

This could provide a useful tool for clinicians although a test employing 100 elements may be found impractical.

Language acquisition is reviewed with a description of the Behaviourist Model and a review of Chomsky's review of Skinner. The authors (Shames and Rubin) quote that it would be a mistake to classify cleft palate children as having significant language impairment. The chapter on ear disease is useful, describing the common pathologies and suggesting that decreased mobility in the tympanic membrane is a most important physical finding. Instrumental diagnostic evaluations are described in terms of radiological measures, acoustic measures of nasality and nasalisation, oral and nasal airflow and electromyographic measures.

The substantial middle of the book will provide a valuable source of reference to the whole field of speech pathology in cleft palate. The following section, on therapy, is disappointing in comparison. The ubiquitous "programs" appear, mainly using behavioural approaches to articulation drills and a rationale is provided for "residential concentrated summer speech therapy". We are, however, suddenly cast back into the world of improvisation and intuitive therapy when, in the chapter on Direct Muscle Training for Velopharyngeal Function, we are informed that "devices that have proved particularly effective in direct muscle stimulation include long-handled plastic spoons or cocktail stirrers, artists brushes and long-handled cotton applicators."

The book should be placed on library shelves for reference.

CAROL MILLER

PLASTIC SURGERY: FUNDAMENTAL INTERNATIONAL TECHNIQUES. Edited by JOHN WATSON, F.R.C.S. and ROBERT M. McCORMACK, M.D. Third Edition in the Series on OPERATIVE SURGERY: General Editors CHARLES ROB and RODNEY SMITH. Pp. 556 with numerous illustrations. (London and Boston, 1979, Butterworth and Co.). Price £55.

This is a new edition of a well-known work. Its new subtitle "Fundamental International Techniques" has widened the field of contributors and this is reflected in the subjects chosen and the authority with which the various techniques are described and illustrated.

With the exception of the sections on the deltopectoral flap (Bakamjian), Hypospadias (Horton *et al.*) and Cleft Lip (Kernahan), the American contributions are the most disappointing in the book. The illustrations are outstandingly good and make many of the operations look deceptively simple. This can be dangerous when some of the flaps (as drawn) cannot possibly close the defect or unwise when complicated manoeuvres like the insertion of split rib grafts into a skull defect are carried out without shaving any of the hair immediately adjacent to the wound.

The text is well written and does not waste space describing points better shown in the drawings. Most sections quote no references to the world literature and this is a welcome relief to the reader. Those that do could be usefully revised in the next edition, as there are quite a number of misprints. The most common fault is the omission of "acute" accents in French words, the repeated addition of an "acute" accent to Robert Abbe's name and an extraordinary spelling of Nové Jossérand which is new to me. Wardill is credited with an "h" to which he is not entitled.

At the end of some of the sections the Editors have added little notes to explain some of the differences in practice on either side of the Atlantic or to stress a few of the pitfalls that may not be immediately obvious in the preceding pages. This new Third Edition is a vast improvement on its predecessors. The Editors, illustrators, contributors and publishers all deserve our thanks for producing a volume that *must* be included in any Plastic Surgery Library.

MICHAEL N. TEMPEST

DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF PALATO-GLOSSAL MALFUNCTION. Edited by R. E. ELLIS and F. C. FLACK. Pp. 89, with illustrations. London. (Monograph No. 2. The College of Speech Therapists, 1979). Price £5.25.

This monograph represents a multidisciplinary approach to the subject of palato-glossal problems which, in Britain, has received increasing attention in recent years. The editors have assembled papers presented at an Exeter meeting by speech therapists, physicists, dentists, orthodontists and plastic surgeons and the writers are, without exception, notable for the concise clarity of their presentations.

In his contributions, Shprintzen, from America, discusses firstly the evaluation of the physical and speech results of pharyngeal flap surgery and indicates that the preoperative assessment of lateral pharyngeal wall movement is the prime determiner of postoperative success. The second paper describes how, using a group of objective and subjective assessment procedures, patients with hypernasal speech and without obvious oral abnormalities, are found to have anatomical defects related specifically to absence of the musculus uvuli. The "mystery" is thus "solved". The use of endoscopy for investigation is described in two papers. Pigott uses the technique in conjunction with X-ray to determine the most appropriate line of treatment. Some of the general and specific problems of the procedure are indicated. This is endorsed by Huskie and McGrouther who consider that whilst X-ray alone has limitations in the one-dimensional view afforded, nasendoscopy provides essential information for diagnosis and treatment. A further paper on diagnostic and prognostic procedures is presented by Ellis, describing nasal anemometry.