affected"! and there is also one very lengthy sentence with an ultra-Dickensian plethora of semicolons, at which even the breathless author himself laughs, and he will doubtless laugh the more heartily that an old friend has been impish enough to comment on it.

This is a book which must be in the hands not only of every surgeon called upon to treat injuries but of every surgeon everywhere. It is the work of a Master Surgeon, a vital and dynamic personality, a great friend and a great gentleman; it is a work that brings honour to the surgeons and surgery of Britain, to the surgery of the English-speaking races, nay to surgery wheresoever it be practised, regardless of frontiers, *per orbem terrarum*.—Gordon GORDON-TAYLOR.

ARCHIVIO "PUTTI" DI CHIRURGIA DEGLI ORGANI DI MOVIMENTO. Volume I. Edited under the direction of Professor O. SCAGLIETTI. Director, Clinica Ortopedica dell'Università, Istituto Ortopedico, Toscano, Florence. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 8$ in. Pp. 387, with 440 figures, 14 in colour. Bibliography. Index. 1951. Firenze: Edizioni Scientifiche dell' "Istituto Ortopedico Toscano." Price in Italy L.4000,. Price for foreigners \$10.00.

It is not possible for any book review to express adequately the very high standing of the late Vittorio Putti, or to make any worthwhile reference to the contribution made to orthopaedic surgery by this very great man. His impact on our branch of surgery is being felt in South America, among other places, as a dynamic force which will probably mould the whole nature of South American orthopaedics. In his native Italy his influence decided the shape, and even the conventions, of orthopaedic practice. His great learning, his skill as librarian and as a collector of medical books, and his love of orthopaedic knowledge have become almost legendary. It is, therefore, more than fitting that a new Italian publication on orthopaedic surgery should be established as "Putti's Archives" and it is particularly pleasing that the first such volume should bear comparison very easily with the "Archives" that were published in honour of the great surgeons and great pathologists of the last century. This volume, directed by one of Putti's leading pupils, Oscar Scaglietti, is well worthy of its object. The papers it contains are, on the whole, written in clear Italian that is by no means difficult even to the foreigner. They are of considerable interest. Among them, Scaglietti himself produces his reasons for preferring bone suture to what we in Britain regard as "internal fixation," Coronedi reports the study of 282 fractures of the patella, Sassoli of sixteen fractures of the neck of the talus, and Marega gives a thoughtful account of subclavian aneurysm in a case of cervical rib and of its treatment by endoaneurysmorrhaphy. The reviewer was also particularly interested in a paper on osteogenesis imperfecta by de Angelis Effrem, but it is invidious to single out individual contributions to this collection which so strikingly expresses the vivid and active nature of Italian orthopaedic thought to-day. The volume concludes with an adequate bibliography on world orthopaedic literature for the first half of 1950. Your reviewer will be only one of many British surgeons who will await subsequent volumes of these Archives very keenly.—D. L. GRIFFITHS.

POST-GRADUATE LECTURES ON ORTHOPEDIC DIAGNOSIS AND INDICATIONS. By Arthur STEINDLER, M.D., F.A.C.S. Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, State University of Iowa. Volume III. Section A: Tuberculosis of the Skeletal System. Section B: Osteomyelitis. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 7$ in. Pp. xiv+284, with 255 figures. Index. 1952. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas, Publisher. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. Price 63s.

The third volume of Professor Steindler's Postgraduate Lectures is devoted to two topics—skeletal tuberculosis and osteomyelitis. His presentation of the regional manifestations of tuberculosis of bones and joints is less of a personal document than usual, and more particularly in his quotations from the older statistics relating to cure and functional recoveries. In Pott's paraplegia he is an advocate of operative intervention when there is no change in the syndrome after four to eight weeks' conservative treatment, but the operation he has in mind is laminectomy. The technique of antero-lateral decompression, a procedure still under trial in this country but often dramatic in its results, is not discussed. His attitude towards the use of spinal fusion is conservative, and he believes that its chief virtue is in adults in whom the affected area of the spinal column remains incompletely consolidated for many years after the so-called healing stage. In tuberculous arthritis of the hip Professor Steindler favours combined intra-articular and extra-articular arthrodesis. His account of the sequelae of hip disease omits any reference to the grave complication of premature fusion of the knee epiphyses during prolonged immobilisation.

The section on osteomyelitis gives us more of the touch of the master. He makes one of his characteristic wise statements when he emphasises the distinction between necrosis and