shoulder-girdle; much is made of the function of the trapezius muscle, but the supraspinatus tendon and its syndrome appear to have been sunk without trace. In ankylosing spondylitis, deep x rays are but briefly mentioned, though for osteo-arthritis they are thought to be the best treatment (p. 118); pride of place in treatment is given to implants of calf-pituitary. The method has now been so simplified that all that is required is to place the hypophysis of a freshly-killed calf in normal saline and implant it in the patient's buttock, after preliminary infiltration with novocaine and penicillin. A whole page is devoted to the technique of the operation and it is claimed that, after it, neither patient nor implant ever looks back. But it would be interesting to watch the reactions of British patients (and of their buttocks) to this procedure.

The print and paper are of first-class quality, but the illustrations consist mainly of x-ray films, and in a book dealing with the arthritides there is no photograph of a live arthritic joint. The bibliography, massed at the end of the book, is international in character. Finally, one has the impression that German rheumatology, though still encumbered by old-fashioned ideas, is making notable progress and is closing the gap left by the Hitlerian era.

D. PREISKEL.

Manual for Arthritis Clinics. 1952. Pp. 63. Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation Inc., New York. 50 cts.

This manual was produced as the result of a survey of arthritis clinics in the metropolitan area of New York which revealed defects in their location, organization, and

conduct. Its aim is to point out how such departments can fulfil more effectively the three reasons for their existence: the diagnosis and treatment of patients, the education of physicians in rheumatic and articular disorders, and the promotion of research.

It recommends that the chief of clinic should be a general physician with an active interest and wide experience in the rheumatic diseases, and that his associates should include an orthopaedic surgeon and a physician specializing in physical medicine. Both this recommendation and the one stating that it is desirable that physicians who staff arthritis clinics should have a wide knowledge of internal medicine sufficient to obtain a higher qualification in general medicine will be endorsed by the Empire Rheumatism Council; they follow the recommendation for training as laid down by the recent Committee of the Royal College of Physicians of London.

Emphasis is laid on the necessity for suitable diagnostic facilities and for access to hospital beds where cases can be studied in detail. The chart suggested for the recording of joint findings is rather cumbersome for routine clinical work though it might be useful for research cases.

Much of the manual is devoted to diagnostic criteria for various types of rheumatic and articular disorders, followed by a classification devised for the assessment of improvement in rheumatoid arthritis.

Attention is drawn to the importance of regular clinic conferences at which free discussion can be held on clinical cases, current literature, and the results of therapy. Finally the function of the social worker is described, and the importance of her place in the clinic team is emphasized.

OSWALD SAVAGE.

LIGUE INTERNATIONALE CONTRE LE RHUMATISME

EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS, 1953

(SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT)

The Eighth International Congress of Rheumatic Diseases will be held at Geneva from August 24 to 28, 1953, under the auspices of the Ligue Internationale contre le Rhumatisme. It is being organized by the Swiss Society of Physical Medicine and Rheumatology under the presidency of Prof. E. Jarlov (Copenhagen). The programme, which has been drawn up with the collaboration of some of the most eminent scientific authorities in rheumatological studies, will include the following series of discussions:

(1) **Connective Tissue** (J. H. Kellgren, *Manchester*, G. Teilmann, *Copenhagen*, and E. Hartmann, *Göttingen*).

(2) **Steroid Hormones** (T. Reichstein, *Basle* (Nobel Prize, 1950), P. S. Hench, *Rochester, U.S.A.* (Nobel Prize, 1950), F. Coste, *Paris*, and A. Ruiz Moreno, *Buenos Aires*).

(3) **Surgery in the Treatment of Rheumatism** (R. Judet

and R. Merle d'Aubigné, *Paris*, will discuss the end-results of surgery of the hip).

(4) **Chronic Rheumatism** (W. Tegner, *London*, and H. Rusk, *New York*, will demonstrate the possibilities of rehabilitation and employment of those disabled by rheumatism).

These sessions will be reserved for the presentation of individual papers on the subjects set. Authors are asked to have their papers approved by the Executive Committee of the National League to which they belong.

Apart from these meetings and discussions, scientific films will be shown, and there will be a technical exhibition (medical literature, drugs, and physiotherapy apparatus), and also a scientific exhibition in which members are invited to demonstrate the results of their researches.

On Wednesday, August 26, members of the Congress will be received by the civic authorities of Aix-