The Clinical Physiology of Physical Fitness and Rehabilitation. By Ernst JOKL, M.D., Professor and Medical Director, Rehabilitation Center, University of Kentucky. 10½ × 7½ in. Pp. xix + 194, with many figures. Index. 1958. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas, Publisher. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications, Ltd. Toronto: The Ryerson Press. Price 63s.

In his introduction, Dr Jokl points to the importance of exercise in rehabilitation and correctly complains that exercise techniques have been based to a large extent on empirical data. He advocates a different approach based on physiology and clinical theory. Unfortunately he does very little to correct this deficiency. His book is based mainly on his personal views, providing only a new empirical approach; and he makes virtually no reference to the considerable amount of research done in recent years attempting to put exercise therapy on a more scientific basis. Nevertheless his approach is an interesting one, and anyone interested in rehabilitation and exercise therapy would find some stimulating new ideas. The main theme is the importance of movement, skill, sensation and the sense of movement—rather than exercises for individual muscles or joints. The author's interest in music and sport adds spice to several of the chapters. There is a fascinating example of adaptation after injury in the pistol shooting competitor who had a forearm amputation of his dominant hand. A year later he won the World Championship shooting with his left hand, which he had never used in competition before. This book can be recommended for its ideas but not as a reliable guide to the subject.—D. A. BREWERTON.

Essentials of Orthopaedics. By Philip WILES, M.S.(Lond.), F.R.C.S.(Eng.), F.A.C.S., Senior Orthopaedic Surgeon to The Middlesex Hospital; Lecturer in Orthopaedic Surgery in The University of London; Past President of The British Orthopaedic Association, The Orthopaedic Section of The Royal Society of Medicine, and The Orthopaedic Section of The British Medical Association; British Treasurer of the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery*; Corresponding Member of The American Orthopaedic Association. Third Edition. 10 × 7 in. Pp. xiv + 576, with 417 figures. Index. 1959. London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. Price 70s.

Mr Wiles has revised his monograph and much of it he has re-written. It has been a labour of love, carried out under the conditions of grey skies and sometimes during bouts of illness. Now enjoying leisure in perennial sunshine, Philip Wiles can contemplate with justifiable pride the place which this invaluable vade-mecum continues to occupy in the literature of orthopaedic surgery. It would of course be possible to cross swords with him on his presentation of many topics. But for his perspective view of what is essential in orthopaedics—the view of a strong individualist—our deepest respect remains. We salute him in his Caribbean hide-out.—Harry PLATT.

Fundamental Techniques of Plastic Surgery and their Surgical Applications. By Ian A. MCGREGOR, M.B., F.R.C.S.(Eng.), F.R.F.P.S.(Glas.), Consultant Plastic Surgeon, Glasgow Royal Infirmary; Lately Consultant Surgeon, Casualty Department, Glasgow Royal Infirmary. With a Foreword by C. F. W. Illingworth, C.B.E., M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S.(Ed.), F.R.F.P.S.(Glas.), Hon.F.A.C.S., Hon.F.R.C.S.(Eng.), Regius Professor of Surgery, University of Glasgow. 9 × 6 in. Pp. viii + 244, with 149 figures. Index. 1960. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. Price 30s.

The implication of the title is perhaps rather too ambitious for this little book of some 300 pages which can be read in a few hours. Methods of skin transplantation are discussed in detail; but plastic surgery is also concerned with the transfer of many other tissues such as bone, cartilage and fat, and these techniques find no place in the text. Nevertheless, this volume undoubtedly fills an unsatisfactory gap in the existing literature and can be wholeheartedly recommended within its limited field. The basic techniques of skin transfer are discussed in a very lucid way and the reader is helped by many excellent diagrams and photographs. The "Z-plasty" is given a chapter to itself, and it would be difficult to find a better description anywhere. For massive skin replacement from a distant site the tube pedicle is rarely the method of choice, and a description of open-jump flaps would have enhanced the value of this section. In the preface the author admits the difficulty of choosing material for the second part of his book, and he is to be congratulated on covering so many diverse conditions within a very limited space and offering such sound practical advice to those engaged in other branches of surgery. The eyelid section includes some complicated reconstructions which seem to be rather beyond the scope of the present volume.—Percy H. JAYES.