Book Reviews

Lectures on the Interpretation of Pain in Orthopaedic Practice. By Arthur STEINDLER, M.D., (Hon.) F.R.C.S.(Eng.), F.A.C.S., (Hon.) F.I.C.S., Professor Emeritus, Orthopaedic Surgery, State University of Iowa Medical School, Iowa City, Iowa. With Anatomical Dissections by Dr Rodolfo COSENTINO, La Plata, Argentina. 10½ × 7 in. Pp. xvii+733, with many figures. Index. 1959. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas, Publisher. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd. Price £7, 8s.

This volume comes on the heels of its author's death. It is particularly sad to know that we shall no longer have the opportunity of reviewing works from this master. Others more capable of commenting upon the character of Dr Steindler have already done so; especially Mr H. J. Seddon in his charming note in a previous number of the Journal (41-B, 850). No one had a more profound or extensive knowledge of orthopaedic literature than Dr Steindler. His own contributions will cause his name to live with the greatest leaders of the past. His influence will remain among the many surgeons for whom he was a teacher; including the great number who did not have the privilege of working with him personally. He emphasised the importance of careful follow-up studies of surgical results and, as is well known, his *Operative Orthopaedics* was unique in giving statistical information, from his clinic, of the various technical procedures described. In other works he handed back his analytical studies of the literature, and all of them were more than compendiums of extracts. He illuminated everything by his philosophy and practical experience. The present work is a monumental example, for, based upon a study of pain, we have a review of almost every aspect of orthopaedics. His voracious reading and recording is to be seen in the more than one thousand references, which include the names of at least as many authors. One was pleased to see again a statement remembered from an earlier work: There is in medicine, he says, "a natural law, that any single manifestation, subjective or objective, has behind it a multiplicity of organic causes, just as any single pathological event is bound to project itself into a number of different clinical manifestations." It is this feature that lends such excitement to the analytical problems of clinical medicine, and Dr Steindler was always a stimulating guide along these diverging and converging pathways. This volume must be available for students (old and young) in every orthopaedic unit.—Norman CAPENER.

Handbuch der Orthopädie. Herausgegeben von Prof. Dr G. HOHMANN, emer. Direktor der Orthopädischen Universitäts-Poliklinik und Orthopädischen Klinik München; Prof. Dr M. HACKENBROCH, Direktor der Orthopädischen Universitätsklinik Köln; und Prof. Dr K. LINDEMANN, Direktor der Orthopädischen Universitätsklinik Heidelberg-Schlierbach. In vier bänden. Band III: Spezielle Orthopädie: Obere Extremität. 10½ × 8 in. Pp. xix+659, with 424 figures. 1959. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. Price DM 128.

This is the third volume of the massive contribution by German orthopaedic surgeons, the first volume of which appeared in 1957 and the second in 1958, both reviewed in this Journal. Though only about half the size of its predecessors, the present volume follows their pattern. Twelve authors deal thoroughly with congenital, developmental, ischaemic, infective, traumatic, degenerative and neoplastic conditions of the upper extremities. The chapter on congenital and developmental disorders, including recurrent dislocation of the shoulder and written by Dr S. Weil, is particularly interesting. Traumatic lesions of the elbow joint are also well presented by Dr P. F. Matzen in a didactic way, and excellently illustrated. But other chapters also are worth looking into, because they give an up-to-date account of the present views of German orthopaedic surgeons. The bibliography continues to be widely selective even if, as is to be expected and desired, the German literature provides the large majority of references. The editing and printing remain good in spite of one or two trivial misprints, which do not detract from the quality of the contributions and of their presentation.—J. TRUETA.