found much of the present knowledge on the topics covered, including in certain cases the conflicting views.

Without exception the authors have kept to the point and wasted words are few. Some of the clinical descriptions are rather formal and stereotyped and the clinical picture of the disease does not come across well. Perhaps this is due to the papers being delivered to a peer audience rather than for wider consumption, the presenters forgetting that the diseases they describe may be unfamiliar to some members of this wider audience.

In addition to discussion of the principle diseases, unusual diseases and presentations are detailed and there is discussion of the attempts to define disease subgroups. The discussion following each section, although readable, would probably have been enhanced if a rapporteur system had been used.

The clinical aspects have been enhanced by the inclusion of chapters on background subjects, of which one might pick out those by Omenn on genetics and histocompatibility genes, Phillips on pathogenic mechanisms of infectious agents, and amyloidosis by Schnitzer and Ansell.

Interesting chapters deal with specific problems such as growth retardation and eye and cardiac involvement.

There are faults. It is often not clear when authors are extrapolating from results found in adults and when they base statements solely on childhood cases. There are surprising omissions such as scant reference to tenosynovitis and the enthesopathy of ankylosing spondylitis, both of great practical importance in diagnosis and management of these cases. The psychological aspects of childhood rheumatic diseases and their management are not discussed, nor are the dental complications. Haemophilia, the hereditary disorders of connective tissue and soft tissue disorders, and the many postural and orthopaedic problems are not dealt with.

It is because of the emphasis on quantitative facts over a limited range of the spectrum of disorders seen in a children's arthritis clinic and the lack of practical advice that this book cannot replace a textbook (nor was it meant to). As complementary to such a textbook it would be excellent. Unfortunately there is no textbook covering childhood arthritis at present. Perhaps the organising committee might think of inviting some

of their authors to reorientate their presentations, add other chapters, and produce the prototype textbook of childhood arthritis. Until that time this book should be freely available in every hospital dealing with these diseases. The price is highly competitive by today's standards.

P. J. L. HOLT

Peripheral Manipulation. 2nd edition. By G. D. Maitland. (Pp. 363; illustrated + tables. £13.50.) Butterworth: Sevenoaks. 1977.

This book, written by a manipulative physiotherapist, pairs with one by the same author on vertebral manipulation. I was able to review the latter favourably because experience had taught me that the common spinal mechanical syndromes can be easily recognised and do sometimes respond dramatically to empirical manipulative treatment, without needing to determine exactly the nature of the lesion. Similar lesions undoubtedly occur in peripheral joints as a late result of trauma, inflammation, or degenerative change, but I cannot accept the implication that passive manual procedures are the main key to treatment.

In the introduction Mr Maitland states that 'diagnosis will not be discussed as this is the province of the medical practitioner'. However, a large proportion of doctors referring patients for treatment are not skilled in orthopaedic or rheumatological diagnosis and physiotherapists must be constantly attuned to locomotor diagnosis. It cannot be sufficient to assess only pain and stiffness in the joint and set out to correct these by mobilising without constantly questioning the underlying cause. For example, pain and stiffness could arise in a hip with unremarkable x-rays from osteomyelitis, rheumatoid, osteoarthritis, aseptic necrosis, or slipped epiphysis.

The author is guiding his less experienced colleagues up a very narrow pathway. Although he is undoubtedly aware of the value of ancillary treatment—such as muscle re-education, heat, ice, and friction—these are not mentioned. The tenor of the book is such that it will tend to produce a cultist manipulative physiotherapist who could devote too much time to the elaborate mobilising procedures without utilising other important techniques.

D. A. H. YATES

International Co-ordination of Drug Trials. Rheumatological Research and the Fight against Rheumatic Disease in Switzerland. Edited by K. Fehr, E. C. Huskisson, and E. Wilhemi. (Pp. 290; illustrated + tables. SFr. 32.00, paperback.) Monograph Series, No. 1. EULAR Bulletin: Basel. 1977.

The 30th Anniversary of the European League against Rheumatism was celebrated by a meeting in Zurich in April 1977. The papers and discussion are published in the first of a monograph series by EULAR Bulletin through the generosity of Merck, Sharp, and Dohme, Zurich. Almost two thirds of the monographs taken up by the first part of the meeting entitled 'The International Co-ordination of Drug Trials', a subject of great interest to the pharmaceutical industry and to many clinicians. Thirty-eight papers, almost exclusively from centres in Europe, were presented in 4 sessions grouped under the headings 'Methodology', 'Drug safety and effectiveness', 'What the health authorities require from clinical trials', and 'Design of protocols and other practical problems'.

The papers vary in quality, length, and clarity and, like many other conference proceedings, they fall short of the standard of formal papers for rheumatology journals; they can only hint at the valuable exchange of ideas that probably took place. Despite some editing there is repetition, particularly in measurement and trial design.

With international co-ordination it is hoped that reduplication of trials will be avoided but, on the other hand, clinicians have faith in the results when they know the centre where the trial was performed. Seldom is reference made to the researching experience or working conditions of the person carrying out a clinical trial. Standardisation of trials has hazards as well as advantages. There are thoughtful contributions at the beginning from Dr M. F. Grayson and at the end from Dr A. St. J. Dixon. Dr Grayson points out that although studies must be conducted in many places by many investigators in a wide variety of conditions the 'large and hectic multicentre studies now so popular in drug evaluation must be seen to be the juggling act and conjuring tricks that they are'. Dr Dixon explains the positive ethic in attempts to improve methods of treatment and in studying a new drug efficiently, but advises that, when considering a trial, the researcher should decide whether the company is interested in his opinion or whether he is taking part in a promotional exercise disguised as research.

The second part is the Swiss contribution to the anniversary meeting and consists of papers on diverse topics. There is a survey of 10 years of work at Geneva on articular chondrocalcinosis and 2 papers on proteases and arthritis.

If you were at the meeting you will probably wish to have the monograph as a permanent record of the proceedings, and if you are interested in drug trials you might wish to borrow a copy.

I. BREWIS

much of Molly Jones's approach to occupational therapy which is still impeccable . . . ' needed updating. Molly Jones was aware of this before she died and she had wisely asked Peggy Jay to produce the third edition.

This book is economically produced by Butterworth in hard back, printed clearly on good paper, and copiously illustrated in black and white with many line drawings which clearly illustrate the text.

The book covers a wide range of occupational therapy, starting with a description of occupational therapy at Farnham Park. It discusses programming of treatment, record keeping (including follow-up), as well as plans of the Centre.

The emphasis is on the practice of occupational therapy and the techniques employed rather than merely upon assessment. There is considerable detail regarding equipment, including the use and adaptation of simple machines, industrial out-work (sub-contracts), outdoor activities, building operations, and a good range of remedial games and social activities (in the text dancing, appropriately, appears between remedial games and social activities). The chapters on 'Disabilities of the upper limb', and 'The Hand' (including assessment, measurement,

and treatment and splintage) are particularly good, and there are chapters with clinical reports on 'Pulmonary and cardiac disorders'. There is an important chapter on assessment for return to work. There are useful references throughout and an appendix which deals in detail with sources of equipment and materials for splint making, and an index. Obviously this book of 451 pages cannot be comprehensive of the vast field which it covers. One would welcome a chapter with some information about the energy expenditure involved in carrying out craft skills and domestic tasks. It is a very welcome book indeed which should find a place on the shelves of O.T. departments and physiotherapy departments now that the professions work closely together. It is also a book for occupational therapy students. It is a book, too, in which doctors whose training does not usually prepare them towards a good understanding of the work of their colleagues in the remedial professions will find much useful information.

It is important that this new welcome initiative from Peggy Jay is kept alive and one hopes that the book will be kept up to date through further editions.

H. J. GLANVILLE

An Approach to Occupational Therapy. By Mary S. Jones. 3rd edition, revised by Peggy Jay. (Pp. 451; illustrated + tables. £14.50.) Butterworth: Sevenoaks. 1977.

The first edition of *An Approach to Occupational Therapy* by Mary Jones was published in 1960, with a second edition in 1964 reprinted in 1967. Ten years later the book has been re-edited by Peggy Jay. The last decade has brought many changes in the attitudes towards, and in the theory and practice, of occupational therapy. So the original book which contained 'so