PERIPHERAL VASCULAR DISORDERS. Edited by Peter MARTIN, *V.R.D.*, M.Chir., F.R.C.S.Ed., Lecturer in Surgery, Postgraduate Medical School, London, Surgeon to Chelmsford and Billericay Hospitals; R. Beverley LYNN, M.D., F.R.C.S., Assistant Professor of Surgery and Markle Scholar, Medical College, University of Saskatchewan, Formerly Assistant Lecturer in Surgery, Postgraduate Medical School, London; J. Henry DIBLE, M.B., LL.D., F.R.C.P., Professor Emeritus of Pathology, University of London, Director of Pathology, Postgraduate Medical School, London; and Ian AIRD, Ch.M., F.R.C.S., Professor of Surgery, University of London, Director of Surgery, Postgraduate Medical School, London; with five other contributors. 10×7½ in. Pp. viii+847, with 450 figures. Index. 1956. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. Price £5, 10s.

It is well known that the surgery of peripheral vascular disease has been a matter of particular interest to the Staff of the Postgraduate Medical School of London. This comprehensive treatise on the subject, which is almost entirely a record of their personal experience, is therefore most welcome. The book is the work of a group of authors, and the editors are to be congratulated upon their success in producing a volume which, though it certainly has a surgical bias, yet gives a well balanced and authoritative account of vascular disorders in general.

The only contributors from outside the Postgraduate School are Professor G. A. G. Mitchell, who recapitulates his studies of the anatomy of the innervation of peripheral blood vessels, and Professor Henry Barcroft, whose chapter on the physiology of the blood flow in the limbs epitomises the researches of many years. These chapters on normal vessels greatly enhance the value of the book to anyone who wishes to gain a real understanding of vascular disease. Clinical examination of the vascular system is well described and the radiological methods are well illustrated, though some of the text in this section seems to be somewhat below the generally high standard. Professor Dible's accounts of the pathology of athero-sclerosis and of thromboangiitis obliterans are masterly, and considering that most of his observations have been made on amputated limbs he has taken an unexpectedly wide view of the earlier stages of arterial disease. The chapters written by Mr Martin on the surgical aspects of obliterative arteritis, "Raynaud's disease," on coagulants and anticoagulants, and on operative technique, and Professor Aird's chapters on arterial injuries, arterial embolism and on "cervical rib" are all admirably clear, concise and helpful in giving guidance to general practitioners and to surgeons who are not specialists in the field. The specialist will agree with almost everything they have written. Dr Lynn has been allotted most of the controversial subjects, and the vascular diseases which are little understood, and it is therefore only natural that in his sections there should be many matters over which there are differences of opinion. There are places where he relies upon theoretical teaching about the pros and cons of certain forms of treatment rather than upon the result of practical experience; yet it is as a record of experience that the book is particularly valuable.

The references to the literature are numerous but have been chosen with care and discretion; most of them refer to recent publications and, particularly in regard to the more obscure diseases, they give a reliable guide to further study, and greatly increase the value of the book as a work of reference.—J. Paterson Ross.

NEURO-VASCULAR HILA OF LIMB MUSCLES. By James Couper BRASH, M.C., M.A., M.D., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.C.S.Ed., F.R.S.E., Professor Emeritus of Anatomy, University of Edinburgh. 10×7½ in. Pp. xvi+100, with 30 coloured plates. Index. 1955. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. Price 30s.

In his preface to this atlas Professor Brash states that it owes its origin to the suggestion of Professor Sir James Learmonth that accurate data on the sites and modes of entry of the principal arteries of supply to the limb muscles would be of great value in the diagnosis and treatment of the results of injuries affecting them. The final plan was to determine the extent to which the principal blood supply of the muscles is associated with the nerves; that is the constancy or otherwise of a definite "neuro-vascular hilum."

With the collaboration of the Anatomy Departments of the Universities of Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Leeds and Glasgow, extensive data were collected from the dissecting rooms. The results obtained in the upper limb were produced in 1945 in a typed brochure, which was issued to all the peripheral nerve units in this country and to many individuals abroad. The value of this production was appreciated quickly, and it is a pleasure to greet the publication in more durable form of this atlas, which includes the muscles of the lower limb as well as of the upper limb. In addition to the findings of the investigation, the observations of other researchers—Reid, Linell, Cappell/Bruce, Frohse and Fränkel and Hovelacque—are given. In the introduction a brief résumé is made of other research work on the peripheral nerves and arteries.

The illustrations, which are beautifully produced, are based on outlines from radiographs of