

"Reconstructive procedures of the lower extremity" (L.O. Vasconez and John B. McCraw) and on "Gender Dysphoria" (Donald R. Laub and Bruce J. Dubin).

The new section on microsurgery provides a useful synopsis of the basics of this rapidly changing field. It is perhaps predictable that the monographs on "Replantation" (Graham Lister and Harold Kleinert) and on the "Repair of peripheral nerves" (H. Millesi) should be models of clarity and concise writing.

The new section on "The Breast" provides a number of useful reviews on the major problems which face the plastic surgeon and includes chapters on the "Management of benign and premalignant disease" (R. M. Oneal and W. W. Blackburn) and on "Reconstruction after mastectomy" (T. D. Cronin) together with a masterly new contribution on "Reduction and Mastopexy" (P. K. McKissock).

The editors have succeeded well in controlling and pruning the efforts of their numerous contributors but inevitably there are some areas which any reviewer would like to see altered. Some chapters have changed little and provide no new references and it is a pity that the section on basic techniques does not include a longer exposition on the principle and use of musculocutaneous flaps. The results of dermabrasion for the removal of professional tattoos are difficult to reproduce and the two photographs in Fig. 19 8 have probably been reversed.

These criticisms are minor and cannot detract from the great usefulness of a book which packs so much information into one volume. Once again the editors have successfully squeezed a quart into a pint pot and it must surely go on to many more editions. The book must be one of the first that a plastic surgeon should buy despite its new price of £25.00.

M. A. P. MILLING

OUTPATIENT SURGERY. By GEORGE J. HILL, II. 2nd Edn. Pp. xxv + 1457, with 638 illustrations and 107 tables. (Philadelphia, London and Toronto; W.B. Saunders, 1980). Price £28.75.

The need for out-patient surgery in any community is beyond doubt but the place of a massive textbook such as "Out-patient Surgery" is open to question. The volume presents a text similar to many works covering the whole surgical field, in size and to some extent content, but has been written particularly to help young surgeons, interns and medical students, in the realisation that out-patient care is frequently delegated to junior staff with relatively little supervision.

In discussing the advantages of early ambulation, however, no reference is made to home circumstances and there is no insistence that the patient's General Practitioner should be consulted. The chapter for a surgeon visiting developing countries mentions, fortunately, the relative or friend accompanying the patient but there is virtually no other reference to this important administrative and human point. The many contributions include anaesthesia, infections (such as snake and spider bites), orthopaedics, tumours and chemotherapy. Useful summaries about endocrinology may be helpful for surgeons working in this field but endocrine surgery can scarcely be done as an out-patient, a criticism which could be made of the chapters on skull and nervous system, cardiac conditions, tracheo-oesophageal fistula and transplantation although justification for many of the sections is included. In contrast, the paragraph on diabetes is very short although this may be a complicating factor for many surgical patients. The out-patient physician would not dare to treat eye conditions solely on the information obtained here and I would suggest that the ear, nose and throat procedures present only one section in the practice of a specialist in these conditions rather than a guide to the out-patient physician in dealing with E.N.T. problems. The hand chapter recognises that more hands are harmed by too ambitious attempts at treatment than by too little but information conflicts with previous chapters dealing with ganglion, DeQuervain's disease and carpal tunnel. Readers looking for definitive advice may find this confusing as will the trainee anaesthetist attempting an I.V. block with differing advice in chapters 3 and 12. In the chapter on trauma, the section on cardiac arrest is rather misleading in that it suggests a "delay of 8-10 minutes is fatal" although, fortunately, this mistake is corrected in two subsequent chapters. Inguinal hernia repair has a surprisingly short description and the high ligation and excision of the hernial sac is dismissed in one line. In a book of this magnitude I would have thought that the details of the hernia operation should have matched, in clarity and art work, the description of breast biopsy which is excellent.

The method of presentation of each chapter differs and in only the chapters on eyes and on anus and rectum is there any anatomical detail. The section on thrombophlebitis and post-phlebotic syndrome is particularly sound and includes a two page list of instructions for patients with this most insoluble of problems. The chapter on "integument", or skin, will be of most interest to readers of this journal although they will not be very keen that some of the procedures, including re-implantation of a free scalp flap, should be carried out by more general or out-patient surgeons. Correct planning is rightly emphasised rather than adjuvant measures such as hyperbaric oxygen. Unfortunately, this balanced advice is not maintained elsewhere and the chapter on urology, which includes several duplications, is particularly bad in this respect. Although radio-isotope scanning is advised in the diagnosis of testicular torsion, cytology is not mentioned in the investigation of haematuria. Venereal diseases are covered in six pages yet cryptorchidism has less than one page that suggests a trial of H.C.G., dismissing orchidopexy in less than one line. A surprisingly short chapter on fibre-optic endoscopy describes only upper gastro-intestinal examination, colonoscopy and bronchoscopy, leaving sigmoidoscopy in the ano-rectal chapter. There is very little on cystoscopy, even in the urology chapter, arthroscopy is not mentioned and laparoscopy, included in the

abdominal chapter, might have been better placed with the alternative uses for fibre-optics since the organisation, maintenance of instruments and training of staff are common to all examinations.

Much of the information in "Out-patient Surgery" is of considerable value but there seems to be a surprising lack of co-ordination between the multiplicity of contributors. Perhaps this could have been avoided by a strong editorial policy, directing the author of each chapter as to the scope and detail required from this section so as to obtain a more balanced text. I gained the impression that the content could well be redrafted into two separate volumes; the first covering the Accident and Emergency surgeon and the second dealing with non-emergency conditions. However, apart from these criticisms the text is well presented, there is clarity and continuity in most of the art work and I could find only two printing errors. The volume contains many helpful and refreshingly honest comments on a variety of topics with which many experienced surgeons will agree. At £28.75 it is an impressive book to display but the reader must judge for himself which and whose bookshelf is the most appropriate.

R. F. RINTOUL

**THE TEMPOROMANDIBULAR JOINT: A BIOLOGICAL BASIS FOR CLINICAL PRACTICE.** By BERNARD G. SARNAT and DANIEL M. LASKIN. Third Edition. Pp. xviii + 486, with 193 illustrations. (Springfield: Illinois. Charles C. Thomas, 1980). Price \$61.00.

The temporomandibular joint and the sequelae of its dysfunction has long taken up more time in research, clinical assessment and treatment than almost any other aspect of craniofacial pathology, and yet to some extent remains an enigma. This book now just published in its much extended third edition contributes much towards marshalling the facts, presenting considerable research and assessing our current knowledge of the joint.

The editors Bernard Sarnat and Daniel Laskin have assembled an international panel of distinguished contributors and represents the best of a multi-disciplinary team approach to the subject.

The book follows the logical sequence of first considering the basic sciences in relation to the temporomandibular joint and for the first ten chapters (half the contents) discusses embryology, comparative and functional anatomy together with congenital malformations and pathology in detail.

Part II of the book deals with diagnosis and treatment in clinical practice. There are chapters on the examination, radiology of the joint and myofascial pain dysfunction (M.P.D.) syndrome considered from aetiological, psychological and non-surgical treatment aspects. The section on the differential diagnosis of craniofacial-cervical pain by Sanford Block is by its nature a small text book in its own right!

Surgical considerations are comprehensively covered by the authors themselves but certain questions do arise. The diagram of surgical approaches to the joint on page 424 shows a rather more limited incision than is usual in British practice. And in relation to recurrent dislocation it was disappointing not to see reference to the very effective and simple Dautrey procedure as a means of treatment of this condition.

The lay-out of the text is clear and well presented with ample references. An indication of chapter content at the beginning and a concise summary at the end is helpful, as are the chapter cross-references throughout.

One regrets the mild castigation of Costen for his overkill on symptoms attributed to overclosure. He, after all, rekindled interest in the condition and has led to much research and clinical investigation which, in the end, is the *raison d'être* of this most valuable and authoritative book.

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