

In his preamble to the book the author writes that it has taken him more than 11 years of his time to prepare these two books... "All aspects of this project including writing, typing, photography, medical illustrations, designing, composition (phototypesetting, re-editing, proof-reading, paste-up, keylining etc.), publishing, financing and world wide distribution, have been my own individual work..." But this "Do-it-yourself" technique has no place in the production of medical texts in the 20th Century. The author's hope that these two volumes "will remain as a monument to medical science and will become a classic in medical libraries throughout the world for many years to come" is just not on. These extremely costly volumes will more likely be found propping up the cine projector in the seminar room or languishing, in Macaulay's words, among "the dust and silence of the upper shelf".

MICHAEL N. TEMPEST

COMPLICATIONS OF HEAD AND NECK SURGERY. Edited by JOHN J. CONLEY, M.D. First Edition. xviii + pp. 524 with 215 illustrations and 16 tables. (Philadelphia, London, Toronto. W. B. Saunders Company, 1979) Price £20.

This volume under the distinguished editorship of John Conley, has 35 contributors, almost all American, of whom more than a third are E.N.T. Surgeons and who often share between themselves the joint authorship of some of the chapters. Conley on his own has contributed no less than 10 of the 28 chapters and it is a great credit to him that these are amongst the best in the book. There are excellent contributions on anaesthetic complications in head and neck surgery, on the complications of radiotherapy and the use of antineoplastic drugs in head and neck cancer.

As one would expect from the surgical interests of the co-authors, much of the text is taken up with E.N.T. problems and it is in these chapters that there is some unfortunate overlap and needless repetition. The chapters that are contributed by the plastic surgeons on facial trauma, complications of aesthetic surgery and the treatment of scars, are interesting but mention very little that has not already been extensively dealt with in other texts published in the United States.

The production is of an extremely high standard. The illustrations are all beautifully clear with simple but succinct captions. The references in the text are all recent, relevant and quote in full the titles of the papers to which reference has been made. For this simple achievement alone, many an Editor will wish to have this book ready for use. The price is eminently reasonable. This should allow it the wide circulation it deserves and help to reduce the number of unfortunate but not incurable complications which can so often appear in this anatomical region.

MICHAEL N. TEMPEST

COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS RELATED TO CLEFT LIP AND PALATE. Edited by KENNETH R. BZUCH. Second Edition. Pp. xv + 368: illustrated. (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1979). Price \$16.50.

This is a revised and expanded volume of the 1972 book of the same name, together with chapters from the "parent book", *Cleft Lip and Palate: Surgical, Dental and Speech Aspects*, edited by Grabb, Rosenstein and Bzoch, 1971. It is stated to be a "basic professional course of study" and whilst many students of speech pathology might be daunted by its detail, it is, without doubt, a useful contribution to cleft palate literature. Twenty-three authors contribute to the volume from the view points of speech pathology and therapy, psychology, orthodontics, audiology, otolaryngology and paediatrics. Many review comprehensively the American research on their topic and for students wishing to study further, there are impressive reference lists after each chapter. The chapter on oral sensory function gives no less than 188.

The three main aspects of the book are: General, Diagnostic and Habilitative. The General Section provides a review of the essential anatomy and physiology and embryology, well illustrated with clear diagrams. A chapter on classification discusses its problems and rationale. Classifications are critically reviewed and recommendations are made for a standard classification, based on those of the American Cleft Palate Association in the early 60's. In the presentation of the Craniofacial Team, the author, Herbert Koepf-Baker, states that "an emotional and intellectual companionship must be engendered" and "the team has dimensions that transcend mere togetherness". Whilst such rhetoric may be less than well received by British readers, the general theme is of a team which is stimulating to its members and beneficial to patients.

Section Two, on Diagnostic Aspects, provides the largest part of the book, and covers comprehensively the aetiology of cleft palate speech and its diagnosis. Topics include congenital and acquired palatopharyngeal insufficiency, dental and occlusal hazards, hearing problems, oral-sensory function and language acquisition. At times, the authors do not restrict themselves to the cleft palate subject but, as for example in the latter two topics, write a general chapter on speech pathology which, I feel, goes beyond the brief of the book.

Assessment of Speech is covered with reference to major current clinical and instrumental techniques. The need for objective indices is emphasised with more detailed data for comparative or controlled research. The Bzoch Error Pattern Diagnostic Articulation Tests are presented, analysing speech sounds as:

- (i) distortion;
- (ii) simple substitution;
- (iii) gross substitution; and
- (iv) omission.