Reports contains 24 papers published by members of the staff of the Brompton Hospital and the London Chest Hospital. The scope is very wide and reflects the trend of interest in different chest diseases. Lung cancer and pulmonary tuberculosis form the core of the volume and there are three papers on cardiac subjects including Sir Russell Brock's 'Technique of Mitral Valvotomy.' Chronic bronchitis, so neglected a disease in the past, is now receiving very full attention and there are three articles on certain aspects of this condition. The 'Reports' maintains the high standard of its predecessor and is recommended to all interested in chest diseases.

L.L.B.

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF SURGERY
JOURNAL CANADIEN DE CHIRURGIE

For some years the surgeons of Canada have felt the need for a national journal in which they could publish their own original work. Last year the leading surgical groups in Canada met and requested the Canadian Medical Association to undertake the publishing of a quarterly Canadian Journal of Surgery. The Association gladly agreed to cooperate in this, and we are happy to announce that the first issue of the Canadian Journal of Surgery appeared on October 1, 1957. The Editorial Board consists of the professors of surgery from the 12 Canadian medical schools, with Dr. R. M. James of Toronto, President of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, as chairman of the Board. Publication is under the general supervision of the Editor of the Canadian Medical Association Journal.

Enquiries about the Journal should be addressed to Canadian Journal of Surgery, C.M.A. House, 150 St. George Street, Toronto 5, Ontario.

THE CLINICAL EXAMINATION OF PATIENTS WITH ORGANIC CEREBRAL DISEASE


In recent years there has been a considerable advance in the understanding of the disorders of the higher cerebral functions. It cannot be denied that the clinical examination designed to elicit such disorders may be a matter of considerable difficulty, as they are normally multiple and manifest against a background of a varying degree of dementia. A patient who is unable to speak as the result of a cortical lesion will show obvious evidence of a specific defect in cerebral integration, but other equally specific defects, such as disturbances connected with the body scheme, may easily be missed unless they are carefully sought for by special tests. It is the object of this book to present the various ways in which these disordered functions can be examined and analysed. A great deal of the information on this subject has not previously been presented in the form of a textbook and has only appeared in the original articles. It is, therefore, useful to be able to refer to a systematic presentation of these tests and the book can definitely be recommended to both neurologists and psychiatrists interested in the disorders of behaviour that may result from organic cerebral disease.

N.S.G.

FRACTURES AND RELATED INJURIES

By J. Grant Bonnin, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S. Pp. x + 710, with 775 illustrations. London: William Heinemann Ltd. 1957. 84s.

The author's aim in writing this book has been to produce a practical manual of immediate traumatic surgery and post-traumatic after-care for the postgraduate surgeon and a reference book for the undergraduate. The volume is divided into two parts: the first, smaller, part covers fractures in general and the second part deals with fractures of individual bones. Sections on chemotherapy and on fractures of the skull and of the face and jaw are contributed by Dr. Allan Gray, Mr. T. G. I. James and Mr. J. N. Barron.

Because of the author's dual aim, a certain unevenness is noticeable throughout the book, a good deal of information useful to the postgraduate surgeon being mixed up with material more suitable for inclusion in a student's textbook. This admixture of elementary material has led to restriction of the space allocated to matters of importance to the practising surgeon. For instance, injuries of nerves are dealt with in two pages, no mention being made of the very important distinction between degenerative and non-degenerative lesions. On the other hand, twice as much space is allocated to a consideration of varieties of fracture, an aspect of the subject with which the postgraduate surgeon could reasonably be expected to be familiar.

The author's statement that 'with succeeding years the principles of treatment of fractures have altered very little' is one that will be generally accepted. It might, however, be expected that in a modern textbook of this nature the reader could be told more about the relative importance of these principles in any one fracture. It might, perhaps, have been better had each section on individual fractures contained rather less about symptoms and signs and rather more about the aims of treatment and about the result likely to be obtained.

Some of the methods of treatment advocated by Mr. Grant Bonnin are open to criticism. For instance, in dealing with the operative treatment of the fracture of the femoral neck he advises that after impaction of the fracture the nail should be driven home. Many men take the view that this last proceeding will produce only one effect—disimpaction...