The Surgical Relief of Pain in Arthritic Disease. The Hip and Knee Joints. By Robert A. HERFORT, M.D., F.A.C.S., Attending Surgeon, St Agnes Hospital, White Plains, New York; Attending Surgeon, Grasslands Hospital, Valhalla, New York; Consulting Surgeon, St Barnabas Hospital, New York. $9\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ in. Pp. x+97, with 22 figures. Index. 1967. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas, Publisher. Price \$7.50.

In this short monograph the author gives a full account of the study which led him to feel that most of the pain fibres in the capsule of joint reach the central nervous system via the sympathetic chain. This has led him to advise and carry out bilateral "extended" lumbar sympathectomy including mobilisation of the aorta and vena cava, combined with periarterial sympathectomy of the upper femoral artery, in patients crippled by rheumatoid arthritis or osteoarthritis. His figures show good results from this rather heroic surgery on a rather small and unusual group of patients.

The book is well produced with a very complete bibliography and index, and should find a place in an orthopaedic reference library.—R. C. F. CATTERALL.

Leerboek der Orthopaedie. (Textbook of Orthopaedics.) By J. de VOLDERE. Foreword by H. W. WOUTERS. $9\frac{3}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ in. Pp. xvi+352, with 202 figures. Index. 1967. Assen (Netherlands): Van Gorcum & Comp. N.V. Price: gebonden f 37,90.

This book has been written to help the family doctor seeking information about the most frequent orthopaedic conditions encountered in his daily practice. The author has been careful to place due emphasis on careful physical examination. On nearly all the subjects the essential is briefly and well said. There is, however, a curious omission in the chapter on hip disease, where the aseptic necrosis of the femoral head is not dealt with.

We cannot help remarking that all textbooks of orthopaedic surgery at this level meet with the same hopeless difficulty. The printed roentgenographs, even if well chosen and well reproduced on good paper, are unable to convey to the eyes and mind of the reader the full significance of the original films, which so often have the last word in the discussion.—P. LACROIX.

Indian Journal of Orthopaedics. The official publication of the Indian Orthopaedic Association. Volume 1, No. 1, June 1967. Chairman: M. NATARAJAN; Editors: B. MUKHOPADHAYA and P. CHANDRA. New Delhi, India. Subscription price £2 per annum, single copies £1 1s.

The Journal has already extended a warm welcome to the appearance of the *Indian Journal of Orthopaedics*, but attention is drawn to it here so that a wider circle of people may know about it. It appeared on June 1, 1967. It is flattering to find it produced on high quality paper with excellent illustrations and with typescript similar to that employed in the *British Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery*.

The first volume includes articles on Phemister grafting, congenital vertical talus, salmonella osteomyelitis, osteoarthritis of the hip in Indians, which appears to be rare, and some entertaining notes on ancient Hindu orthopaedic surgery.

It is written in clear English with an occasional Indianisation which adds a certain attraction. We hope that the biannual publication will soon be increased as it goes from strength to strength.—J. G. BONNIN.

BOOKS OF ORTHOPAEDIC INTEREST

Chirurgia Ortopedyczna (Orthopaedic Surgery.) (In Polish.) By Adam GRUCA. Volume II. Pp. 623, with 316 figures. Index. 1966. Warsaw: Panstwowy Zaklad Wydawnictw Lekarskich.

Der Kongenitale Femurdefekt. (Congenital Femoral Defects.) By W. BLAUTH. Pp. viii+119, with 249 illustrations and 3 tables. 1967. Stuttgart: Ferdinand Enke Verlag. Price DM 35.

This volume covers all the varieties of congenital femoral defects which are encountered, including coxa vara and the grosser abnormalities which we now associate with thalidomide.

Orthopädische Gymnastik. (Orthopaedic Gymnastics.) By Georg HOHMANN and Lina JEGEL-STUMPF. Fourth revised edition. Pp. xvi+148, with 217 figures. Index. 1967. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. Price DM 19,80.