Europe and America. No doubt there will be criticism from some nations that their contribution has received insufficient space or recognition, but within the compass of a book of this size a certain degree of superficiality must be accepted. We should all be grateful to the author for undertaking this important work, doing it with balance and judgment, and producing such a well-illustrated and eclectic contribution to medical history.—T. J. FAIRBANK.

Key and Conwell's Management of Fractures, Dislocations, and Sprains. By H. Earle CONWELL, M.D., F.A.C.S., Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, University of Alabama School of Medicine, Birmingham, Alabama; Attending Orthopedic Surgeon, University Hospital, St Vincent's Hospital, Children's Hospital, Baptist Hospitals, East End Hospital, and South Highlands Infirmary, Birmingham, Alabama; Consulting Orthopedic Surgeon, Veterans Hospitals, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and Montgomery, Alabama; Member, Trauma Committee, American College of Surgeons; Member, Fracture Committee, American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons; and Fred C. REYNOLDS, M.D., Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, Mo. Seventh edition. 10×8 in. Pp. 1,153, with 1,227 figures. Index. 1961. St Louis: The C. V. Mosby Company. London: Henry Kimpton. Price £10, 2s. 6d.

This well known text-book reaches its seventh edition. Each time I review it, and this is the third, I find numerous improvements. I still believe that both text and diagrams could be simplified and reduced with increased clarity, although this is considerably improved. The book is of course concerned with American practice. A most thoughtful and conservative approach to the treatment of fractures includes a sound appreciation of the value and dangers of intramedullary fixation. The section on fractures in the hand is much improved and is now excellent. After seven editions this book scarcely needs commendation. It certainly deserves it.—J. I. P. JAMES.

The Closed Treatment of Common Fractures. By John CHARNLEY, B.Sc., M.B., F.R.C.S., Orthopaedic Surgeon, Manchester Royal Infirmary; Orthopaedic Surgeon, The Park Hospital, Davyhulme; Orthopaedic Surgeon, Wrightington Hospital; Honorary Lecturer in Orthopaedics, Manchester University. Third edition. 10×7½ in. Pp. xii+272, with 215 figures, some in colour. Index. 1961. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. Price 50s.

Mr Charnley has honoured us by preparing a third edition of *The Closed Treatment of Common Fractures*. He is one of the most interesting, stimulating and enigmatic figures in British orthopaedic surgery. Perhaps it is because he is enigmatic that he is so stimulating. At one moment you find yourself in complete agreement with his sound teaching and within seconds are infuriated by his observation. This is the basis of good teaching. You are never allowed to go to sleep, changing only from warm approval when you want to clap aloud, to stern disapproval when you just frown. This is the calibre of his brilliant monograph which every orthopaedic surgeon should read, study and have in his library. I trust very much that they will regard as nonsense the idea that displacement of fractured bones should be increased before they can be reduced. Figure 105 on page 131, showing reduction of a Colles fracture, fills me with horror, and I am glad only that he does not now emphasise the same idea in treating supracondylar fractures of the humerus. But such criticism confirms the success of this stimulating monograph which is so rewarding and so exciting that every young surgeon should read it again and again.—Reginald WATSON-JONES.

Pediatric X-ray Diagnosis. By John CAFFEY, A.B., M.D., Director of Medical Education, Children's Hospital of Denver; Consultant Pediatrician, National Jewish Hospital at Denver, Colorado; Professor Emeritus of Radiology, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University; Consultant Radiologist, Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, New York City. Fourth edition. 10½×8½ in. Pp. xxvi+1,236, with 1,536 figures. Index. 1961. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers, Inc. Distributed in the United Kingdom by Interscience Publishers Ltd. Price 240s.

This excellent text-book, first published in 1945, is now in its fourth edition. It stems from the Roentgen Conference held every fortnight in the Babies' Hospital, New York. The purpose of the author is two-fold: description of shadows cast by normal and morbid tissues, and clinical appraisal of roentgen findings in pediatric diagnosis. Roentgen physics, technique and therapy have been intentionally omitted.