The fourth section is on reconstructive surgery in the management of congenital anomalies of the upper extremity. This review of the general principles of management, with a brief mention of the surgical treatment of specific conditions, is excellent and one of the best on this subject the reviewer has seen.

The book is completed by two appendices, the first of which is devoted to the problem of classification of congenital limb deficiencies. The need for this is evident throughout the book, for example, the term "phocomelia" is used by several authors quite erroneously.

Apart from this small criticism this book can be warmly commended to all interested in this subject which presents so many problems in management. While the great increase in such conditions due to thalidomide stimulated the production of this book the lessons so learned can be readily applied to the uncomfortably large number of children still born each year with similar conditions.—D. W. LAMB.

Symposium Ossium. European Association of Radiology. Edited by A. M. JELLIFFE and B. STRICKLAND. Assistant editors F. H. DOYLE, R. G. GRAINGER, K. E. HALNAN, P. JACOBS, G. A. S. LLOYD, J. S. MACDONALD, F. STARER and E. S. WILLIAMS. 25 × 19 cm. Pp. xii + 340, with many figures and tables. 1970. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. Price £7.

The Symposium Ossium, organised by the European Association of Radiology, was held in London in 1968. Many excellent papers were presented, mainly from Europe but some from the United States and other parts of the world. In this slim volume, beautifully produced and excellently illustrated, more than a hundred of these papers are reproduced in permanent form. While many concern radiotherapy and radiobiology, the majority are devoted to the radiodiagnostic aspect of skeletal disorders. Many of these cannot fail to be of interest to orthopaedic surgeons. Most of those which have been contributed in other languages have summaries in English.

Present methods employed in the early detection of bone metastases receive extensive consideration. Other general subjects for discussion include angiography in bone tumours, joint, paediatric and endocrine disorders, and various aspects of primary malignant tumours of the skeleton. In addition many papers report a variety of recent experimental studies, with particular reference to the measurement of bone mineral *in vivo*. Contributions have been made by leading bone pathologists, including Dr Sissons, Dr Ball and Dr Price.

Some of the unusually intriguing titles include "Haemochromatotic Arthropathy", "Calcitonin and the Skeleton", "The Mandibular Joints" (from the United Kingdom); "Bone Cancers induced by External Radiation" (from France); "Retropharyngeal Tendinitis" (from Sweden); "Hyperostotic Spondylosis and Diabetes Mellitus" (from Germany); "The Periosteal Reaction in Malignant Bone Tumours" (from Holland); "The Evolution of Blount's Disease" (from Jamaica); and "Fluorise Vinique" (from Spain).

Because many sessions were conducted simultaneously, this book should be of absorbing interest even to those who were fortunate enough to attend this important meeting, since almost every contribution has something to offer to those concerned with skeletal abnormalities and disease. Most readers, indeed, are likely to find some difficulty in deciding which article to choose first out of this tantalising selection.—R. O. MURRAY.

The Early Orthopaedic Surgeons of America. By Alfred Rives SHANDS, Jun., M.D., Medical Director Emeritus, Alfred I. duPont Institute of the Nemours Foundation, Wilmington, Delaware. 25 × 18 cm. Pp. xi + 190, with many figures. Index. 1970. London: Henry Kimpton. Price £6.75.

Here are biographies of eleven pioneer orthopaedic surgeons of the United States, mostly of the last century and all contributing most of their work to that century even if they lived into the twentieth. One too often regards orthopaedic surgery as a British invention whereas it should be realised that despite the contributions of Hugh Owen Thomas and Robert Jones, the United States certainly already possessed a number of remarkable pioneer orthopaedic surgeons. Lewis Sayre, James Knight the founder of the Hospital for the Ruptured and Crippled, Gibney, Shaffer, and Edward Bradford are those probably best known to us in Britain.

These are brief biographies by a man steeped in the history of American orthopaedic surgery. The style is perhaps unexciting but the information given is full of interest and value.—J. I. P. JAMES.