Assessment of Cerebral Palsy. 2) Vision, Hearing, Speech, Language, Communication and Psychological Function. By K. S. HOLT, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.C.H., Director, Wolfson Centre of Developmental Paediatrics, Coram's Fields, London; and J. K. REYNELL, B.Sc., Ph.D., Psychologist to the Wolfson Centre of Developmental Paediatrics. 9×5½ in. Pp. vi+187, with 45 figures and 13 tables. Index. 1967. London: Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd. Price 40s.

The capacity of a child with cerebral palsy to improve depends to a large extent on his capacity to learn. Orthopaedic measures by correcting deformity and posture or by restoring muscle balance serve only to make it easier for the child to learn limb control. Early assessment of the capacity to learn will show the special difficulties in any particular case and give guidance on the prognosis and the likely value of treatment.

Defects of learning arise from sensory inadequacy or distortion, from defects of the central organisation of the brain, and from defects of expression and communication. Their analysis requires the skills and experience of several professional disciplines. The results have to be coordinated into a unified concept of the patient's total disability. The difficulties may be profound. The clinician needs a working knowledge of the specialities concerned to be able to decide how much one defect stems from or contributes to another. The painstaking sorting of this type of problem must often lead to a disappointing conclusion, but will sometimes be brilliantly rewarding. The attempt is being made increasingly often as the need is more widely realised.

In this second volume (for a review of volume I see *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery*, 1965, 47-B, 814) the authors describe the defects of sight, hearing, speech and mental capacity associated with cerebral palsy. Much practical detail is given on the special tests that may be employed. The significance of the results is discussed and their practical value in relation to treatment is outlined. The fallacy, for example, of placing undue stress on any single method of assessing intelligence is wisely emphasised. The stigma of a low I.Q. unjustly awarded in early life may take years to wear off. To the orthopaedic surgeon this book will be a valuable guide to the less familiar aspects of cerebral palsy. It could profitably be in the hands of all those concerned with the management of these children, including ward sisters, therapists and teachers. With its numerous references to the literature it can also be a useful basis for more detailed studies. The style is clear and economical and the illustrations are helpful. Essentially a book for paediatricians, it will appeal to all orthopaedic surgeons concerned with the complex problems of cerebral palsy.—A. J. HARROLD.

Calcium Metabolism and Bone Disease. A Textbook for Students and Practitioners. By W. P. U. JACKSON, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P., D.C.H., Senior Physician, Groote Schuur Hospital; Head of Diabetes and Endocrine Clinics; Director of Endocrine Research Group, South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research; Fellow and Associate Professor, University of Cape Town. 8½×5½ in. Pp. x+134, with many figures and 2 tables. Index. 1967. London: Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd. Price 30s.

This is a splendid little book—or so it seems to one whose medical student days were spent before the present surge of interest in and knowledge of the biochemical processes of the human body. Written in an easy and almost conversational style, it presents the problems of calcium metabolism and its relationship to the kidneys, gut, bone and so on in the simplest possible way. The text is always clear and often dogmatic. When the real answer to some particular facet is as yet not fully understood, the author says so at once and passes on to the next subject without more ado. Dr Jackson makes what has certainly for most orthopaedic surgeons always been a difficult part of their subject seem easy—and all in 128 pages full of useful diagrams and radiographs. He designed his book primarily for medical students, but we congratulate him on producing a very good thirty shillings worth for any of us who must occasionally face these problems in our daily work.—T. J. FAIRBANK.

New Essential First Aid. By A. Ward GARDNER, M.D., D.I.H.; and Peter J. ROYLANCE, M.B., Ch.B. 7×4½ in. Pp. 174, with many simple illustrations. 1967. London: Pan Books. Price 3s. 6d.

This is a splendid little book. It is well written and easily understood by the layman.

The whole approach of the authors has been to emphasise the priorities in the first aid care of the injured, laying particular stress on maintenance of a good airway and the initiation of artificial respiration if required. All unnecessary medical facts which tend to confuse a lay person have been

left out and so have the trivialities of treatment which tend to overload the other books available on first aid.

This book can be highly recommended to anyone wishing to run a first aid course and could be adopted by the national first aid organisations as their standard textbook with great benefit to patient and intending first aider alike.—A. J. G. HOWSE.

BOOKS OF ORTHOPAEDIC INTEREST

Acta Orthopaedica Italica. Volume XII. Directors, Leopoldo GIUNTINI and Francesco RUSSO; Editor, Marco PASQUALI-LASAGNI. Pp. 334, with many figures and tables. 1966. Rome: Acta Orthopaedica Italica, Via Capodistria, 12. Price L. 6,000.

The twelfth edition of this work contains numerous articles of orthopaedic interest, each followed by a brief summary in English. These include fractures of both bones of the forearm, fragilitas ossium, late re-nailing following fracture of the femoral shaft and the significance of the presence of a calcaneal spur.

La Résorption Osseuse et L'Hormone Parathyroïdienne. (Bony Resorption and the Parathyroid Hormone.) By Gilbert VAES. Pp. 135, with 14 figures, 4 plates and 12 tables. With summary in English. 1967. Bruxelles: A. de Visscher—Éditeur. Paris: Librairie Maloine. Price 220 Frs. belges.

De Fysische Diagnostiek Bij de Orthopaedische Patiënt. (Physical Diagnosis in the Orthopaedic Patient.) By J. de VOLDERE. Pp. 120. Index. 1967. Assen (Netherlands): Van Gorcum & Comp. N.V. Price f 13,50.

Outline of Orthopaedics. By John Crawford ADAMS, M.D.(London), M.S.(London), F.R.C.S.(England). Sixth edition. Pp. vii+467, with 328 figures and 12 tables. Index. 1967. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. Price 40s.

This edition, the sixth in eleven years, is several pages shorter than its predecessor, despite the addition of some new material. This trend will certainly be welcomed by all medical students.

It is concise, lucid and beautifully illustrated.

Its popularity with undergraduates and orthopaedic nurses is equalled only by its value to those who lecture to them.

Experimental Skeletal Tuberculosis in the Guinea-pig. By Lars LINDBERG. Pp. 80, with 37 figures and 2 tables. 1967. Acta Orthopaedica Scandinavica—Supplementum 98. Copenhagen: Munksgaard. Price Dan. kr. 21.00.

Microradiographic Investigation of Bone Grafts in Man. By Gabriele STRINGA and Giuseppe MIGNANI. Pp. 77, with many figures. 1967. Acta Orthopaedica Scandinavica—Supplementum 99. Copenhagen: Munksgaard. Price Dan. kr. 24.00.

Tensile Properties of the Human Lumbar Annulus Fibrosus. By Jorge O. GALANTE. Pp. 91, with 33 figures and 22 tables. 1967. Acta Orthopaedica Scandinavica—Supplementum 100. Copenhagen: Munksgaard. Price Dan. kr. 28.00.

Daily Growth in Length of Diaphysis Measured by Oxytetracycline in Rabbit Normally and After Medullary Plugging. By Lars Ingvar HANSSON. Pp. 199, with 38 figures, 4 in colour, and 24 tables. 1967. Acta Orthopaedica Scandinavica—Supplementum 101. Copenhagen: Munksgaard. Price Dan. kr. 50.00.

End Results in the Treatment of Scoliosis. By Erik B. RISKA. Pp. 22, with 12 figures, 8 in colour, and 7 tables. Acta Orthopaedica Scandinavica—Supplementum 102. Copenhagen: Munksgaard. Price Dan. kr. 15.00.

Wirbelsäulen-Fibel. (A Primer of Spinal Disease.) By Hans RETTIG, Giessen; and Kurt KOLLMANN, Olpe. Pp. viii+105, with 110 illustrations in 65 figures and 2 tables. Index. 1967. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. Price DM 16.80.

This little paper-back covers in brief form the essentials of spinal disease likely to be of interest to students and general practitioners. It is well illustrated and well printed.

L'Ostéomalacie. (Osteomalacia.) Symposium Organisé par le Centre du Métabolisme Phospho-Calcique, Tours, 1965. Edited by D. J. HICO. Pp. viii+416, with 166 figures and 50 tables. Index. 1967. Paris: Masson & Cie. Price 80 F.

The text of the communications given at the Symposium on Osteomalacia organised in Tours from September 7 to 11, 1965, are attractively set out in this paper-back volume.