population at large. She is also often guilty of giving percentages without clearly stating the numbers upon which they are based, and in some places percentages are quoted for numbers as low as six. Had Miss Dunsdon given the raw figures and avoided the use of percentages, particularly where these apply to small numbers, the book would have gained in value and statistical clarity.

These few controversial points do not detract in any way from the merits of this report, which is realistic, readable and based on acute observation of a large number of cases. While many will not agree with all the views expressed, Miss Dunsdon must be congratulated on making a valuable addition to the literature on cerebral palsy. This is a book which should be in the library of everyone interested in this subject.—G. A. POLLOCK.

THE SOCIAL WELFARE REVIEW. Year I. October 1952. No. 1. Pp. 160, with 15 figures. Contents in Greek and English. 1952. Athens: Ministry of Social Welfare. Price not quoted.

"The Social Welfare Review" is a new monthly publication of the Greek Ministry of Social Welfare. The first number contains fourteen essays on the various stages of rehabilitation of the physically disabled. Each article is summarised in English at the end of the journal.

The Minister (at the time of publication) and Mr Goutos outline the programme arranged for the nearly thirty thousand disabled in a country with a population of seven millions, which is recovering from ten years of warfare. Dr Pournaropoulos writes an interesting history of the disabled, which is illustrated. Various authors devote chapters to many of the problems of children and wounded. One essay discusses the State care of the civilian disabled, a very difficult problem in Athens where there is a beggar at every street corner. Dr Harold Balme makes a contribution; and Miss Rachel Collier, an after-care sister who has been in Greece for over two years, writes on physiotherapy.

This publication is welcome in that it shows the effort being made to assist the disabled in a country ruined by wars and fever. The technical and financial assistance given by other countries has been appreciated by the Greek Government, which has dealt in a non-party way with the social problems, in spite of great difficulty. It seems likely that World Health Organisation has cleared the country of the mosquito, so that the scourge of malaria will no longer ruin the physical and mental conditions in Greece. This journal indicates that one social problem is under control, although four years ago it was not understood. The Ministry and Mr Goutos are to be congratulated on their work and the publication of this journal, both of which are an example to small nations.—St J. Dudley Buxton.

HANDBOOK OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY. By Alfred Rives SHANDS, Jun., B.A., M.D., Medical Director of the Alfred I. du Pont Institute of the Nemours Foundation, Wilmington, Delaware, in Collaboration with Richard Beverly RANEY, B.A., M.D., Professor of Surgery, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Fourth edition. 9×6 in. Pp. 644, with 192 figures. Index. 1952. London: Henry Kimpton. Price 60s.

I like this book; for, although I may not agree with all the views expressed, that does not mean the views are wrong, and although the book may not be perfect there is in it a quality of perfection. What, after all, is the perfect text-book for the student? It must, I believe, be a book neither so large that he will become confused and lost, nor so small that his sense of proportions will be abused. It must reflect an open mind and yet be stiffened by appropriate authority; so that the student may be intrigued by implied controversy and yet nevertheless gain a foundation of accepted knowledge. Finally—and this is surely the most important—the book must present its contents clearly, that the student will be able to understand, and interestingly, that he may be stimulated to inquire. Now this handbook entirely encompasses the modest objective it has set up; its illustrations are reasonably representative, the legends are realistic and the pattern of the book is clear and extremely practical. It is amazingly comprehensive for its size, and this is achieved by economy of words—always an attractive feature if, as in this instance, clarity is preserved. Also preserved is a balanced outlook, which seems to me the same as a sensible attitude and implies good surgical judgment. For example, take the section on Dupuytren's contracture (page 538). What more could you want? My pet theory perhaps, or yours; but what of it?