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RODNEY MAINGOT, F.R.C.S.

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PREFACE

Owing to the great reception this book has been accorded by surgeons throughout the world and also owing to the great advances that have been made in abdominal surgery since the publication of the fourth edition of *Abdominal Operations* in 1961, it has been necessary to bring this new edition up to date, to revise the whole work thoroughly, and to reset it entirely. This is *practically* a new book.

To ensure that certain specialized subjects in this vast field should receive expert consideration the aid of many eminent contributors has been invoked, with the addition of 25 new chapters and 649 new illustrations, the majority of the latter by well-known medical artists. This work is intended to present a detailed account of abdominal operations as practised today. It also deals with the choice of operations; the difficulties and dangers which sometimes arise during the conduct of operations; the preoperative preparation and the postoperative care of the patient; the management of complications; the immediate and remote results of the various measures described; the clinical, radiological, pathological, and other aspects of lesions of the abdominal viscera; and many problems in abdominal surgery.

In a work of this nature dealing as it does with a large number of subjects, many of which are closely related, it is impossible to avoid a certain degree of repetition, overlapping, difference of opinion, and controversy. According to Moynihan * "Controversy in surgery may often tend to be coarsening but we cannot gainsay it has occasional advantages. It serves to challenge opinions which might be too readily accepted, to oppose reason to authority, to destroy prejudices, or to support a truth which otherwise might long pass unnoticed."

The contributors have been given a free hand with their individual sections. A certain latitude in style and expression is stimulating to the thoughtful surgeon. The occasional diversity of opinion expressed may be helpful by encouraging a closer study of such subjects to enable him to form his own conclusions. I believe that a certain degree of repetition in order to emphasize a point in teaching, to enforce a precept, or to offer an illustration cannot well be avoided.

It is hoped that this new edition of *Abdominal Operations* will gain even further favour and will continue to appeal, as it has done in the past 28 years, to abdominal surgeons, to resident surgeons, to surgical registrars and assistants, and to those holding responsible posts on the staffs of hospitals, to postgraduates studying for higher degrees in surgery, and to all those who are interested in present-day developments in surgery.

I tender my most cordial and grateful thanks to the following: to the publishers, and especially to Mr. David Stires, the Editor-in-Chief, for their help in the arrangement of this work, for their readiness to adopt my suggestions and, above all, for overcoming every obstacle so that success might be achieved; to the contributors for their ready and loyal cooperation, and also for the excellence of their articles and illustrations which have done so much to enhance the value of this work; to many distinguished authorities who have supplied me with valuable illustrations and

* *The Spleen and Some of Its Diseases*, John Wright & Sons Limited, Bristol, 1921.

concise accounts of the techniques they employ for certain operations, or who have submitted important clinical, pathological or other data. These include, among many others, Dr. Frank Glenn, Dr. Harry Bockus, Dr. B. Castleman, Dr. Bentley Colcock, Dr. George Crile, Jr., Dr. Loyal Davis, Dr. Cuthbert Dukes, Dr. W. L. Estes, Jr., Professor J. C. Goligher, Dr. Robert E. Gross, Sir Charles Illingworth, Dr. F. Avery Jones, Dr. Lucien Leger, Mr. H. E. Lockhart-Mummery, Dr. John L. Madden, Dr. C. B. McVay, Sir Clifford Naughton Morgan, Dr. John H. Mulholland, Dr. James Priestley, Mr. George Qvist, Professor Sheila Sherlock, Sir Ronald Bodley Scott, Mr. Adrian Fox, Dr. Alan Thal, Dr. Richard Warren, Dr. Claude E. Welch, and Dr. Robert Zollinger; to the numerous authors, editors, and publishers of journals, monographs, and textbooks who have generously allowed me to quote important passages from their works, to abstract invaluable statistical data, to borrow tables and sketches, or to reproduce, adapt or modify their illustrations, the full recognition of which is made under Acknowledgments or under the captions; to the surgeons, at home and abroad, who have so kindly extended to me the privilege of witnessing their work and of attending their ward rounds or conferences; to those who have readily assisted me with the loan of radiographs; and, finally, to those surgeons throughout the world who have tendered me their advice and helpful criticisms (and there were many!) and who have done so much to encourage me in this most difficult and responsible task.

The illustrations constitute one of the outstanding features of this edition. Believing, as I do, in the great teaching potentialities of good illustrations, I have introduced as many as 649 new pictures in the text, making a grand total of 1,321 illustrations.

The majority of the time-honoured illustrations of the previous editions have been eliminated; but I have retained a few of the original vivid and instructive pictures which were drawn by that talented artist, Miss Pauline Larivière, who was a pupil of Max Brödel, the greatest medical artist of all time.

For this new book I have been fortunate in having the valuable aid of Mr. Robert Lane, who has drawn many of the illustrations for the British contributors, and most of these were sketched during operative sessions. His pictures are, in my opinion, masterpieces in that the technical details of the various operative procedures which are so truthfully reproduced are, after careful study, vigorously and indelibly impressed upon the mind. I am indebted to him for his fine craftsmanship, artistic skill and accuracy, and for the great pains he has taken to make his work a success.

The very high standard of illustration is well maintained in the superbly drawn pictures which have been so generously supplied by the contributors.

To my secretaries, Miss E. Margaret Thomas and Miss Janet Burrage, I owe a great debt of gratitude for helping me with every step of this work, for typing manuscripts, for reading and editing the page proofs with me after consulting hours, and for their encouragement and perseverance during our joint labours.

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Acta chirurgica scandinavica; Archiv für klinische Chirurgie; Deutsche medizinische Wochenschrift; Deutsche Zeitschrift für Chirurgie; Gazzetta medica italiana; Indian Journal of Surgery; Journal de chirurgie; Journal of the Medical Association of Eire; Münchener medizinische Wochenschrift; Policlinico; La presse medicale; Revista de gastro-enterologia de México; Schweizerische medizinische Wochenschrift; Wiener klinische Wochenschrift; Zentralblatt für die gesamte Chirurgie und ihre Grenzgebiete.

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a. Anatomy

Grant (J. C. B.) and Basmajian (J. V.) *Method of Anatomy: By Regions, Descriptive and Deductive*, 7th Edit., 1965; *Gray's Anatomy*, 34th Edit., Edited by D. V. Davies, 1967.

b. Cancer and Tumours

Blakemore (W. S.) and Ravdin (I. S.) *Current Perspectives in Cancer Therapy*, 1966; Canadian Cancer Conference, Vol. 6 (Proceedings), 1966; Dukes (C. E.) Edited by,

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c. *Diagnosis and Laboratory Methods*

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Royal Free Hospital, London; Southend General Hospital; Middlesex Hospital, London; Western Infirmary, Glasgow; St. David's Hospital, Cardiff; University College Hospital, London; The London Clinic; The London Hospital; St. Mark's Hospital, London.

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