

Textbook of Experimental Surgery. By J. MARKOWITZ, M.B. (Tor.), Ph.D., M.S.

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In this country experimental surgery is confined strictly to investigative work, undertaken with the sole object of advancing knowledge in medicine in its widest sense. In America experiments on animals are carried out with the dual object of advancing medicine and training the student and young graduate in operative manipulation and technique.

Dr. Markowitz, who has worked for some years in the admirably equipped and progressive Department of Experimental Surgery at the Mayo Clinic, has produced this valuable treatise on the methods and technique which have been employed, and in many cases evolved, in that Department. He seeks to prove, and in effect he succeeds in proving, that the well-trained surgeon must approach his work with a mind steeped in physiology.

The opening chapters on operative technique require no comment-they are such as we find in any textbook of operative surgery; those on intestinal fistulae, experimental peptic ulcer, and biliary fistulae, however, reflect the original work of the Mayo laboratory and are full of interest. The surgery of the involuntary nervous system is well described, and a particularly valuable chapter is that on experimental surgery of the liver.

This book will be welcomed by all working in surgical research departments. It does not pretend to be encyclopaedic or comprehensive, and reflects American rather than world-wide experience in experimental surgery. It has the great advantage that it describes and illustrates methods which the author has tried out, and thus bears the hallmark of personal experience. It can confidently be recommended to all who are studying, and who intend to practise, surgery.