

Book Review

A Textbook for Dental Assistants. Irwin Robert Levey, D.D.S. Formerly Director, American Training Institute; Chief of Dental Clinic, Big Sisters Organization; Assistant Dentist, Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York City. Cloth, 239 pages with 218 illustrations. Price \$3.50. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia. 1942.

This new work has been written to provide a handbook for the beginners, as well as for the experienced dental assistant, stressing the various ways in which she can be of the greatest value to the dentist. It is not intended that this book shall serve as a text for undergraduate dental hygienist courses, but rather that it shall be especially useful to young women who, without previous experience, are entering upon a career as a dental assistant.

There are ten chapters, a comprehensive glossary, and an adequate index. Chairside assisting, dental office management, dental anatomy, sterilization, dental radiology, oral surgery, periodontia, pedodontia, gold inlays, and other branches of dentistry are presented in logical sequence.

A rather complete description of instruments and their uses is given, as well as explicit instructions in certain laboratory procedures, notably the pouring of models and the making of gold inlays. The described technics may not necessarily be those most commonly practiced; nonetheless, the fundamentals can readily be adapted to similar method.

The chapter on radiology is of value and can be used for reference work in teaching. The author wisely omitted a definite radiographic technic which would have been out of place in a small textbook of this nature.

The book contains many illustrations which have been secured from commercial sources, detracting somewhat from its value as a reference for teaching purposes. It can, nevertheless, be recommended as an excellent handbook for dental assistants, and should be a valuable addition to a dental library. This work should assist in relieving the trying situations which all dentists encounter while training a new assistant.