more than ten years old. The text is lucidly written and
the illustrations are apt and appropriate.
Minor criticisms include the use of plasma oestrogen
in the investigation of dysfunctional uterine bleeding, the
Dalcion shield for Asherman’s syndrome and the failure
to mention detrusor instability at all when discussing urinary
incontinence.
The book is not expensive and achieves its aim of
enhancing communication skills.

Stuart L. Stanton
Urodynamic Unit,
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,
St George’s Hospital Medical School,
London SW17 0RE.

Multiple Choice Questions in Radiodiagnosis, A. Crozier,
D. Finlay and P. Paciorek. Pp. 122. Churchill Livingstone,

The multiple choice papers of the Final Examination in
Diagnostic Radiology are, like most multiple choice
papers, extremely trying for most candidates. This collection
of ten papers, each of 30 sections of five questions, is
designed 'to provide teaching as well as practice in
answering multiple choice questions'.

It fulfils its brief admirably. The mix of questions
requires a good balance of clinical and radiological know-
ledge, mostly general but including ultrasound, computer-
ised tomography and nuclear medicine. The layout of the
book is convenient for checking of answers. Most
unusually for a book of this sort, I found the disagree-
ment with answers index very low, and on the whole
rather enjoyed it. I can recommend it to all those
preparing for final FRCR and to those, like myself, who
need to be reminded of what we have forgotten.

But one question remains unanswered. What does the
picture on the front cover mean? Is it, as one of my
colleagues has suggested, a man-hole on the path to
success for these authors?

I. Shirley
Hillingdon Hospital,
Uxbridge,
Middlesex UB8 3NN.

Orthopaedics. The principles and Practice of Musculoskeletal
Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, London, Melbourne,

As the authors claim, this is a new textbook on ortho-
paedics and fractures. Their claim that there is a new
approach to the subject matter is valid and indeed, the
unfamiliar layout requires a reviewer to read the book
thoroughly in order to appreciate how much information
it contains (not necessarily where one would expect to
find it) and to appreciate its strengths and weaknesses.

The authors have attempted to link 'basic sciences' with
the presentation, diagnosis and treatment of the musculo-
skeletal system, in the process avoiding the traditional
regional approach. This is pleasantly logical when reading
through the book but makes it difficult to look up and
find information on a single condition. The layout of the
index does not help. For example, if one wished to look
up fractures of the radius the index would not offer help
under 'Fracture' or 'Radius'.

As a text book on the 'basic sciences' and principles of
orthopaedics, I think this textbook is excellent and there-
fore ideal reading for postgraduates preparing for higher
surgical examinations in orthopaedics. There are excellent
and readable chapters on bone, cartilage, biomechanics,
principles of prosthesis design, imaging and genetic factors
- areas where more traditional textbooks are often a bit
thin.

The more clinical sections of the book are a little
patchy, showing perhaps the disadvantages of multiple
contributions. I would have preferred a more systemical
approach to fractures. Somehow traumatology lends itself
more easily to a regional approach as shown by the
chapter entitled 'The knee and other joint injuries' where
the authors have been unable to resist such an approach.
However, this is a matter of personal preference and
should not detract from the several excellent contributions
on trauma.

I would certainly recommend this textbook be bought
for any departmental library and encourage my trainees to
read it. As a more senior orthopaedic surgeon I would
then be delighted to take it home at night to refresh my
knowledge on many subjects which I ought not to have
forgotten. It reads very well and I reviewed this long
textbook with great pleasure.

Professor D.F. Paton
Whittington Hospital,
London N19.

Paediatric Infectious Diseases in Arab Countries, edited by
xiv+293, illustrated. John Wiley & Sons, Chichester,

Infectious disease remains a major factor affecting morbi-
dity and mortality in children throughout the world.
Three quarters of these infections are associated with
diarrhoea or respiratory symptoms, and in Arab countries
they cause 70% of deaths in early childhood, amongst a
total of two million deaths per annum recorded under five
years of age. This reflects a mortality rate of up to six
times higher that seen in Sweden or Japan. The changing
socio-economic circumstances of the Arab world provide
an instructive insight into the transition in the pattern of
diseases which is seen as rural communities evolve into
afluent industrialised societies. This background has
generated a book based on the proceedings of a confer-
ence held in Benghazi, the text covering the aetiology, the
epidemiology and management of gastroenteritis, rheuma-
tic fever, meningitis and neonatal infections, with more
general sections on patterns of infection, immunisation
and the use of antibiotics. The chapters are well refer-
cenced, and each section is followed by a series of recom-
mandations for future practice.