BOOK REVIEWS

existing facilities to meet the needs of temporarily or permanently disabled patients.

Local authorities were given wide powers to promote the welfare of the disabled by the National Assistance Act of 1948, but comparatively few have taken advantage of these powers. The use of "work aids" is discussed and the cooperation and ingenuity of industry in providing these is commended.

The Committee supports the quota scheme for the employment of disabled and refutes the suggestion that their apparent segregation is undesirable. This is contrary to the opinion of Hamman and others in the United States. Assessment of capacity is stated to be a medical responsibility and it is presumed that this refers to physical capacity and the part which the doctor plays in placing in industry. Attention is directed to the role of the Disablement Resettlement Officer and the need for careful selection and suitable training for this important post is stressed.

The difficulty of obtaining remunerative employment for the severely disabled is recognized, and the recommendation that transport should be provided for these workers is practical.

The Committee do not consider that much in the way of additional capital expenditure is required. Apart from the experimental centres to which reference has been made, it is urged that all major hospitals should establish resettlement clinics, that hostels for the disabled should be provided, and that there should be an expansion of the welfare services of local authorities.

The report is certainly comprehensive though its length may defeat the object of ensuring greater knowledge of the wide range of services. While all may not agree with certain recommendations, the Committee are to be congratulated on the production of a report which must have entailed much work and which clearly demonstrates that this country leads the world in this important branch of social service.

A. AUSTIN EAGGER


The second volume of this well-known work deals with injuries around the hip and fractures of the femur. The subject matter is very fully discussed in the 430 pages and is illustrated by a wealth of radiographs, photographs, and diagrams. Every aspect of these injuries has been covered. The author has obviously intended that the book should be used for reference by all members of a fracture unit; for instance, we find detailed lists of material and instruments required for the application of a hip spica; facts which are more necessary to the plaster sister than for the orthopaedic surgeon. Also, the questions which follow each section of the book are much more reminiscent of a cram book for the medical student than a specialist textbook. The practising fracture surgeon would be inclined to consider Prof. Bohler rather too verbose on some of the more archaic methods of treatment; 17 pages devoted to the treatment of fractures of the neck of the femur in a Whitman plaster may be of historical value, but are hardly of any practical use. There are several similar examples which obscure the really valuable information. Despite these criticisms the book remains a valuable study of femoral injuries and will continue to hold its place as one of the foremost works of reference.

J. N. WILSON


The present era of high-grade precision work in a wide variety of industries has brought a realization that light is one of the most essential factors in efficient and accurate work. On this level the proposition is soon apparent even to refractory minds, but it should be no less apparent to employers and managers in all industries. The standards laid down by law are minima and do not sufficiently impress the great effect of a pleasant and bright ambience on the sentiment, liveliness, and effectiveness of workpeople. In the words of the well-known authority, Weston, the law sets "a limit to the dimness allowable". All too frequently the factory or workshop presents far too dim and gloomy an atmosphere, a situation which, in most cases, readily remedied often at little expense. Expenditure or not, however, the provision of adequate general lighting combined with local lighting, which permits good visibility without strain at the working point is a requirement to which every workman has a right. The problem varies in different industries and calls, in the more difficult instances, for specially expert advisers since no universal standard can be laid down. But there are general physiological principles which relate visibility to illumination which should be understood by all medical personnel in industry.

Dr. Tizzano has, in the present little volume, given a quick but valuable review of present knowledge on this matter. There were and still are many difficulties. The scrambling growth of industry soon blocked out even the proper use of the best of all sources of light by design and congestion of buildings, hopeless ill-supply of window space, and accumulated opacity of even such windows as there were. In modern times sustainable excuse remains neither for industrial gloom, nor for lack of information, especially in the minds of medical men and women in industry, on the various lighting codes which have been worked out.

Tizzano, himself a contributor to modern techniques of industrial illumination has, in this work, given the principles, based on results obtained mainly in the last 20 or 30 years, especially in Britain and America, which must be understood in order to build up a rational lighting system for any industrial operation. Starting from the prime factor of visual acuity (power to distinguish test objects of known size at known distances or, quantitatively, the reciprocal of the angle subtended at the eye by the smallest test object distinguished) and those influencing it (contrast, seeing time, luminance of the background), the author proceeds to the most important