Proof of the value of the method described is well shown in the series of de-rotation osteotomies illustrated in the second section of the book, and these do the author great credit. If a volume designed to cover all osteotomies is not to become unwieldy there must necessarily be gaps in the consideration of special conditions, for instance, osteoarthritis of the hip, and of the correct osteotomy to choose. In describing slipped femoral epiphyses, open wedge resection is recommended for decreasing all retroversions of the head over 30 degrees. Many surgeons would tolerate angles up to 45 degrees, because of the risks of avascular necrosis inherent in open operation.

The volume bridges the gap between the radiologist, seeking to provide the most helpful films for the surgeon, and the surgeon seeking the best method of control and measurement of an osteotomy. The volume thus offers greater technical assistance than advice on the choice of this correct osteotomy in a particular case.—J. G. BONNIN.

FLUID BALANCE IN SURGICAL PRACTICE. By L. P. Le QUESNE, D.M. (Oxon.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), Assistant Director, Department of Surgical Studies, Middlesex Hospital. Second edition. 9 × 5½ in. Pp. vii + 140, with 42 figures. Index. 1957. London: Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd. Price 20s.

It is not surprising to find the appearance of a second edition of this monograph. Knowledge in this field has advanced sufficiently to require the revision of opinions and methods recorded three years ago. The layout and much of the material is the same in the second edition as in the first. More emphasis is placed on electrolyte balance, and attention paid to protein metabolism. There is a good but brief chapter on fluid balance in children, in relation to surgery; infants are included, and, although a great deal more could be said on the subject, much information is contained in a few pages.—J. C. SCOTT.

A SYNOPSIS OF SURGICAL ANATOMY. By A. Lee MCGREGOR, M.Ch., F.R.C.S., Consulting Surgeon, Johannesburg General Hospital, Honorary Research Associate, University of the Witwatersrand. With a foreword by Sir Harold J. STILES, K.B.E., F.R.C.S. (Edin.). Eighth edition. 7½ × 5½ in. Pp. xii + 808, with 766 figures. Index. 1957. Bristol: John Wright & Sons Ltd. Price 32s. 6d.

Lee McGregor's classic is suffering from the modern and fashionable disease of inflation. This edition has twenty-five pages more than the last edition, published in 1950. By reason of its weight it can no longer be recommended for reading in bed. Any orthopaedic surgeon could select paragraph after paragraph for deletion. For example, four pages are devoted to a précis of Putti's lecture on sciatica given at Liverpool thirty years ago; and in a synopsis of surgical anatomy even five lines is too much to devote to *snapping neck*.

Having written thus far, your reviewer in a captious mood continued to turn over the pages at random. When at last he recalled himself to his task two hours had passed. It is indeed a fascinating book.—George PERKINS.