

treating patients with pressure sores. Its message is the need for the availability of medical, surgical, nursing and all the ancillary services—coordinated by dedicated paraplegic specialists. A monograph would be enough to convince any one of these specialists (including the plastic surgeon) of the need to share responsibility and would indicate when and where help should be sought. None of the chapters—with the possible exception of the one on infection—could instruct a specialist in one discipline how to manage the paraplegic patient in another specialised field. The director of a paraplegic unit might possibly benefit from an overview of medical, surgical, nursing, therapeutic and biomechanical expertise, although one would assume that he was already acquainted with the social and community aspects of paraplegia.

Hand surgery for tetraplegics is considered briefly in Chapter 3 by an orthopaedic surgeon who echoes Moberg's feelings about simplicity, and very briefly in Chapter 13 by an occupational therapist.

As plastic surgeons we are not primarily involved with the long-term management of paraplegic patients although we should be aware of the hazards. For this reason Chapter 5 in which the problems of oedema, contracture and spasticity are discussed is valuable, although the section on "Decubiti" reveals nothing new. There are important warnings for the "occasional sore surgeon" that flaps should be designed to allow further plastic surgery and that musculocutaneous and free flaps are a last resort in surgical management.

The prevention of pressure sores is considered in Chapter 12 at "pressure clinics". In Chapter 13 the bio-engineering aspects of wheelchairs and contour cushions are discussed and the enormous saving effected by their careful management is impressive.

Any consultant anaesthetist reading Chapter 4 would avoid mistakes made by the pioneers and gain the advantage of years of hard won experience.

Chapter 8—on the prevention and management of infection in the paraplegic patient—was the most valuable for me, perhaps because of its applicability to other problems encountered in plastic surgery. It could be read with advantage by all surgical trainees.

B. N. BAILEY

A Colour Atlas of Cleft Lip Surgery. By R. J. Maneksha. Pp. 63 with 121 illustrations. (Ipswich: Wolfe Medical Publications Ltd, 1986). Price £14.

Dr Maneksha has produced for Wolfe Medical Publications an account of his experience of primary and secondary repair of the unilateral cleft lip, largely by the Millard technique, over three decades. After an introduction to embryology and anatomy, the steps of an operation are superbly shown in colour followed by a number of colour photographs of pre- and post-operative results. The steps of secondary correction are also shown. Perhaps for lack of space the problems of nasal correction receive little attention although lateral crus advancement, lateral wall Z-plasty and nostril in roll are referred to. A small list of references and an index complete the publication.

In considering to whom this book would appeal it must be said that it, like most atlases, lacks detail for the committed plastic surgeon while of great interest as a record of a personal concept of this complex problem. Where cleft lip surgery must

be performed by the general surgeon the excellent illustrations would form a most valuable guide.

R. W. PIGOTT

Surgery of the Breast. By J. O. Strömbeck and F. E. Rosato. Pp. xvi + 336 with 335 illustrations and 46 tables. (Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag, 1985). Price DM 298.

This is a well illustrated book containing 30 chapters covering various aspects of the diagnosis and treatment of breast diseases. Its stated aim is to integrate, review and update the contributions of all the specialists in the management of diseases of the breast and this is by and large achieved. The authors are from both Europe and North America and though this has broadened the scope of the book it has inevitably led to some inconsistencies in style and language. The editors admit that though they have tried to confer a unity of style, the rigours of translating the contributions have resulted in some unevenness and, in addition, some overlap in material.

Clinical examination, mammography and fine needle aspirate cytology are techniques now being used in most breast clinics as the initial diagnostic tests and are appropriately discussed in depth in the first two chapters. Other diagnostic methods (ultrasound and thermography) are discussed and their places in the screening and management of breast diseases are well reviewed.

The screening of well women by mammography for the detection of early breast cancer has resulted in an increasing number of cases of mammographic lesions considered suspicious of cancer but not associated with a palpable lesion. The techniques of biopsy of these non-palpable lesions are fully described.

There are further excellent chapters on inflammatory lesions of the breast, the pathology of malignant breast disease, the epidemiology and prognosis of breast cancer in pregnancy and carcinoma of the breast.

The various surgical procedures for the treatment of primary breast cancer are described in detail and well illustrated. The schematic survey of the different treatments of breast cancer is rather confusing and would have benefited from being expanded. I would not agree with some of the options suggested, e.g. radical mastectomy with radiotherapy, which is associated with an unacceptably high incidence of lymphoedema.

The principles and techniques of postmastectomy reconstruction, subcutaneous mastectomy, reduction mammoplasty, breast augmentation and the inverted nipple are well described. The format of the book being between that of an atlas and a standard textbook particularly lends itself to the description of these plastic surgical procedures. There are, however, some deficiencies: tissue expanders which are increasingly used for breast reconstruction (either at the time of mastectomy or as a delayed procedure) are not mentioned; immediate reconstruction of the breast has been dismissed in a few lines and I am uncertain of the factual basis of the statement that "patients having an immediate reconstruction often are dissatisfied as they never had to live with the disfigurement caused by the mastectomy and are less apt to appreciate the reconstructed breast". However, there are areas covered in this book that are often missed out in standard works, e.g. secondary lymphoedema and male breast cancer which are each given a chapter and are excellently reviewed.

I would recommend this book to all specialists dealing with breast diseases.

U. CHETTY