

material derived from damaged brain tissue," and that (p. 156) "there is little chemical evidence to warrant inclusion of Tay-Sachs disease among the 'lipodoses,'" ignore the implications of demographic and genetic studies—apart from chemical considerations—in these two diseases. Such assertions suggest the author's unfamiliarity with the importance of the role of the biochemical lesion in so many forms of arrested brain development, so profitably explored clinically by Dent, Hsia, and others.

The illustrations (apart from graphs) are all line drawings (Fig. 23 lacks the indicator numerals cited in the caption) and at least the original cases so briefly cited on pages 87 and 88 might have benefited from photographic reproductions. Text references are frequently missing or misplaced to irrelevant chapters and there are some repeated mis-spellings of proper names (also, twice, of "axolotl").

C. E. LUMSDEN.

### ATHLETIC INJURIES

*Clinical Orthopaedics, No. 23.* Edited by Anthony F. DePalma. (Pp. 314+x; illustrated. 60s.) London: Pitman Medical Publishing Co. Ltd. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1962.

This volume of a well-established series devotes most of its space to the study of athletic injuries, though there are several articles on general orthopaedics in addition. As has been the practice in most of these books, the first contribution is a short biography of a famous orthopaedic surgeon; on this occasion Dr. Shands, of Wilmington, writes an interesting article on the life of Dr. Fred Albee. A very clear indication is given of the great skill and ingenuity of this man who put bone grafting on to a practical basis by bringing power-driven tools to the aid of the surgeon.

The section on athletic injuries covers the subject very fully, but somehow after reading it one is left with a sense of having learnt very little that is new. So many of the injuries mentioned, though related to a specific athletic activity, are of the type one meets in everyday traumatic practice, requiring routine methods of treatment that have been described in so many other books. Those of us who occasionally have to treat top-class athletes must know how often it is the trivial injury that is difficult to treat, simply because of the extreme efficiency being demanded of the part. For instance, can one expect a Wimbledon tennis player to be able to carry on with the game after treatment for a tennis elbow, and are there any simple "orthopaedic tricks" that can be pulled out of the bag to help to prevent a recurrence? The answer to this type of question will not be found in this book; but if late reconstruction of the cruciate ligaments is contemplated the subject is covered fully. Unfortunately the results are not mentioned. In this section the best article by far is by Dr. Kaplan on some aspects of functional anatomy of the knee. It takes a lot of reading but is very rewarding.

In the section on general orthopaedics there is an excellent description of a new method of conservative treatment for the deformity of boutonnière finger. This original idea seems to have considerable possibilities. For the more academic there is a fourteen-page essay on the crystal structure of bone, followed by two papers on osteoporosis and osteomalacia.

As a treatise on athletic injuries this book is disappointing, but there are one or two highlights in it that make it a useful addition to one's reference library.

J. N. WILSON.

### LISTER'S ACHIEVEMENTS

*Joseph Lister. The Man who Made Surgery Safe.* By Frederick F. Cartwright. (Pp. 128; illustrated. 10s. 6d.) London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson Ltd. 1963.

This is a short and very readable account of the life and achievements of Joseph Lister. Though meant for the laity every doctor, nurse, and medical student would profit from reading it.

The author has had access to relics dating back to the time when Lister worked at the old King's College Hospital in Portugal Street, Clare Market, and he has reproduced some interesting photographs. The technique adopted by Lister was still maintained, with only slight modifications, by some of the surgeons at the hospital until towards the end of the first decade of this century.

The author correctly states that the first training-school for nurses in this country was not that founded by Florence Nightingale. The important point is that the Nightingale School, founded in 1860, soon gained predominance owing to the powerful and continuous influence of Miss Nightingale herself, and maintained it until the early part of this century. During the last five years of Lister's occupancy of the chair of surgery at Edinburgh the nursing at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary was under the superintendency of a lady trained at the Nightingale School.

The influence of television on the writing of history is shown in chapter eight of this book, for it is based on a broadcast given on September 1, 1960, in the series "They Made History."

The book is excellently printed and produced, easily goes into the pocket, and is cheap.

ZACHARY COPE.

### BOOKS RECEIVED

*Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.*

*Margin of Safety.* By John Rowan Wilson. (Pp. 256; illustrated. 21s.) London: Collins. 1963.

*Old People in Homes.* A Handbook for Matrons. By Patricia Shaw, M.D.(Lond.), D.P.H. (Pp. 173; illustrated. 18s.) London: Faber and Faber. 1963.

*A Study in Behaviour.* Principles of ethology and behavioural physiology, displayed mainly in the rat. By S. A. Barnett. (Pp. 288+xvi; illustrated. 45s.) London: Methuen and Co. Ltd. 1963.

*Experimental Chemotherapy.* Volume I. Edited by R. J. Schnitzer and Frank Hawking. (Pp. 1,000+xv; illustrated. £13 12s.) New York and London: Academic Press. 1963.

*Radioactive Isotopes in Medicine and Biology.* By Edith H. Quimby, Sc.D., and Sergei Feitelberg, M.D. Second edition. (Pp. 343; illustrated. 60s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1963.

*The Specificity of Serological Reactions.* Revised edition. By Karl Landsteiner, M.D. (Pp. 330+xviii. 16s.) New York: Dover Publications, Inc. London: Constable and Co. Ltd. 1963.

*Problèmes de Base en Électroencéphalographie.* Edited by H. Fischgold, C. Dreyfus-Brisac, and Ph. Pruvot. (Pp. 221+viii; illustrated. NF. 56.) Paris: Masson and Cie. 1963.

*Traumatologie Clinique.* By P. Decoulx and J.-P. Razemon. (Pp. 247; illustrated. NF. 48.) Paris: Masson and Cie. 1963.

*Anthropologische und naturwissenschaftliche Grundlagen der Pharmako-Psychiatrie.* Edited by J. D. Achelis and H. v. Ditfurth. (Pp. 114; illustrated. DM. 18.50.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1963.

*Lungenemphysem und Bronchitis.* By Priv.-Doz. Dr. H. H. Marx. (Pp. 224+xii; illustrated. DM. 35.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag. 1963.

*Proteins and Nucleic Acids.* Eighth Weizmann Memorial Lecture Series, April, 1961. By M. F. Perutz. (Pp. 211+x; illustrated. £2 10s.) Amsterdam, London, and New York: Elsevier Publishing Company. 1962.