RELAZIONE AL XLI CONGRESSO DELLA SOCIETA ITALIANA DI ORTOPEDIA E TRAUMATOLOGIA. 1956.

TUMORI DELLO SCHELETRO. By Professor I. F. GOIDANICH, Bologna. 11×8 in. Pp. 606, with 571 figures and tables.

I TUMORI METASTATICI DELLO SCHELETRO. By Professor V. PIETROGRANDE, Rome. 11×8 in. Pp. 386, with 257 figures and tables.

The Italian Society of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology faced the reporters of its forty-first congress, which was held at Bologna in October 1956, with a formidable undertaking when it posed the question "Tumours of the Skeleton." The challenge has been met in an outstanding manner by these two magnificent volumes, which combine to form a complete text-book on malignant disease of bone. They must inevitably be consulted by every surgeon proposing to make a contribution about any aspect of this subject. The production of both volumes is superb; they are printed on fine art paper, and the very many reproductions of radiographs and photomicrographs are by no means the least important contribution.

Primary tumours are dealt with by Professor Goidanich on the basis of more than 2,300 such tumours recorded in the register of the Rizzoli Institute, Bologna, and his report consists in a detailed survey of this material. Both benign and malignant tumours are included, the classification being simple and almost uncontroversial. Each different tumour has a chapter to itself that might well stand alone as a comprehensive review. The same pattern is followed throughout. The chapter opens with a brief historical review followed by clinical, radiological and pathological sections; diagnosis, prognosis and natural history are discussed when necessary, and such problems as incidence and distribution are clearly illustrated by diagrams. The sections on treatment, particularly the indications for different methods, are perhaps less detailed than one would like, but the results are tabulated clearly.

Metastatic tumours are presented by Professor Pietrogrande from the Orthopaedic Clinic of the University of Rome with the collaboration of several other institutes and hospitals. He had a difficult problem in presentation, but it has been well overcome by dividing the work into three parts. In the first he describes the normal structure and biological behaviour of bone, and discusses the factors favouring the successful establishment of metastases. The second part is clinical, and here, after a general statistical analysis, the clinical and radiological behaviour of different tumours are detailed. The third section concerns therapy of every type, from surgery to radio-active isotopes. There is an encyclopaedic bibliography.—Philip WILES.

LECTURES ON ORTHOPAEDICS AND THE RHEUMATIC DISEASES. Edited by Marguerite CLARK; presented at The Scientific Conferences, September 29–October 1, 1955, held in connection with Dedication of the New Building of The Hospital for Special Surgery. 9×6 in. Pp. 182, with many figures. 1956. New York City: The Hospital for Special Surgery. Price \$1.50.

The new building to house The Hospital for Special Surgery was formally dedicated in New York on September 29, 1955. This hospital is the distinguished child of the first orthopaedic hospital in the United States, known for so long as the Hospital for Ruptured and Crippled, a name which disappeared in favour of the new one in 1940. The ceremony of dedication was followed by a three-day conference on orthopaedic and rheumatic disorders which was attended by doctors and scientists from the United States, Canada, Europe, Mexico, and South America, and was an outstanding event in orthopaedic surgery in America. Many of the lectures on that occasion are now published for the first time—though in some cases slightly abridged—in this unique volume.

Many international figures in orthopaedic surgery took part in the conference and in this volume we have writings from such well known names as Scaglietti, Judet, Platt and Gallie, besides great Americans like Philip Wilson, Al Shands, Walter Blount and others. And so, even without more said than that, the value of this book can be judged. The volume is in three sections, one on the rehabilitation of the crippled child, a second on clinical problems of orthopaedic surgery, and a scientific section on studies of connective tissue and the rheumatic diseases.

Shands discusses the recent trends in orthopaedic services for the crippled child. He points out that more non-orthopaedic and purely medical problems are being included in the services, with the paediatrician and many other specialists taking more prominent places than in the past. Another trend is the increase in the attention being given to the psychological aspects of the orthopaedic crippled child. An interesting trend is the decline in the population of crippled children in university and metropolitan teaching centres. This is due apparently to the presence of well trained