

injury") flake fractures of the tip of the malleolus, the neck of the talus, the calcaneum below the lateral malleolus, the posterior tubercle of the talus, the cuboid and the styloid process on the base of the fifth metatarsal.

In the treatment of the sprained ankle, as in all other sports injuries, it is essential that a precise diagnosis be made, and the essential pathological process be treated adequately.

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BOOK REVIEW

"SPORTS INJURIES"

Dr. D. S. MUCKLE

Oriel Press Price: £2.50

It is a pleasure to welcome a new name to the list of contributors to the literature of Sports Medicine. Dr. Muckle has produced an interesting little book which creates an immediately favourable first impression from the excellence of its general presentation. The lavish use of illustrations, and of differing type size and pattern all contribute to simplicity and ease of reading.

Upon closer inspection however one is left with a feeling of some disappointment. According to the jacket " 'Sports Injuries' is written for all trainers, coaches, players and schools and anyone interested in sport" (the author himself does not indicate the purpose of his book). If this book is written for the essentially lay reader then it contains too much specialist medical material, while there are important omissions specifically in the lack of reference to home treatment.

In setting out to be dogmatic in his presentation (rightly for a book of this type) Dr. Muckle falls victim to his own dogmatism in those areas where he is less at home than in dealing with his own immediate experience (his interest in body contact sport, particularly Association Football is very obvious from the text). He is for example vulnerable in his comments for the use of physiotherapy and his treatment of the subject of back injuries appears somewhat sketchy in relation to other areas.

Despite these criticisms there is nevertheless a lot of useful information in this book and it is an admirable first effort on the author's part in seeking to get to grips with translating the complexities of Sports Medicine into the language of the coach or trainer.

There is only one thing about this book which I really do not like at all and that is its price. At £2.50 this is excessive to say the least, but the author cannot be blamed for this.

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