

## BOOK REVIEWS

**Neurology for Physiotherapists** (1978). Edited by Joan Cash, F.C.S.P., London. Faber and Faber, 2nd edition. Pp 495. Illus. Soft cover.

The biggest single change in this new edition is the extensive revision of the section on hemiplegia, which has been completely rewritten by J. M. Todd and P. M. Davies. The emphasis is on awareness of the affected side and part one of this section covers early care and advice to relatives and nursing personnel. Part two covers the neurodevelopmental approach to the treatment of hemiplegia in great detail and is illustrated by excellent line drawings. Anyone concerned in the handling of the hemiplegic patient would do well to read these two chapters.

The chapter on cerebral palsy, now rewritten by Sofie Levitt, is an improvement on the first edition but remains disappointing. The presentation is superficial and sometimes misleading, as for instance the discussion of normal reactions under the heading of abnormal reflexes or reactions. The section on treatment might form a useful introduction to the various approaches but would not be of any practical assistance in the treatment of a cerebral palsied child.

The introductory chapters, particularly those on principles of treatment, remain excellent and largely unaltered. The chapter on spina bifida and hydrocephalus has been updated and includes some useful information, as does the chapter on spinal cord injuries. Unfortunately most of the other chapters remain relatively unaltered and those on polyneuropathies and peripheral nerve injuries, in particular, do not reflect modern-day approaches to treatment. It is to be hoped that in future editions these sections may be altered to provide concise, specific advice regarding treatment.

The original chapter on geriatrics has been replaced by two chapters on the wider aspects of physiotherapy in the community.

The provision of references for additional reading varies from chapter to chapter and is not always adequate. It is a pity that the plates are bound together in the centre of the book and thus partially lose their illustrative value.

The book remains the only one available in this field and is worth recommending for its chapters on principles of treatment and on hemiplegia alone, and the discerning reader will find much of interest in some of the other sections.

S.I.C.

**Orthopaedics for Nurses**, (1978), Stone, E. M. and Pinney, E. C. London. Baillière Tindall.

This book provides a very basic introduction to the treatment of bone and joint disorders. It presupposes very little knowledge of anatomy and pathology on the part of its readers. The book is not set out in the most logical order. For example the chapter on orthopaedic principles, which deals largely with the different types

of immobilisation, is separated from the section on splinting by a chapter on nursing care of amputations. The different types of splints and frames and the application of plaster of paris are dealt with thoroughly. The introduction to fractures is fairly comprehensive, but the mechanisms and consequent treatment of each fracture is only briefly described. The section on diseases includes a short review of the pathology and treatment of haemophilia and osteomyelitis. Rheumatoid arthritis is well covered, with several photographs of the different types of splints in use. There is a detailed description of the signs and symptoms and treatment of tuberculosis of each joint. The chapter on diseases of the nervous system is too brief to be of any use. This section, as well as the treatment of head injuries do not fall within the scope of this book. The section on deformities is long and presents some of the latest techniques, such as Cotrell traction in the management of scoliosis. A large variety of splints for the treatment of congenital hip dislocation is illustrated. The final chapter on rehabilitation is good. It provides a basic introduction to the modalities used by the physiotherapist. It stresses that most passive techniques (such as heat or ice) are only used to prepare for active movement. The paragraphs dealing with occupational therapy are fewer, but do present an accurate picture of that discipline. No mention was made of the role of the family and community in rehabilitation. There are a few mistakes in the text (e.g. that if it is necessary to immobilise a joint for any reason "the immobilisation is carried out in the position of physiological rest"). Occasionally illustrations are not related to the accompanying text and captions are inaccurate. Although certain sections of the book are valuable, it is not recommended as a textbook for physiotherapy students. It does not provide the theoretical depth of pathology and orthopaedic treatment which a standard orthopaedic textbook would supply. The physical treatment is not detailed enough to guide physiotherapists. Students could be referred to the section on splinting, which is very comprehensive and well illustrated.

J. Hill

**Musculo-Skeletal Examination and Recording Guide.** Maitland, G. D. (1978) Lauderdale Press, P.O. Box 85, Glen Osmond 5064, South Australia. Australian \$2.50.

This booklet forms a combination of two guides previously published separately. Documentation of vertebral and peripheral joint problems should be facilitated by such a comprehensive booklet which should be to hand in any physiotherapy department or private practice following this method of treatment. It is, however, unfortunate that the printing is poor and the proof-reading was inadequate.

M.J.R.

### A SYMBOL FOR REHABILITATION INTERNATIONAL

Rehabilitation International has announced a search for an organizational symbol or "logo" and is inviting designers throughout the world to submit ideas. Designs will be evaluated by the Assembly of Rehabilitation International and the final selection will be made at

its meeting in 1980 for the 14th World Rehabilitation Congress.

Further details regarding submission of designs are available from: Rehabilitation International, 432 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016, U.S.A.