

BOOK REVIEW**"TEXTBOOK OF SPORT FOR THE DISABLED"**

By Sir Ludwig Guttmann

Published by HM + M Publishers, Aylesbury. pp 182, cost £7.50

Sir Ludwig Guttmann's long awaited textbook has arrived and is excellently presented with clear tables and simple line diagrams, profusely illustrated with excellent black and white photographs.

This book is a comprehensive handbook of sport for the disabled but stops short of being a medical textbook in the conventional sense, presumably by the author's design, as there is a formal literature available for the medical management of the various disabilities covered in this book.

This reviewer feels that the medical content of this book could be fortified in the subsequent editions which are certain to appear because the problem besetting sports physicians throughout the world is the lack of ready reference sources containing most of what they need to know at a glance, in one book.

The nature of this handbook, with its considerable emphasis on the technicalities of the rules of many of the sports makes it an essential source book for those interested in the field. The author's wonderful pioneering spirit comes through and serves as an inspiration for his successors. One hopes that future editions will be modified somewhat away from the blatant cult of the personality which appears so strongly, though perhaps understandably, and subsequent editions might reduce a lot of the rather philosophical material in the first 34 pages before the technicalities really start.

A long awaited book, an essential reference source, certain to run to many editions.

P. N. Sperry

OBITUARY**Adrian Matheson Bain, F.R.C.S.Ed., D.Phys.Med.**

It was a great shock to receive the news that Adrian Bain died early this morning at his home, Belmont House, Belmont, Durham. He was Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon to both the Durham and Sunderland Hospital Groups, and interested himself keenly in the treatment of the injured amateur and professional sportsmen in the North East. Resulting from this interest, he was attempting to form a Northumberland and Durham Area of the British Association of Sport and Medicine, but his extensive hospital commitments and more recently his long and painful terminal illness prevented him from working actively in this direction. Among physiotherapists and remedial gymnasts, he had a national reputation, always willing to speak at any conferences, and the last time I talked to him was at the residential meeting of the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Sports Medicine in Durham last June.

Adrian qualified in 1953 at Bristol, and gained the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1961. He served in the Royal Air Force, spending some time at Chessington in the rehabilitation Unit. Later he worked in Africa and for the World Health Authority in Burma. He was a gifted lecturer, who emphasised the treatment of the patient and not just the mechanical repair of his injury, and this approach endeared him to all who worked with him.

His death while in his early forties is a tragedy, and a grievous loss to orthopaedics, to sports medicine, and to physiotherapy. I feel a deep sense of personal loss of a good friend. Our profound sympathy goes to his wife and family.

November 5th 1976

Henry Robson