that it is only by looking at the picture as a whole that the expert can make a diagnosis, and even he may have difficulty in pointing out the exact factors on which his decision is reached. The position is comparable to that of the countryman who can identify a distant bird without hesitation and yet have great difficulty in explaining just how or why he knows the bird to be what it is.—T. J. FAIRBANK.

Radiology as a Diagnostic Aid in Clinical Surgery. By Howard MIDDLEMISS, M.D., F.F.R., D.M.R.D., Director of Radiology, United Bristol Hospitals; Lecturer-in-Charge, Department of Radio-diagnosis, University of Bristol. $9\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ in. Pp. viii + 151, with 86 figures. Index. 1960. London: William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. Price 30s.

This short book is designed to keep practising surgeons up to date in modern radiological methods and to indicate not only the advantages, but also the limitations, of this method of diagnosis. The author begins by considering the value of emergency and post-operative investigations and then discusses the various anatomical systems as sites of special study. The radiographs are all classical examples of disease processes and are beautifully reproduced. Although the book should be of particular value to the senior student and the newly qualified man every reader will find much to refresh the memory and will almost certainly learn something new. Nevertheless its brevity has meant that, to the surgeon in a particular speciality, much that would appear to be of importance has necessarily been omitted. Such a specialist, including the orthopaedic surgeon, will inevitably find some conflict of opinion on a number of minor points though the major principles are well stated. The chapter on bone radiology represents one-fifth of the book, but those interested in orthopaedics may regret that some subjects of importance, such as spondylolisthesis, have been given scant attention, and some recent observations, such as the differential diagnosis of osteoclastoma from the benign tumours of bone, receive virtually no reference. Nevertheless this book can be read without difficulty in a few hours and the author's easy style makes it a pleasant experience. It should lead to improvement in diagnostic standards from better co-operation between the surgeon and the radiologist.—R. O. MURRAY.

Atlas of Anatomy and Surgical Approaches in Orthopaedic Surgery—Upper Extremity. By Rodolfo COSENTINO, M.D., Assistant Professor in Orthopaedic Surgery, University of La Plata; Research Associate, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, State University of Iowa. With a Preface by Arthur STEINDLER. $11\frac{1}{4} \times 8\frac{3}{4}$ in. Pp. xiv + 192, with 134 figures. 1960. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas, Publisher. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd. Price 84s.

This atlas of upper limb anatomy was designed by Dr Cosentino while working in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Iowa, and there is a preface by Arthur Steindler. As might be expected from such origins, the production is excellent—especially the illustrations, which are easy to understand. It will be useful for quick reference before an operation if the anatomy is a little unfamiliar to the operator. The present atlas of orthopaedic approaches to the upper limb is to be followed by volumes on the lower limb and the trunk, and we look forward to these.—J. I. P. JAMES.

Rehabilitation Medicine. A Textbook on Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. By Howard A. RUSK, M.D., Professor and Chairman of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, New York University-Bellevue Medical Center, New York, N.Y. With 36 collaborators, and with the editorial assistance of Eugene J. TAYLOR, A.M. 10×7 in. Pp. 572, with 172 figures and 12 tables. Index. 1958. St Louis: The C. V. Mosby Company. London: Henry Kimpton. Price 90s.

This is an authoritative work—a book to read and also to keep for reference. Throughout, the approach is practical and based on long personal experience at the New York University-Bellevue Medical Center. It is mainly concerned with the rehabilitation of patients with disorders of the limbs, though chapters are included on patients with pulmonary and cardiovascular problems. The emphasis is on treating the whole patient; “patient motivation” and social, psychological and vocational evaluation are recurring themes. Functional capacity and economic potential are considered to be nearly as important as diagnosis in the restricted nosological sense. Stress is laid on the importance of deciding the goals of each type of therapy. The section on self-help devices is outstanding. The authors consider canes, crutches, braces and wheel chairs to be energy conserving devices and not “last resorts.” For poliomyelitis they recommend exploitation of the patient's remaining abilities; for cerebral palsy they restrict all but two movements of the affected extremity by a suitable prosthetic appliance. Who could improve on such wisdom? Their *pro forma* for wheel chair prescription should be used in every hospital. Only in advocating laminectomy for traumatic thoracic paraplegia do they differ from current practice in this country. This book would be of value to every physiotherapy department and every orthopaedic surgeon.—Robert ROAF.