

paper with a pleasing typography, which facilitates reading. Each chapter is concluded with a most extensive bibliography.

Chapter I deals with osteolytic conditions and is easily written off in some thirty pages. Neurological, cutaneous, vascular and traumatic diseases as reasons for osteolytic syndromes are dealt with. It is unsatisfactory that in this otherwise so meticulously written chapter no special mention is made of osteolytic processes in connection with tumoral and reticulo-endothelial disease. Osteonecrosis has of late become a widely debated concept, chiefly because of its puzzling nature. Only scant information is given.

Chapter II contains an extensive description of osteomyelitis. Of special interest is the approach to both clinical and radiological appearances before and after penicillin treatment, which discloses some features probably not so well known either in orthopaedic or in radiological circles. The section on specific osteomyelitis, like tuberculosis, deserves special mention because of the clarity with which it is presented. It also serves as a reminder that tuberculosis is still a disease to have in mind despite its decreasing frequency.

Chapter III contains the description of Paget's disease, but nothing additional to common knowledge has been presented. Finally, chapter IV forms the bulk of this volume, taking up no less than 223 pages. Most joint systems are included and the distinctive advantage of this chapter is that not only is an anatomical but also a normal arthrographic description given. This facilitates the reading of the numerous arthrograms with varying abnormalities in the one and same joint. Great help is offered by drawings accompanying the arthrograms. It can only be said that this is one of the better arthrographic atlases ever published and it is highly recommended to anybody in difficulties when interpreting an arthrogram.—Ian GOLDIE.

**Operative Treatment of Scoliosis.** Fourth International Symposium 1971 in Nijmegen, Netherlands. Edited by George CHAPCHAL. With forty-seven other contributors. 24×17 cm. Pp. vii+170, with 273 figures and 43 tables. 1973. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Publishers. Price DM 54 (paperbound).

This is an inexpensive handbook type of publication containing the papers and some of the extempore discussion from the 4th International Symposium on Scoliosis under the editorship of George Chapchal. This is an important record, particularly of European, Scandinavian, American and Russian work in this field. Even although it has taken two years to produce, it still contains some fresh and original ideas. Although the major theme is operation, the consideration of indications, the form, etiology and prognosis of the various curves holds most interest, as indeed they should. Prognosis as defined by Drdkova of Prague, using function tests, clearly supports the work of the Brompton Hospital School in London. Pulmonary function in scoliosis was carefully studied by Kummer of Vienna who has explained how the biochemical respiratory changes are caused by the various structural changes—but unfortunately are not usually corrected even after a successful operation.

There is a short but efficient description and discussion of the very real complications of paraplegia by Nicod of Lausanne, and certain aspects of spinal cord vascularity. Several papers are reported comparing the results of Harrington instrumentation, vis-a-vis Hibbs grafting by Zielke of Tubingen, with Harrington's own results as well as those from other units throughout Europe.

The various anatomical routes of correction via transthoracic, costovertebral and various types of procedure, e.g., spinal osteotomy and epiphyseodesis, are all described quite candidly by various authorities.

It is not very often that an international meeting appears to have been so successful with the presentation of up-to-date material and ideas. I feel sure there is something of interest and originality to be found for all workers in the field of scoliosis within this publication, and strongly recommend it for its content and its clear presentation.—R. B. DUTHIE.

**Heritable Disorders of Connective Tissue.** By Victor A. MCKUSICK, M.D., Professor of Medicine, the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Physician, the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore. Fourth edition. 17×25 cm. Pp. xv+878, with 1099 illustrations and two colour plates. Index. 1972. St Louis: The C. V. Mosby Company. London: Henry Kimpton. Price £14.60.

In the sixteen years since the first edition this book has become a classic. There can be few orthopaedic surgeons who have not thankfully sought its aid when faced with an unusual disorder