The author first gives an excellent review of the historical development of stabilisation procedures and tendon transfers in the treatment of paralytic foot deformities. There follows an account of the pathogenesis of these deformities. The author's view that pes cavus is due to intrinsic weakness would not be universally accepted.

The main part of the work is a clinical review of 211 feet operated on by twenty-five different surgeons, under the general direction of the late Professor F. Langenskiöld. The majority were treated by a combination of triple arthrodesis and tendon transfer. The results were assessed by personal observation in 147 cases and on replies to a questionnaire in the remainder. Over the whole series 67·8 per cent of feet showed improvement; in the author's view 70·6 per cent of the failures were due to avoidable faults. The proportion of failures was highest among the feet with varus and equino-varus deformities, and lowest in those treated by Lambrinudi's drop-foot operation.

The main positive value of tendon transfer was seen in cases of equinus and equino-valgus deformity, where transfer of the peronei to the dorsum gave a useful power of active dorsiflexion in many cases. The negative virtue of preventing recurrent deformity was not clearly demonstrated. In only two cases was an undesirable effect of the tendon transfer noted.

One of the largest single causes of failure was non-union. Although the author does not think so, one wonders whether this can be attributed to the policy of doing the triple arthrodesis and the tendon transfer at the same operation.

This review is believed to be the only one of a large series of combined stabilisation and tendon transfer operations, and as such is of great importance to all who are interested in the problem of paralytic foot deformities.—MICHAEL PILCHER.

Procedures in Vascular Surgery. By RICHARD WARREN, M.D., Clinical Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School. Illustrated by Helen C. LYMAN. 11×9 in. Pp. x+211, with many figures. 1960. London: J. & A. Churchill Ltd. Price 85s.

Dr Warren's book is an expansion of an outline prepared some time ago for the guidance of his Residents and contains, besides some instructional material, matters relating to policy, informational items, and "some sermonising" as he says.

He defines his field of vascular surgery as one where the surgeon performs intrathoracic, extracardiac vascular procedures and peripheral ones, but leaves cardiac surgery to another. The author describes only one method for each procedure without claiming its superiority but because he has found it effective.

The book might be divided into three—arterial operations, amputations and venous operations. Thirty-one operations are described. Each is made apparently simple by beautiful line and wash diagrams which must be extremely useful to the young operator. The letterpress is adequate without useless padding. The objective, the indications and contra-indications, the planning, the operation and after-treatment are written up in a few lines. The reviewer has nostalgic memories of the first lesion described—a co-arcuation of the aorta. It is interesting to see the continual advances that are made in these operations, particularly newer methods by artificial replacements to restore continuity.

The section on amputations is well done, but it is interesting to see that Syme's amputation is not carried out as Syme did it, though it is good that the importance of retaining the position of the heel flap is emphasised. In amputating at the thigh the deep fascia is sutured but not the muscles, though current thought, especially of limb-makers, is that the extensors and flexors should be stitched to each other. There is a good section on early walking after amputation. The author recommends walking by the eighteenth day. It must be a shock for British limb-makers to read—"10th day: Temporary artificial limb arrives."

This is a well produced volume and as far as it goes will be of great use. The drawings are most instructive.—WALTER MERCER.

Clinical Orthopaedics. Number 17—Clinical Physiology and Pathology of Bone. Editor-in-Chief, ANTHONY F. DePALMA. With the assistance of the Associate Editors, the Board of Advisory Editors and the Board of Corresponding Editors. Pp. xii+387, with many figures and tables. Index. 1960. Philadelphia and Montreal: J. B. Lippincott Company. London: Pitman Medical Publishing Co. Price 60s.

The seventeenth volume of *Clinical Orthopaedics* has just been published. The book is designed for the publication of original articles offering significant contributions to the advancement of surgery. This issue is published as part of the celebration of the seventy-second birthday of Franklin Chambers McLean and the contributors are all associates or pupils of his, working on the frontiers of the field of bone.

The articles deal with or bear on the problem of musculo-skeletal disease in animals and in man, and have a direct bearing on orthopaedics in the broad sense of the word. An early chapter is devoted to the McLean campaigns for full-time Academic Medicine by the guest editor, Marshall Urist. "Success in practice will be measured not only in terms of your ability to deal with injury and deformity, but equally in terms of your grasp of the metabolic and systemic problems of bone that come to you," said McLean in a lecture to the American Academy.

There are some most interesting chapters on various aspects of the physiology of bone, the radio-isotope osteogram, isotope studies of bone salts, age changes in human bone (by Jenifer Jowsey), and many others. A short section on more clinical aspects concludes the book. This describes the Stone method of surgery for hallux valgus used by Dr Stone for at least fifty years, though its success as described has not yet reached this country. There is an interesting description of a lady from El Paso who at the age of 107 had a Frederick Thompson hip prosthesis inserted and who lived and is still alive two years after. Tough folk in El Paso!

This is a useful volume for those interested in clinical physiology and pathology of bone.—
Walter MERCER.

Pathology of Tumours. By R. A. WILLIS, D.Sc., M.D., F.R.C.P., Honorary Research Fellow, University of Leeds; Consultant Pathologist to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, London; Formerly Pathologist to the Alfred Hospital; Consultant Pathologist to the Austin Hospital for Chronic Diseases and Lecturer on the Pathology of Tumours in the University of Melbourne, Australia; Sir William H. Collins Professor of Pathology, Royal College of Surgeons, London; Pathologist to the Royal Cancer Hospital, London; and Professor of Pathology, University of Leeds. Third edition. 10×8 in. Pp. xvi+1,060, with 500 figures. Index. 1960. London: Butterworth & Co. (Publishers) Ltd. Price 105s.

Pathologists in this country and, indeed, all over the world have taken this great book to their hearts since its first appearance in 1948. Its successive editions have contrived to keep it up-to-date, without modification of its well-conceived original plan and with only a trivial increase in the number of pages. The present edition is bulkier than its forerunners simply because of the improved quality of the paper, to the great advantage of the photographic reproductions. The book, though primarily addressed to pathologists and research workers, is so practical and informative that, to the reviewer's knowledge, many surgeons have their own copy and testify to its value as a day-to-day work of reference.

The author has for many years been mainly engaged both as a hospital and as an academic pathologist on the study of human tumours, their diagnosis, histogenesis and behaviour. The book is a record of vast personal experience of these matters coupled with a comprehensive but critical reading of the world literature. Each chapter is accompanied by a long list of references, whose value is enormously enhanced by the helpful use of bold type for the authors' names and of full titles of articles or books that Willis has found particularly useful, important or original. The less clinical aspects of cancer research are presented in an eclectic manner in so far as they are judged to bear on the main issues of neoplasia in man, and the author's scholarship also ranges widely over the fields of embryology and general biology.

The volume comprises about a thousand pages of text, which include some 500 figures, mainly photomicrographs. The first 207 pages are devoted to what in this country is called the general pathology of tumours—definition, classification, experiments, statistics, comparative pathology, growth and spread. This section should be read in its entirety by anyone who assumes an interest in the properties of tumours. It is a wonderfully balanced and fully documented presentation of both old and new views. Next come about 400 pages on epithelial tumours of specified organs or parts. Each regional chapter presents what is known about the appropriate tumours in an orderly sequence of frequency, age and sex incidence, site, structure, behaviour and metastasis, although the section headings vary as occasion demands. The rest of the book is devoted to tumours of the connective tissues and of the nervous and haemopoietic systems and to teratomas, embryomas and less easily classified varieties of new growths.

The orthopaedic surgeon will find of direct interest, besides the opening chapters, about 120 pages on mesenchymal tumours, another fifty pages on peripheral neural tumours, and perhaps the fifty pages on teratomas. He may well consider the chapter on tumours of cartilage and bone too short and too general to be of great practical value, but he will probably already know the larger monographs in this field and he will not buy Willis's big book to learn specially about bone tumours. Willis's more general views on such subjects as the intermutability of mesenchymal tissues, the kinship of various mesenchymal tumours, the variants of fatty tumours and the truth about striped-muscle