University of Melbourne, Department of Surgery, Alfred Hospital Accident Survey 1960-1961. 10½ × 8 in. Pp. 265, with 67 figures and 120 tables. 1965. Melbourne: University of Melbourne. Price \$1 Australian.

In their introduction the authors of this survey state that it was carried out to investigate some of the social and economic consequences of accidents represented by a year's intake at the Alfred Hospital. At the outset they clearly realised the magnitude of their task and were well aware of the difficulty in excluding material without detriment to the value of the project. On the whole they have steered a very useful middle course. A large amount of statistical data in graphic or table form has been collected covering every aspect of the problem. Inevitably in such a wide survey there must be information which seems of little value. For example, what is the useful application of a graph which plots the age of front seat car passengers against that of passengers in the back seat? Also, it is difficult to justify a special note included about a patient who ruptured her tendo Achilles because she was unable to see where to place her foot because of the prominence of a pregnant uterus, even though it is agreed that the mode of injury was unusual!

However, these are minor criticisms of a very excellent piece of documentation. The section on social consequences of road accidents alone may prove of considerable value in medico-legal assessment and could form a useful reference in this type of work. It is hoped that the survey will find a place in the libraries of Orthopaedic and Accident Departments, and that it will serve as a stimulus to other projects of a similar nature.—J. N. WILSON.

Sehnenkonservierung und- Transplantation. (Preservation and Transplantation of Tendons.) By Dr Karl Heinz HERZOG, University Surgical Clinic, Rostock, German Democratic Republic. Preface by Professor H. KUNTZEN, Jena. 9½ × 6½ in. Pp. 176, with 21 figures. Bibliography 20 pages. Index. 1965. Jena: VEB Gustav Fischer Verlag. Price £2 5s. 4d.

This is a very detailed thesis on experimental work on the preservation and transplantation of tendons. The experimental material was from rabbits and dogs. There is a very full study of the whole subject of tissue preservation and transplantation taking into account the immunological difficulties, with a long review of all the previous experimental work from the literature. This is followed by a section on the anatomy and physiology of tendons, and a review of the operative methods available for dealing with tendons. Numerous experiments are reported on the transplantation of tendons after being preserved in "Cialit," or by freeze drying, or by embedding in plastic—"Palacos." The results confirm similar published work. This is a valuable volume to those working in the field of experimental tendon grafting.—H. Graham STACK.

The Locomotor System: Functional Anatomy. By Michael C. HALL, Ph.D., F.R.C.S.(C.), F.A.C.S., Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy, University of Toronto; Orthopaedic Surgeon, Cho Ray Hospital, Saigon, Republic of Vietnam. 9½ × 6½ in. Pp. 562. Author index and subject index. Many illustrations and photographs. 1965. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. Price \$19.75.

The author states in the preface that this is intended as a companion volume to his work on the Functional Histology of the Locomotor System. He aims to present the reader with some of the material coming from research work which has altered old established views on function.

The first 200 pages deal with some limited aspects of the general anatomy, physiology and development of the locomotor system, much of it being a reminder of well established facts rather than a description of new discoveries. The rest of the book is devoted to the structure and function of individual joints or joint complexes. There are also some fifty pages given up to descriptions of surgical approaches in the limbs and spine, illustrated by rather indefinite photographs which would be unintelligible without the labelling. The descriptions also are not adequate for a surgeon who did not already know the approach, and I think that this section would have been better omitted.

In some places more detail would have been welcome, the section on the spine being rather brief. There were also some surprising omissions, such as in the description of the action of the muscles moving the hip where no mention was made of the adductors or any of the short muscles.

The work as a whole provides a good summary of present day knowledge of joint function and the large bibliography gives plenty of scope for further reading. Many illustrations are very good, except in the section on surgical approaches. The book can be recommended as a source of interest and instruction to anyone interested in the locomotor system.—A. J. G. HOWSE.