Les Traumatismes Ostéo-articulaires de la Main. (Osteo-articular Injuries of the Hand.) Edited by R. VILAIN, with nineteen contributors. Les Monographies de Groupe d'Étude de la Main. Collection edited by R. TUBIANA. 27×21 cm. Pp. viii+186, with 175 figures and some tables. 1971. Paris: Expansion Scientifique Française. Price 100 F.

This symposium is the third in a series of presentations to the French society, Groupe d'Étude de la Main, the previous subjects being the rheumatoid hand and Dupuytren's disease. Introducing the first number in 1966, Raoul Tubiana said that G.E.M. had two main aims; to arrange for surgeons and others interested in the hand to meet and share their experience and to organise teaching in this subject. The present membership of sixty is international and is comprised of men renowned for their work in this field.

This issue maintains the high standard set by its predecessors and there is a wealth of experience in these pages which would not be readily available elsewhere. The anatomy, primary care of fractures and joint injuries and the treatment of non-union, malunion, stiff joints and other complications are considered in detail. From this galaxy of talent it is perhaps unfair to select individual chapters, but to give the prospective reader some idea of the contents, mention must be made of the brilliantly clear anatomical description by Dubousset, the internal fixation of fractures by Tubiana, injuries of the metacarpo-phalangeal joint of the thumb by Stener, arthroplasty by Swanson and carpal instability by Fisk.

The whole work well fulfils the aims of G.E.M. and reflects great credit upon Dr Tubiana and Dr Vilain. It will repay careful study and indeed no one who is engaged in surgery of the hand can afford to be without it. The text is in both French and English.—Guy PULVERTAFT.

Les Débuts de l'Ostéosynthèse en Belgique. (The Early Stages of Internal Fixation of Fractures in Belgium.) Volume published for the 50th Anniversary of the Société Belge de Chirurgie Orthopédique et de Traumatologie. Foreword by E. VANDER ELST. 30×23.5 cm. Pp. 151, with 50 illustrations from the original drawings of Albin Lambotte. 1971. Further details from: Dr E. Vander Elst, Secretary General, Rue Jourdan 99, B-1060 Brussels, Belgium. Brussels: Imprimerie des Sciences. Price 1,000 Belgian fr.

On the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary in 1971 the Belgian Society of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology, in honour of its revered first president Albin Lambotte (1866–1955), published this splendid monograph as a record of his daring pioneer work on the internal fixation of fractures

The record of the first use of a *fixateur externe*.

between the years 1895 and 1907. The introductory pages give the names of the six founder members of the Society—Lambotte, Maffei, Moreau, Delchef, Van Neck and Marique—followed by the short programme of their first meeting in 1921. Strangely enough the first two cases presented were examples of hypospadias.