he has selected nineteen sections and five dissections to trace the relation of the fascia to the neighbouring structures. The photographs are accompanied by line drawings which makes the necessary careful study a pleasure. This advanced study of the hand has practical implications, for in Stack's words: "It is hoped that a better understanding of the relationships of the nerves to the fascia will simplify the dissection of the contracted bands . . . Knowledge of the ultimate attachments of the deeper strands also makes possible the release of some of the more intractable deformities of the fingers."

In addition to the main theme, there is a most interesting survey of the relevant literature from 1734 to 1973. This collection of writings, reproduced verbatim with the author's comments, is an unusual and valuable appendix to the book.

We welcome this unique work and have no doubt that it will become one of the classic contributions to the better understanding of Dupuytren's disease.—R. Guy PULVERTAFT.

Arterial Surgery. By H. H. G. EASTCOTT, M.S.(Lond.), F.R.C.S.(Eng.), Consultant Surgeon, St Mary's Hospital, Royal Masonic Hospital, King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, and to the Royal Navy. Second edition. 19×25 cm. Pp. vii+412, with many figures. Index. 1973. London: Pitman Medical. Price £8.50.

Vascular surgery has made no prodigious forward leap since I reviewed the first edition for this journal in 1970. The second edition provides some minor revisions and new references, but the chapter on Arterial Injuries still falls slightly below the lucid level of the rest of the book. There is only scant mention of subintimal tear, now recognised as an important critical non-penetrating arterial injury and the one most likely to be encountered by an accident surgeon. The writer gives clear diagrams to illustrate the technique of end-to-end arterial anastomoses, but one looks in vain for the more useful although initially daunting method of constructing a by-pass saphenous vein graft. Finally, fasciotomy is dismissed in five short lines, which allows insufficient emphasis for a procedure which, if used more often, could save many injured limbs from amputation. Not only can fascial decompression relieve a primary haematoma and restore the circulation obstructed in this way; it can also circumvent the dire results of post-ischaemic swelling of the distal muscle bellies, which often wreck an initially successful vascular repair and constitute one of the main causes of Volkmann's contracture. A budding limb surgeon seeking guidance in this chapter would also find no discussion of the precise indications for fasciotomy or the various ways by which decompression can be achieved. On the other hand, the book will give him excellent guidance on chronic arterial disease, some knowledge of which is essential to every orthopaedic surgeon, both in diagnosing the true cause of a patient's symptoms and in planning elective surgery. The new edition of this excellent textbook can be wholeheartedly recommended to orthopaedic surgeons.—Martin BIRNSTINGL.

Peripheral Vascular Surgery. Tutorials in Postgraduate Medicine, Volume 3. Edited by Martin BIRNSTINGL, M.S., F.R.C.S. 14×22 cm. Pp. xi+445, with many figures. Index. 1973. London: William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. Price £5.50.

This book is the third volume in the Tutorials in Postgraduate Medicine series and as one would expect it is a very well balanced, authoritative work. Each chapter is by an author of international standing in his field and the standard of presentation is extremely high. The book falls naturally into three sections. The first chapters are devoted to the basic science of peripheral circulation and its disorders. There is an excellent contribution by Professor Browse in which our current knowledge of venous disease is summarised. Of particular interest to the orthopaedic surgeon is his appraisal of our current concepts in the field of deep vein thrombosis.

The middle section of the book is chiefly concerned with the management of atherosclerosis and is naturally directed at the specialist vascular surgeon.

The last section contains the greatest variety of subject matter and includes some of the best chapters in the book. In particular there is an excellent account of arterial injuries by Mr Birnstingl which every orthopaedic surgeon should read. For those interested in the replacement of digits, there follows a chapter on microvascular surgery. This is very brief but gives a useful list of references for further study. Finally, for bedside reading, there is a fascinating account of vascular diseases in the tropics.—J. F. NEWCOMBE.

Foot Disorders. Medical and Surgical Management. By Nicholas J. GIANNISTRAS, M.D., Associate Clinical Professor, Division of Orthopaedics, Department of Surgery, University of Cincinnati. Second edition. 18×26 cm. Pp. xiv+699, with 119 figures, 3 in colour. Index. 1973. Philadelphia: Lea & Febiger. London: Henry Kimpton. Price £16.85.

Operations on the foot are traditionally placed at the end of the list and they are often left to junior staff to perform. It might seem that the foot has been relegated to an apparently unimportant position at the bottom of the leg and a long way from the more exciting hip and knee joints (and even farther from the hand). Nevertheless, disorders of the foot produce a great deal of disability and are especially important as they can so easily be made worse by ill-considered treatment. Dr Giannestras's book will thus be welcomed by those surgeons who recognise the real importance of his subject. His approach shows a meticulous attention to the kind of details which are unfortunately often dismissed as trivial. He is particularly concerned with growth of children's feet and he has very strong views about the kind of shoes needed normally as well as those needed if the feet are flat.

The book begins with "Development and Physiology" and ends with a chapter on "Circulatory Disturbances". A number of first-class contributors have been co-opted; for example, Dr Clayton on the "Surgical Treatment of the Rheumatoid Foot" and Dr Marmor on "Gout". Dr Garton and Dr Goldner's chapter on "The Club Foot" demands and needs careful reading: it is an excellent review but in parts seems confusingly repetitive.

The effects of operations on the foot are usually difficult to record quantitatively, and perhaps this is why Dr Giannestras does not quote detailed results to support the various procedures which he recommends for hallux valgus. There is regrettably very little discussion about the significance of metatarsalgia and deformities of the lesser toes, and there is no clear indication as to whether the operations described restore function to the big toe (as well as relieving pain and improving appearance). The chapter does not show a single footprint or photograph of the sole of the foot before or after any operation.

One of the author's reasons for rewriting his book was "to correct the numerous errors committed by the printer" in the first edition. This time he has certainly been better served as far as the text is concerned but unfortunately many of the photographs of operations (and there are a large number) are so indistinct that they are almost valueless. Dr Giannestras intends his book for "neophyte orthopaedists, orthopaedic residents and physicians in other fields of medicine . . ." The present price is £16.85 (compared with the £5 12 6 which the first edition cost when reviewed in this Journal in 1968), so that not many registrars in this country will be likely to buy it. They would, however, be interested and entertained by reading it (and who can fail to be entertained by the thought of putting "rubber cookies" into children's shoes?), and since the book does fill an empty space in orthopaedic literature it can be recommended to any library which can afford to buy it.—William WAUGH.

Surgery of the Shoulder. By Anthony F. DePALMA, M.D., Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry, Newark, N.J. With a foreword by Emanuel KAPLAN, M.D. Second edition. 26 × 18 cm. Pp. xix + 551, with 476 figures. Index. 1973. Philadelphia; Toronto: J. B. Lippincott Company. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. Price £18.

This is the second edition of a large book previously published in 1950 and now extensively revised. It is a remarkable piece of scholarship representing many years of work. There are 476 beautifully produced illustrations, approximately 85 per cent of which are new or revised. Additions to the book include studies of degenerative changes in the acromioclavicular and sternoclavicular joints with age, and a chapter on injuries of the shoulder in sports with particular reference to the "throwing" arm. There is also new material on the unstable shoulder and another chapter is devoted to the difficult problems of "shoulder, arm, hand pain of the neurogenic and vascular origin" in which the author stresses the important role of lesions of the cervical spine. I found the description of surgical procedures particularly helpful because all the currently used operations on the shoulder are described and depicted step by step.

However, the style tends to be verbose and the reviewer occasionally experienced difficulty in deciding exactly which of several operations the author favoured in his approach to a problem. In the chapter on the unstable shoulder, for example, all the possible operative procedures which have been described for recurrent anterior dislocation are discussed but the reader does not clearly learn the merits and indications of each operation.

This book must represent many years of painstaking research into all aspects of surgery to the shoulder joint and remains an excellent glossary of knowledge on this subject.—A. H. C. RATLIFF.

Artropatia Emofilica. (Haemophilic Arthropathy.) I—Basi anatomiche e fisiopatologiche dell'emartro emofilica, e suo trattamento con particolare riguardo alla Sinoviectomia. (Long-term Evaluation of Synovectomy in the Treatment of Recurrent Haemophilic Haemarthrosis.) By Edoardo