto. Londen: Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd. 1960.

In hierdie vloeiend-leesbare boekie word die fisiologie van vogbalans in die nie-swanger en swanger toestand behandel. Die veranderinge word beskryf wat intree met komplikasies van hiperemese gravidarum, pre-eklamptiese toksemie, en bloedings van swangerskap. Die behandelingsaspekte, veral van anurie van swangerskap, word breedvoerig verduidelik.

Moderne na-operatiewe sorg verg 'n kennis van vog- en elektrolietebalans. In die swanger vrou is daar 'n basiese preoperatiewe verskil (veral na 'n lang kraam) wat in aanmerking geneem moet word wanneer vloeistof- en elektrolietebenoedighede bepaal moet word na 'n keisersnee. In sekere opsigte het 'n normale verlossing dieselfde resultate as 'n operasie op 'n nie-swanger pasiënt. Die praktiese aspekte van hierdie stellings word in die lig van moderne kennis uiteengesit. Die aandag word gevestig op die leemtes in ons kennis, veral wat betref selfsiologie. Die skrywer dui dan ook aan in watter rigtings daar in die verloskunde verdere navorsing gedoen behoort te word.

J.N.dV.

CLOSED TREATMENT OF FRACTURES

The Closed Treatment of Common Fractures. 3rd Edition. By John Charnley, B.Sc., M.B., F.R.C.S. Pp. xii+272. 215 illustrations. R5.00 plus 23c postage. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1961.

This well-known book by one of the original thinkers in present-day orthopaedic surgery now appears in its third edition since 1950. It has obviously stood the test of time, and that it now appears with very little modification since the first edition, which we had the privilege to review, is a tribute to the soundness of the ideas expressed therein.

To those who have not yet read either of the previous editions, it will suffice to say that the book is based on the premise expressed in the first edition 'the essential difficulty in performing a closed reduction can usually be traced to the surgeon not having a clear mental picture of what he is attempting to do'. The author lays down principles for resolving the difficulties, and in this particular edition indicates that in certain fractures of the femur and tibia conservative treatment should be reinforced by the use of intramedullary fixation.

This book is strongly recommended to all who are required to treat fractures.

M.S.