

Christopher's Textbook
of
SURGERY

Edited by

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Seventh Edition

WITH 1597 ILLUSTRATIONS ON 810 FIGURES

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PREFACE

The advancements in the principles of surgery, the extension of the bounds of surgical procedures and the contributions of the basic sciences to surgical therapy continue to multiply rapidly. A modern textbook of surgery must be revised frequently to keep abreast of these changes.

In the relatively short time devoted to the presentation of surgery in a medical school curriculum, it is impossible for a student to acquire the knowledge he must have to become a surgeon. In fact, progress in surgery and education of the public have progressed to the point where the medical profession and many laymen recognize that a medical school diploma and a state license to practice, obtained after a year's internship, do not qualify an individual to perform surgical operations.

This textbook of surgery strives to place before the student an interestingly told story of the facts and principles which should form the basis for his education in surgery, so as to stimulate him to continue his self-education throughout his professional life. Each contributor to this seventh edition has aimed to present his subject in such a way that it will stimulate the young and older students of surgery alike to read further. In his own style of teaching and expression, each author has attempted to create a desire in the reader to learn more about the subject presented. Surgery is the *art* of the application of anatomy, physiology, bacteriology, pathology, biochemistry, pharmacology and other sciences to the best care of the patient. Each individual must strive to become a better surgeon by educating and improving himself in the complexities of judgment, responsibility and decision which each patient's problem presents.

The many additions to surgical knowledge have made it necessary to write volumes of text devoted to one particular specialty of surgical practice, if there is to be an encyclopedic coverage of the subject. This textbook makes no attempt to meet such a goal. It aims to aid the student of surgery, of all ages to approach an understanding of surgical axioms properly. If each book becomes well thumb-marked, it will have accomplished its purpose. Reading references to recent and historical contributions in the literature have been provided to encourage the inquisitive and imaginative to seek further, so that they may construct their own understanding of the application of surgical principles.

In this edition, the chapters on Infections, The Abdominal Wall and Peritoneum, Surgery of Peptic Ulcer, The Urinary Tract, Male Reproductive System, The Foot, and Amputations have been completely rewritten by new authors. A section on Surgical Judgment has been added. Important changes and additions which reflect the most recent advances have been made in the other chapters, each of which has been thoroughly reviewed, and most have been heavily revised.

It cannot be emphasized too often that the education of a surgeon involves many fields of learning, as well as the appreciation of tradition, the only way by which wisdom may be passed on from generation to generation, and the realization that integrity, ideals, judgment, decision, action and the practice of the Golden Rule must often be upheld or exercised instantaneously by the surgeon.

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PUBLISHER'S FOREWORD

THE SAUNDERS COMPANY takes great pride in looking back over the long life and distinguished service to medicine of the Textbook of Surgery edited by Frederick Christopher, M.D., Emeritus Professor of Surgery at Northwestern University Medical School. It now takes equal pride in presenting the Seventh Edition of that text as a teaching instrument under the continuing editorial direction of Loyal Davis, M.D., Chairman of the Department of Surgery of Northwestern University Medical School.

The essential purpose of the text and the essential means to its accomplishment were initiated by Dr. Christopher and are here carried on in the Seventh Edition by Dr. Davis. In this new issue of the text Dr. Davis has given the separate contributors broader segments of surgery for discussion. This has resulted in a kinship of philosophy and identity of didactic purpose among the contributors which give the text much of the cohesiveness and force of a single-handed effort; but the method of presenting separate subjects by separate authors remains the same and achieves the same effect of authority and comprehensiveness.

One of the innovations of the Editor in the previous edition was preparation of the biographical sketches which appear beneath the names of each of the contributors to this Textbook, save his own. This one missing biography the publisher would like to fill in here.

Loyal Davis was born in Galesburg, Illinois, and received his education at Knox College and Northwestern University. As a Fellow of the National Research Council, he received his surgical training under Allen B. Kanavel and spent a year as a voluntary assistant in neurological surgery at the Peter

Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston. He returned to Northwestern University Medical School and assumed the Chairmanship of the Department of Surgery in 1932.

During World War II, he was the senior consultant in neurological surgery to the Chief Surgeon of the European Theatre of Operations from 1942 to 1944 and was one of the two surgeons from the United States who were members of the first surgical mission to Russia. His contributions in surgery, neurological surgery, medical education and literature are numerous. He has been Editor of Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics since 1938, and has been elected to honorary fellowships in the Royal College of Surgeons in England and the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh and to the presidency of the American Surgical Association.

It may be imagined that the publishing problems in processing so large a text by so many authors are difficult. In these problems Dr. Davis has shown toward his associates and his publisher unfailing helpfulness and decisive judgment. It is due to his untiring effort that publication of the book has been achieved quickly and effectively.

Finally, the publisher would like to add a word of appreciation to the one indispensable person in the long, mysterious and complex process of transforming thoughts to words and words to printing. He is the contributor. It is on his work and his authority that this book rests. The text reflects his investigation, his clinical insight, his experience, his skill, his conclusions. This book through the contributor becomes a mirror of modern surgery, in which many act together in a common cause and in which the knowledge of all is freely called upon.

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