

There is one noticeable mis-spelling in the caption describing the Grayson's ligaments where his name is spelt Gayson, which possibly implies something quite different!

When discussing congenital anomalies the term *camptodactyly* is used. The correct adjective for a congenitally flexed finger is *campylodactyly*. Also in the chapter on congenital anomalies, the term amputation is used when there are nubbins of rudimentary digits present. Possibly the term amputation here gives the wrong impression.

This is a well presented, most readable book which is beautifully illustrated and there are full references, and it certainly deserves a place in the literature concerning hand injuries. It would have been even better with a little more attention to detail and accuracy.

HUGH G. BROWN

Septo- and Rhinoplasty. By Finn Jeppesen. First Edition. Pp. 200 with 250 illustrations. (Copenhagen: Munksgaard, 1986). Price D.kr 350.

We are told in the foreword to this book that "it offers an excellent introduction to nasal surgery, can be used as a step-by-step 'cook book' before the operation and is extremely recommended to all ear, nose and throat surgeons". The author, Finn Jeppesen, does not vouchsafe to the reader what his position is and therefore it is difficult to know with what authority he writes upon the subject under consideration.

The book abounds with illustrations and detailed consideration of various aspects of nasal deformity and pathology, which are disconnected and do not form part of a step-by-step guide. The operation of septorhinoplasty is one of the most difficult in surgery, shrouded in difficulties and abounding with pitfalls. Regrettably, this book does nothing to illumine the gloom or to protect and guide the unwary.

There are available many books which treat this topic in a more satisfactory and helpful manner. To someone with a fair amount of experience with these procedures, it is difficult to follow, and for anyone lacking experience it is a recipe for confusion.

J. P. BENNETT

Early Treatment of Cleft Lip and Palate. Edited by M. Hotz, W. Gnoinski, M. Perko, H. Nussbaumer, E. Hof and R. Haubensak. Pp. 323 with 75 illustrations and 45 tables. (Toronto, Lewiston, New York, Bern, Stuttgart: Hans Huber, 1986). Price SFr 88.

This is a report of the proceedings of the 1984 Zürich Symposium with this title. It was the third of a series of similar meetings, the first of which was held in 1964, in which invited groups of experts in cleft lip and palate from around the world have discussed the current state of the art. On this occasion thirty-six centres were represented, three of which were from the United Kingdom.

The symposium started with a series of workshop sessions in which participants presented their experience and in particular how and why their management had changed over the last 20 years. The workshops were followed by panel discussions and summaries by the moderators of the sessions, all of which are recorded in full. This is the most interesting part of the book; all the techniques described have been reported elsewhere but it is very instructive to discover, with a little reading between the lines, whose work has made a deep impression on his colleagues and whose confident presentation disintegrated under interrogation.

A list of references accompanies each paper and there is a useful summary of the treatment regimens of every participating unit. The book is marred only by some appalling illustrations.

The topics addressed are mostly familiar and are almost entirely concerned with the effects of the timing and nature of surgery on maxillary growth, dentition and speech with little discussion of surgical detail. Some contributors have revised their enthusiasms and altered their practice since the first symposium, but not always in the same direction, and the variety of approaches remains bewildering. Nevertheless some trends are apparent. The Oslo technique of delayed bone grafting is clearly in the ascendancy and enthusiasm for late hard palate closure seems to be waning as poor speech results have become more widely recognised. Few participants other than the British and Australians still use a Veau-Wardill-Kilner pushback procedure. New approaches such as Malek's are described and Randall promotes Furlow's double reversing Z-plasty for soft palate closure, but it will be another twenty years before they can be properly evaluated.

This is an important book for those who are interested in the progress of cleft lip and palate surgery and the organisers of the meeting and the editors of the work must be congratulated on their achievements.

A. C. H. WATSON

An Anthology of Plastic Surgery. By Harry Hayes, Jr. Pp. xiii + 338, illustrated. (Maryland: Aspen Publishers Inc., 1986.) Price \$55.

Dr Hayes must have had fun gathering this collection of historical anecdotes, speculations, verse, paintings and other oddities, all of which have some connection with Plastic Surgery. Some of them come from original sources but most are from articles previously published in medical, and particularly plastic surgery, journals. Many are familiar but there will be something new to entertain or enlighten every reader. How many know, for example, that by an English Act of Parliament of 1649 (which has never been repealed) a marriage can be declared null and void and the woman declared a witch if she be convicted of betraying a man into matrimony by the use of "cosmetics . . . artificial teeth . . . high-heeled shoes and bolstered hips"? Could a plastic surgeon be declared an accessory to witchcraft? How many Scots know that Bonnie Prince Charlie had syndactyly or that the College from which this Journal is edited might, if someone had not slipped up, have the sole manufacturing rights of Scotch whisky? It makes a Fellow ponder on what might have been.

An anthology is, by its nature, a very mixed bag. One must admire the enthusiasm that so many surgeons have shown in exploring the byways of medical history. Much of the prose is of