

with anatomical facial nerve preservation. Immediately post-operatively 72% had a facial paralysis and 28% had normal or barely impaired facial function. Paralysis was partial in 60% of the paralysed cases and total in 40%. One year post-operatively 94% of the immediate post-operative paralysees had recovered completely, or almost completely, and 6% were left with marked sequelae.

There is a satisfactory discussion of the complications of surgery and it is interesting that in common with other series, the CSF fistula rate post-operatively fell from 23% in the early cases to 10%, and thereafter to 4.9% for the 102 cases operated on since 1984.

I enjoyed reading this book. It has lost very little in the translation, which seems of a high standard, and it will provide further information for the exponents of the trans-labyrinthine approach to acoustic neuromas and other tumours. One needs a further monograph with a similar number of cases to validate the merits or otherwise of the retrosigmoid or sub-occipital approach via the posterior fossa.

A. Richard Maw.

OPERATIVE CHALLENGES IN OTOLARYNGOLOGY—HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

Harold C. Pillsbury III and Manning M. Goldsmith III.

Year Book Medical Publishers Incorporated:

Chicago, London, 1990.

ISBN 0-8151-6708-3.

Price £127.50. Pp 872.

Middle aged—or at least very middle aged otolaryngologists in this country who had difficulty in getting any vaguely contemporary text from which to study for the Fellowship examination will look with amazement at the cornucopia of texts now available in our specialty. This brings with it a lot of competition because there are not very many of us to buy a lot of books. Thus, the innovation of the *Controversies and Dilemma* series, edited respectively by Jim Snow and Don Harrison. These books set out to see how two experienced specialists argue the case for two opposing points of view in the management of a topic about which there was genuine controversy. This book is a bumper edition of the same concept—872 pages, 45 topics and 94 contributors who form a *Who's Who* of American otolaryngology.

But somewhere along the line, the eggs got scrambled.

There are certainly two contributors in each topic—some are similar, few are dissonant, some are written to an obvious set of instructions from the editor and some are not. Some are well-referenced review articles and some are an anecdotal 'what I do' type of presentation. Some contributions are good and some are very good indeed but, by the nature of a book with 94 authors, some are poor and some are absolutely awful and should not have passed the editorial desk.

Yearbook Publishers have not served the authors well in the production. The typeface is not easy to read and the photographs are poor. The gold standard in the use of illustration is set by Dr Tardy—when his photographs are poorly presented then one knows it must be the publisher and not the author.

I am not overly impressed with the game plan, the team selection or the result. The same, however, could be said of the English cricket team but one day they might beat Australia. I hope that this book will also prove me wrong because to have compiled a book of this size takes an enormous amount of work and the editors' efforts certainly should be rewarded.

A. G. D. Maran.

MULTIPLE PRIMARY TUMORS IN THE HEAD AND NECK

Edited by N. de Vries and J. L. Gluckman.

Georg Thieme Verlag: Stuttgart, New York, 1990.

ISBN 3-13-74901-3.

Price DM80. Pp 141. Figs 14.

This book is an example of an encouraging trend towards smaller monographs which aim at a specific area of specialist interest. Thus the most up-to-date information is presented in five succinct chapters by a multinational group of authors. These chapters address the following broad issues: (1) the magnitude of the problem (2) chemoprevention (3) screening (4) management (5) epidemiology. The book considers the concept of 'field of cancerisation' in which unstable mucosa leads to multifocal disease and assesses recent immunological studies and high-risk groups. Its timely publication coincides with an increasing interest in the aetiological basis and preventive aspects of head and neck cancer. It focuses on a particularly interesting group of patients the study of whom may answer the conundrum of why, where and when certain tumours develop in certain individuals.

The book also considers the cost-effectiveness and implementation of screening programmes which it concludes should be directed at high-risk groups. Successful treatment of primary head and neck cancer renders a patient population vulnerable to manifestation of metastatic and metachronous disease, the incidence and prognostic implications of which are discussed. The least successful area of the book concerns management though it may probably be assumed that this is intentionally brief. The book offers a useful review of risk factors for head and neck cancer with the deliberate exception of the nose and sinuses which have a low association with second tumours.

Overall this is a professional and clear publication of accessible reference. It heightens our awareness of a small but probably increasing problem which anyone dealing with head and neck cancer will find of interest,

V. J. Lund.

SURGERY OF THE THYROID AND PARATHYROID GLANDS THIRD EDITION

Blake Cady and Ricardo L. Rossi.

W. B. Saunders Company: Philadelphia, 1991.

ISBN 0-7216-3462-1.

Price £46.00 (\$75.00).

Endocrine surgery has seen great changes during the last decade. It has been a time of both growth and stimulation. Growth in that the number of patients treated is increasing,

especially those with parathyroid disease. The use of auto-analysers in the laboratory is resulting in a doubling of patients with biochemically identified but asymptomatic parathyroid disease. The stimulation has come from a recognition of the emerging discipline of endocrine surgery with the formation of the active and thriving national societies in the United States, the United Kingdom, Scandinavia and continental Europe. All this adds up to an intellectually stimulating environment and this is reflected in the book.

Thyroid and parathyroid disease provide the majority of patients for the endocrine surgeon and so this is a book about the day to day problems and not exotica. This is a new edition of an established text book written by a group of authors from the Lahey Clinic and invited authorities from across the United States. There are 29 contributors mainly surgeons but with contributions from five physicians, three radiologists and oncologists and two pathologists. A wide range of topics are considered in a logical fashion beginning with relevant surgical anatomy and embryology, physiology and pathology—particularly techniques of fine needle aspiration, to modern imaging and localisation methods.

Thyroid conditions are specifically considered in individual chapters: hyperthyroidism, multinodular goitre, carcinoma, thyroid nodules, intrathoracic goitre, thyroid disease in pregnancy and the role of radioactive iodine, external beam radiotherapy and chemotherapy in the treatment of carcinoma. Surgery of the thyroid gland is considered separately and in a particular feature the therapeutic sections are supplemented by a commentary from other authors to ensure that all factors for consideration are presented and it is a welcome feature to see the problems of management aired from different viewpoints.

Similarly hyperparathyroidism is widely considered with imaging, surgery, the multiple endocrine neoplasia syndromes and the management of recurrent or persistent hyperparathyroidism being thoroughly considered. With this book being surgically orientated, it is important and salutary that the final chapter should be surgical complications and their management.

Each chapter is clearly presented with concise illustrations while the text provides a comprehensive list of references. It is perhaps unfortunate that the majority of references are from US publications as this gives a parochial gloss but perhaps this is inevitable from a US authorship. Another disappointment is that the pathological criteria for the differentiation of parathyroid pathology should be dismissed in two pages as it is critical to modern management. These are however minor observations as this is a welcome new edition of a well established book. To those with a particular interest in thyroid and parathyroid surgery, it will be invaluable. For the Fellowship candidate, it has a real place and it should be invaluable for the postgraduate centre library for both the physician and surgeon.

A. W. Goode.

HANDBOOKS IN RADIOLOGY HEAD AND NECK IMAGING

H. Ric Harnsberger.

Year Book Medical Publishers Inc: Chicago,
London, 1990.

ISBN 0-8151-4295-4.

Price £25.50.

This book is concerned primarily with CT of the head and

neck but includes some data on MRI. In 18 chapters Dr Harnsberger escorts us through supra and infra-hyoid neck regions, the skull-base, temporal bone, orbit and paranasal sinuses. Head and neck radiology is something of a grey area, of interest to both general radiologists and neuroradiologists. It is therefore not surprising to have included chapters on the cranial nerves and the cerebello-pontine angle. There is an understandable overall bias towards oncology and, in keeping with this, two chapters are devoted solely to squamous cell carcinoma.

The format of the book is deceptive. The size of each page is small, but there are no less than 547 of them! This is not then an *aide-memoire* to be carried around in one's jacket pocket. The reason given in the preface for the book's format is one of economy. There are also no images—only line drawings.

Each chapter, quite correctly, begins with applied anatomy which is then followed by a description of the pathology encountered in each of the regions. A commendably up-to-date reference list ends each chapter. The style is succinct—with much enumeration of key-points. There is a risk with small books that illustrations and the relevant text become dislocated and also that the inevitable complexity of labelling of diagrams can lead to some difficulty for the reader. Some jumping forward and back-tracking are necessary, but this did not detract unduly from my enjoyment. I encountered no typographical errors, simply that the running-title 'Supra-Hyoid Neck' ran on a little too far and encompassed passages relating to the infra-hyoid neck! This is however, a minor quibble and the book overall is undoubtedly well produced. Although soft-bound, there was no evidence of the binding disintegrating with continuous use over the several weeks I had the book in my possession. In the series Editors' introduction it is intimated that the intention was to provide, in a single, relatively inexpensive, volume a wealth of factual information to be used by practising radiologists in image interpretation. For this purpose, I can recommend purchase most whole-heartedly. The volume is, conversely, inappropriate for clinicians requiring a reference text on head and neck imaging. I feel that regrettably they are destined to pay a rather higher price for a book which contains no representative CT and MRI scans.

Paul Butler.

MAGNETIC RESONANCE OF THE TEMPOROMANDIBULAR JOINT. Clinical Considerations, Radiography, Management

Enrique Palacio, Galdino E. Valvassori, Michael Shannon and Charles F. Reid with other contributions.

Georg Thieme Verlag: New York, 1990.

ISBN 3-13-745601-0.

Price DM98. Pp 132. Hardback. Figs 108.

The earliest experimental forms of magnetic resonance imaging were developed from spectrometers used in industry. Now MRI scanners are the latest fashion in non-invasive imaging techniques. Are they a passing one, or will they, like the mini-skirt, fade away only to return under another name?