
In reviewing the original Belgian edition of Lacroix’s book in this Journal in 1949, the present writer recommended it as an interesting and stimulating account of bone structure and function, particularly in regard to the mutual inter-relations of the various skeletal tissues and the role of local chemical influences in their co-ordinated differentiation and growth. It is of interest, therefore, to note the appearance of an English edition, well produced and clearly translated, and incorporating some additional notes on current work. This translation is certain to bring Lacroix’s interesting views and experiments to the attention of a wide group of readers, and to stimulate a great deal more work in this absorbing field.—H. A. Sissons.


This is a very interesting book. Everyone dealing with infantile paralysis should study it. The chapters on the history of foot stabilisation and on the statics and physiology of the foot in themselves render the book worth possessing. At appropriate moments a reader must accustom himself to translate “ankle-arthrodesis” into “triple arthrodesis” or “stabilisation of the foot.” And the title may be disregarded; in fact a sound and reasonable assessment of the various alternative measures to stabilise the foot is presented. In this assessment the author seems to me to have put astragalectomy very nearly in its proper place.—Bryan McFarland.


This is an extensive and comprehensive review of injuries to the elbows of children. The lesions are fully illustrated and the drawings are particularly good; some of the radiographs might be clearer. I would not care to say that the book increases our knowledge of fractures of a child’s elbow; it does serve as a very useful reminder of the various types of injury that may occur.—Bryan McFarland.

PRIMER ON FRACTURES. Prepared by the Special Exhibit Committee on Fractures in Co-operation with the Committee on Scientific Exhibit of the American Medical Association. Frederick A. Jostes, M.D., St Louis; Gordon M. Morrison, M.D., Boston; and Kellogg Speed, M.D., Chairman, Chicago. Sixth edition. 9½ x 6¾ in. Pp. xi + 109, with 48 figures. Index. 1951. New York: Paul B. Hoeber Inc. Price $2.00.

The fact that a sixth edition has been necessary indicates the usefulness of this book in the United States. It has been brought up to date and is particularly useful in its hints on emergency treatment.—L. W. Plewes.