

RECONSTRUCTIV
&
REPARATIVE
SURGERY

积水潭医院

RECONSTRUCTIVE AND REPARATIVE SURGERY

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PREFACE

TEN YEARS have elapsed since the publication of the first edition of this book—a relatively short span of time, and yet a decade of rapid and profound changes in medicine and surgery effecting improvements and refinement in the art and science of plastic and reconstructive surgery. The experience gained in World War II stimulated the use and evaluation of new technics in civilian practice, and paved the way for further advances that later were subjected to reevaluation in the Korean conflict. The greater quiescence of recent years has provided an opportunity to digest the vast information offered by the dynamic years of the immediate past.

Plastic surgery is firmly established as a separate branch of surgery, the formative branch of surgery, as the term “plastic”—popularized by E. Zeis through his two scholarly works of 1838 and 1863—aptly signifies. Specialization is the present trend of medicine—justifiably so. If the tree is to grow it must branch. Overspecialization, however, is apt to lead to segregation, a fact that is being more and more appreciated. It impairs the versatility of the specialist, and he is likely to see only the conditions related to his specialty rather than the patient as a whole. Only through application of the basic principles of general surgery to every surgical specialty can the welfare of the patient be furthered. This book is presented, therefore, with the hope that it may be of practical value and theoretical interest not only to the specialist of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery but to the general surgeon as well.

The book has five divisions: one on general principles, three on regional features, and one dealing with clinical examples. Division One contains general technic, grafting of tissue, transplantation of flaps, and treatment of burns, wounds, and scars. Divisions Two to Four demonstrate the various reconstructive principles in the different parts of the body: head and neck, trunk, extremities other than hand and foot, and hand and foot. Reconstructive surgery deals mainly with the closure of defects and reconstruction in malformations; hence it was considered logical and practical to carry this theme throughout the discussions on regional procedures. Thus, these chapters have been subdivided, whenever possible, under the headings: Defects, Deformities (or Dysfunctions). The last section of the book, Division Five, presents illustrative cases and their histories; formerly arranged on a trial basis, it has proved a worthy adjunct

to the text. It has satisfied the requirements of practicality, and therefore in this second edition has been retained and expanded.

This second edition has been largely rewritten. Treatment and methods that have proved consistently to be efficient have been retained. Others have been modified. In addition, the continental literature that was inaccessible during World War II has been studied for values requiring alteration or expansion of the first edition text.

The book has been greatly enlarged to include new information and many recent advances, particularly in the field of tissue transplantation, the treatment of wounds and burns, and the use of the antibiotics. The sections dealing with reconstructive surgery of the face and of the extremities, particularly of the hand, have been expanded greatly. Reference has been made to some technics with which the author has had no experience but which have proved successful in qualified hands.

This second edition gives the author the opportunity to acknowledge his debt of gratitude to those who have stimulated his efforts through their constructive criticism and affirmation.

It is a particular pleasure to acknowledge the practical values that others have contributed to this book. For those activities, and for the cordial and sympathetic attitudes that accompanied them, I am deeply grateful. The drawings were made by the celebrated medical illustrators, Mr. and Mrs. William B. McNett. Mrs. McNett made many from actual operations. The photography throughout was the work of Mr. E. Richard Deats. Dr. David M. Davis contributed the section on congenital malformations of the urethra in the male, Chapter XVIII, and Dr. Harrison F. Flippin, the section on antimicrobial therapy, Chapter III.

I wish to express my appreciation and gratitude to my secretary, Miss Marian E. Esterly, who is responsible for the painstaking task of transcription of the manuscript and the preparation of the index, and to Mr. Wendell H. Grenman and Mrs. Florence W. Brehm for editing the text.

I am indebted to those authors who so graciously permitted reproduction of their illustrations; and last, but not least, to the F. A. Davis Company and their editorial staff for the excellent work in publishing the book.

HANS MAY, M.D.

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