A sensitive photograph taken in profile that conveys Lambotte's artistic and compassionate nature far better than words is followed by a delightful account of his life by the gifted medical historian of the Society, Dr Edouard Vander Elst, and a warm appreciation of the principles he established by the current president Dr De Wulf. These two articles, which like the rest of the text have been translated into impeccable English, serve to introduce the main body of the work—reproductions of some fifty selected line drawings by Lambotte of the state before and after operation, the terse clinical details being written out in full in French and English on the facing pages. It is all very well done. The flow is broken only at one place, by a remarkable photograph taken in April 1902 after the first application of a *fixateur externe*, for a compound fracture of the femur. The bearded Lambotte is contemplating the long incision in the thigh, which is steadied by the bare hands of his two bearded assistants. Happily the result was recorded as “g” indicating *guérison* or healing.

Our Belgian colleagues, and in particular Dr Vander Elst, are to be warmly congratulated on their production of such a vivid record of the ingenuity, skill and courage of their brilliant but modest countryman at the turn of the century. It should be part of the wider reading of every young orthopaedic surgeon.—Karl NISSEN.

Cervical Spondylosis. Its Early Diagnosis and Treatment. Edited by Marcia WILKINSON, D.M., F.R.C.P., Consultant Neurologist, Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital and the Hackney Group of Hospitals; Director, Regional Neurological Unit, Eastern Hospital, Hackney; and Director, City Migraine Clinic. With four other contributors. Second edition. 17×21 cm. Pp. ix+182, with many figures and some tables. Index. 1971. London: William Heinemann Medical Books Limited. Price £3.

This book, though the title differs slightly, is the second edition of *Cervical Spondylosis and Other Disorders of the Cervical Spine* which was edited by the late Lord Brain and Dr Wilkinson and published in 1967. Emphasis is now more on early diagnosis and treatment, although in the present volume the most valuable chapters are on anatomy (Professor Bowden), pathology (Dr Wilkinson), radiology (Dr Young) and surgical treatment (Mr Symons).

The standard of writing by the five contributors is remarkably even and there is a good balance between various aspects of the subject. The result is an excellent and well documented survey. There are some minor errors and it is disappointing to find what might be an interesting reference to Cogman (1934) cannot be followed in order to discover his identity since it is not mentioned in the list of references. This is in a marginally relevant section on the “Stiff (frozen) Shoulder”, and another reference to Oppenheimer (1938) in the text is also omitted from the list.

The cervical spine is a meeting place between orthopaedic surgeons and neurosurgeons (in the days of extensive laminectomy it was perhaps a battleground) and Mr Symons contributes a very clear and unbiased review of the value of surgical treatment. In the final chapter on prognosis, Dr Wilkinson writes that “generalisations apply to the individual patient to only a limited extent”, which is a truism not sufficiently recognised. She also makes critical comments on the British Association of Physical Medicine's trial on the effect of treatment on patients with “pain in the neck and arm”.

The colour plates which were in the first edition have been removed, but the standard of production is high and the illustrations, with the exception of one or two radiographs, are clear. It is a pity that the appearance of the elegant dust cover is spoilt by the misprinting of “It's” (*sic*).

Dr Wilkinson is to be congratulated in assembling the contributions of her colleagues into a most readable book which should be of value to all orthopaedic surgeons who deal with patients with pain in the neck, and particularly to the high proportion who suffer from cervical spondylosis themselves.—W. WAUGH.

Rheumatoid Arthritis. Pathogenetic Mechanisms and Consequences in Therapeutics. Edited by W. MÜLLER, H.-G. HARWERTH and K. FEHR. 24×16 cm. Pp. xvii+781, with many figures, some in colour, and tables. Index. 1971. London and New York: Academic Press Inc. (London) Ltd. Price £8.

This is yet another book of a Conference, but this volume avoids most of the problems associated with such publications and will be of value to those who did not attend the meeting in Basel, Switzerland, in March 1971. The editors and publishers are to be congratulated on the early publication

date, a difficult task when there are seventy-nine papers to be gathered from an international audience, translation problems (which have mostly been overcome), and lengthy discussions. The book has been well produced and the quality of the photographic material is high. The value of such a book reflects the value of the Conference and this would seem to have been high. It tried very hard to live up to the aim "to discuss and evaluate the developments and results of research into rheumatoid arthritis and thus to establish a new basis for treatment of the disease".

The Conference considered current investigation on histopathological, biochemical, cytological and immunological changes and mechanisms in rheumatoid arthritis. This was followed by an analysis of the methods of action of the commonly employed drugs, and finally there was a real attempt, much of it in open discussion, to suggest possible future methods of medical management. This last component is all too easily ignored, and it may be of interest to orthopaedic surgeons, who may feel they are currently the therapeutic leaders in rheumatoid arthritis, to read of the difficulties facing physicians in this field.

This is not a book to read from cover to cover. However, many of the longer chapters provide a good review of current investigation and thought and provide worthwhile reading. Certainly those considering any non-surgical work in this field would be well advised to read the relevant sections.—Alastair G. MOWAT.

Die hüftnahen Femurosteotomien. (Osteotomy of the Upper End of the Femur.) By Maurice Edmond MÜLLER. Preface by M. R. FRANCILLON. Second edition. 20×28 cm. Pp. xii+226, with 548 illustrations in 321 figures. Index. 1971. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. Price DM 90.

This is a revised edition of the book first published in 1957. Thanks to the appendix with its well-illustrated text on "twelve hip procedures", first described in September 1967 in the A.O. Bulletin, this book is brought up to date.

The first part deals with general considerations of the hip joint. This includes the detailed interpretation of radiographs with the ischiometer invented by the author. This part is highly technical and needs a detailed knowledge of geometry.

The second part deals with intertrochanteric osteotomies for such conditions as congenital subluxation, coxa vara, slipped femoral epiphysis, avascular necrosis of the head of the femur following fractured neck of femur, paralysis about the hip joint following anterior poliomyelitis, spastic paralysis, osteoarthritis and tuberculosis. Some of the operations described are now less frequently used since the introduction of such procedures as Chiari's, Salter's and total prosthetic replacement.

The book is well produced, well illustrated and easy to read for those who have a good command of the German language. This book should be considered as a classic on intertrochanteric osteotomies. I would highly recommend it to the orthopaedic surgeon who is interested in the surgery of the hip joint. It will give him an historical review of the progress of hip surgery in the last four decades, though it marks the end of an era.—R. J. HOCHHAUSER.

Spinal Manipulation. By F. J. BOURDILLON, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.S.(C.). Formerly Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon to the Gloucestershire Royal Hospital. Foreword by Selwyn TAYLOR, D.M., M.Ch., F.R.C.S. 22×14·6 cm. Pp. vii+150, with 65 figures. Index. 1970. London: William Heinemann Medical Books Limited. Price £1·75.

This is an extremely interesting book on a controversial subject. The author set out "to produce a working hypothesis as a basis for argument and a guide for research" and gives an extremely clear and well illustrated account of his techniques in the diagnosis and treatment of spinal joint lesions at all levels. He also gives due emphasis to the dangers of over-enthusiastic treatment carried out without precise diagnosis. The rest of the hypothesis is also clearly stated and more controversial, and the clinical suggestion that entities such as the carpal tunnel syndrome, tennis elbow and the painful heel are "initiated by spinal joint derangement and maintained by subsequent local changes" will assuredly serve as a basis for argument. It remains a stimulating book which should be read by everyone whose mind is not closed to the possibility of relieving certain types of backache by manipulation.—R. C. F. CATTERALL.