occupational nail disorders. This well-illustrated book is of less than 200 pages and is an invaluable source of information concerning nail disorders due to both systemic and local causes and should prove most acceptable to occupational health physicians.

C. J. Stevenson


This is a textbook of kinesiology covering movements of the body from fetal activity right through to geriatric changes. It gives kinesiological recording and measurement techniques, and then goes through the main mechanics of standing, sitting, the gait, the arm, and finishes with analyses of movement in sports (golf, weight lifting, and archery) and work (lifting, slipping, and manual handling in a factory).

The best chapter by far is the one on Sven Carlsson's own specialty, namely, 'Analysis of the Gait.' The chapters on industrial applications, such as lifting and the difference between manual and electric typewriters, are weak in that they give no positive methods of how to lift, nor do they stress the pitfalls to be avoided.

In industrial medicine our textbooks are well indexed and references have either been numbered or named in the text. In this book, although there are 8 pages of references at the end, they are alluded to in the text in a most unsatisfactory way, for example, 'a German study from the middle of the 1950's,' or again, 'Japanese, Polish and Danish studies have all shown that ...'. In other words, one has to become a detective and sort out all the German authors and then decide which of them wrote a paper in the 1950s. It makes one realize how important is the system of putting the author's name and date after a statement in the text for finding the reference at the end of the book.

In summary, this book could be recommended to someone wishing to study body movement in detail, but it would not be very useful to an industrial medical officer wanting to know about the various lifts that are needed in industry and the correct methods of carrying them out.

J. R. Glover


The WHO Technical Report Series is the medium through which are published the views of the groups of experts convened to advise on technical and scientific matters relevant to medicine and public health. From time to time during the last decade various problems relating to human genetics have been considered. In November 1971 a group met to discuss 'Genetic disorders: prevention, treatment and rehabilitation', and this is their report. It is divided into sections covering the epidemiology of genetic disease, the prevention and treatment of defective genotypes, the resources necessary for this, and the consequences of treatment and prevention of genetic disorders at the population level.

It is recommended that medical genetic services, including counselling clinics and registers, be provided at each major medical centre, that increased efforts should be made to educate physicians and the general public in their work, and that provision be made for considerable increase in the obstetric and laboratory facilities needed for prenatal diagnosis. In research, special attention should be given to techniques of prenatal diagnosis, follow-up of children born after amniocentesis, population screening, heterozygote detection, changes in frequency of genetic diseases following the introduction of counselling services, the effects on the fetus of inborn errors in metabolism in the mother, identification of environmental agents that affect the manifestation rate of genotypes predisposing to multifactorial disorders, identification and monitoring of environmental pollutants, and development of methods to control germinal mutation rates. The appendices discuss the frequency of genetic disorders, list a number of the hereditary diseases eligible for prenatal diagnosis, and estimate the approximate proportion of genetic traits with significant effect on genetic fitness.

The message of this report will be familiar to all working in clinical genetics, though there would be disagreement on several points of detail and emphasis. Its usefulness will be for administrators and others concerned with planning the efficient development of the health services in the future, who, for instance, may not be aware of the newly emerging possibilities in therapy involving prophylaxis through substrate reduction, cofactor supplementation, metabolite and enzyme replacement, removal of toxic products, and dietary supplements. For here are summarized the major trends, the growing points of the subject, which are likely to be of most use in ensuring that preventive medicine receives its optimal contribution from clinical genetics. It is unfortunate that this report series does not document its statements so that those whose attention is caught by a particular point can go back to the original literature on which it is based. But the major criticism of this report is in its title, for it includes very little on rehabilitation either of the patient or, more important, of his family. There are as yet very few studies of the impact of genetic disease on families. Those that there are show how heavy is the burden that falls on the parents, ranging in effect from family stability and finance to the utilization of their leisure, quite apart from that on the patient. Here there is a host of untouched problems. The technical report series could perhaps devote attention to this in a future number.

D. F. Roberts


This edition is a revision and extension of three previous editions published in 1960, 1962, and 1966. The volume is organized into five major parts. The first part is about the basic considerations in sampling air in the working or