Tumors of Bone and Soft Tissue. A Collection of Papers Presented at the Eighth Annual Clinical Conference on Cancer, 1963, at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute, Houston, Texas. $9\frac{1}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{4}$ in. Pp. 448, with many figures and tables. Index. 1965. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers, Inc. Distributed in the United Kingdom by Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd. Price 98s.

This volume is in two parts, tumours of bone and soft tissue; the latter, occupying about a third of the text, is much the better. The discussion on the histogenesis of bone tumours by such well known authorities as the late Mary Sherman, Jaffe, Dahlin, Geschickter and Copeland, contains little that is new. Most of the authors advocate a classification based on the cell of origin whilst admitting the difficulties and deficiencies of this type of grouping. There are excellent articles on the roentgen diagnosis of bone tumours by Lodwick, and a panel discussion on metastatic lesions in bone. Suit contributes an interesting paper on high dose radiation therapy under conditions of local tissue hypoxia, which is effective in protecting normal tissue against a dose of 12,000 rads. in thirty-six days; much more experience will be necessary before it can be regarded as an advance on conventional methods. Robinson contributes two papers, one on the morphology of osteoblasts, osteocytes and osteoclasts, and the other on bone matrix; the relevance of these to bone tumours is not immediately apparent.

The section on tumours of soft tissue is of uniform excellence. Many pathologists in Great Britain will no doubt contest the view of Enzinger that liposarcoma is the most common malignant soft-tissue tumour. A good case is made out for the greater use of histochemistry as an aid to differential diagnosis. Finally there is a stimulating discussion on treatment including the indications for regional chemotherapy. The dangers of "shelling out" tumours which appear to be encapsulated are emphasised, and amputation or radical excision of the tumour and the muscle group involved is advocated, a lesson too frequently disregarded with unfortunate results for the patient.

This book is confidently recommended to those who have a good working knowledge of bone and soft-tissue tumours.—Roland BARNES.

Trauma to Nerves in Limbs. By James E. BATEMAN, M.D., F.R.C.S.(C.). Illustrated by Louise GORDON. 10×7 in. Pp. xiii+453, with 319 figures and 20 tables. Index. 1962. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. Price £4 18s.

The author has achieved remarkable success in relating his experience of the management of peripheral nerve injuries in a personal series of 2,500 cases. It is refreshing to start with a clear description of the morphology, anatomy and physiology of peripheral nerves, which prepares the ground for a further commendable account of the pathology of nerve injury. I also recommend the chapter on the investigation and diagnosis of nerve injury to those taking the Final F.R.C.S. examination; the text and many illustrations provide clarity to a subject which can be confused. A strength-duration curve need not be a "time-consuming procedure," and many surgeons would view with some concern the author's advice about exploring closed nerve injuries. Surely it is more logical to assess the expected time of recovery by measuring the distance between the site of nerve injury and the nearest muscle? Any delay in recovery, at an approximate rate of 1 millimetre per day, is then an indication for exploration.

It is evident that the good results of neurolysis have been achieved by meticulous surgical techniques but the author has used the procedure more widely, particularly for traction injuries, than is customary in the peripheral nerve injury units in this country. This may not be a desirable trend because dissection can lead to further nerve damage when there is an impenetrable barrier of scar tissue. The chapters on surgical techniques have a repetitive quality which is due in part to the detailed account of each peripheral nerve, but the author has skilfully overcome much of this difficulty by his fascinating accounts of operative detail, although "loop" suture and repair of the posterior tibial nerve have not been entirely successful in British centres.

The text is well illustrated, with one exception relating to Horner's syndrome, but there are a few disappointing pages which might lead to indecisive action, particularly on "general considerations" about nerve grafts; these leave the reader with some doubt about their value.—Philip M. YEOMAN.

Gesammelte Abhandlungen zur funktionellen Anatomie des Bewegungsapparates. (Collected Papers on the Functional Anatomy of the Musculo-skeletal System.) By Professor Friedrich PAUWELS. 10×7 in. Pp. 543, with 601 figures. 1965. Berlin, Heidelberg, New York: Springer-Verlag. Price D.M. 98.

The mathematical analysis of the stress loading of bones, and the forces involved in the movements of the human frame, have by their very complexity daunted most surgeons, but among the undaunted