



SYMPOSIUM ON EQUINE ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY:The Veterinary Clinics of North America, Large Animal Practice; Guest Editor, A. Simon Turner; Published by W. B. Saunders Company (1983); 406 pages; \$36.00.

This book concentrates on operative surgery rather than diagnosis. Dr. Turner, guest editor of the book, writes in the foreword that his aim was to provide the latest surgical techniques in equine orthopedic surgery to the large animal practitioner.

Dr. Turner also describes the various aspects of the book in the foreword. He writes, "A great deal of progress has been made in the last decade with the various surgical techniques applicable to the limbs of the horse. This progress has been attributed to advances in several seemingly varying fronts. These include a greater understanding of biomechanics and pathophysiology of fracture union, safer general anesthetic techniques, and above all, methods and instrumentation capable of *stable* internal fixation as exemplified by the ASIF/AO system. In the article on long-bone fractures, Dr. Bramlage discusses the various techniques of this system he has used for repair. This article illustrates how perseverance and a careful retrospective analysis of technical errors can produce satisfactory repair, even in selected fractures in the adult horse. I believed that a separate article on olecranon fractures was appropriate. These are fractures that respond to plating even in the adult horse because the bone is biomechanically unique, as compared with the other long bones.

"No discussion on orthopedic surgery in horses would be complete without addressing the various methods of external coaptation. As explained by Dr. Fessler, despite all the advances in *internal* fixation, we still frequently rely on external coaptation either as the sole method of treatment or as essential 'protection' of internal fixation from the massive loads generated by the adult horse during weightbearing.

"The article by Drs. Gabel and Bukowiecki on phalangeal fractures exemplifies the need for careful planning and attention to detail with regard to placement of implants. This is especially true when repairing fractures of the proximal phalanx, where reconstruction of the articular surfaces must be perfect.

"Not all of the techniques of fracture repair in this symposium require a full inventory of bone-plating equipment. The articles dealing with arthrotomies of the fetlock and carpus by Drs. Copelan and Bramlage discuss techniques that are within reach of surgeons with only a modest amount of orthopedic equipment. Surgery of the

hock, stifle, and shoulder was almost unheard of ten years ago. With the apparent increase in the occurrence or at least recognition of osteochondrosis and osteochondritis dissecans as a cause of lameness in young horses, these joints are now opened almost routinely. For surgeons who have been intimidated by surgery in this area, it is hoped that the article by Dr. McIlwraith will provide some additional confidence to operate. The surgical approach to infectious arthritis may sound a somewhat radical and unique method of therapy. However, our counterparts among physicians have long recognized the urgency of joint lavage before enzymatic destruction of articular cartilage has occurred.

"To do real justice to the various aspects of tendon surgery and tendon disorders in the horse, an entire symposium would have been more appropriate. Dr. Fackelman has summarized the 'state of the art' in one article, but I believe there is enough information to enable management of most cases.

"Finally, is the surgery economical for the client? Dr. Speirs answers this problem at the end of the symposium by introducing us to a more tangible and scientific method of predicting a successful *financial* outcome."

RADIOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUE IN VETERINARY PRACTICE, Second Edition By James W. Ticer, DVM, PhD; Published by W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia (1984); 528 pages; \$49.50 U.S.

Section 3 of the book (approximately 100 pages) is an atlas of radiographic positioning and technique of large animals. This includes a discussion of technique for each joint of the horse. As an example, the carpal joint discussion describes the dorsopalmar view, the lateromedial view, the flexed lateromedial view, the dorsolateral-palmaromedial oblique view, the dorsomedial-palmarolateral oblique view, the proximodistal view of the proximal row of carpal bones, and the proximodistal view of the distal row of carpal bones. Diagrams and photographs augment the text descriptions. Chapters are devoted to the head of the horse the vertebral column and the thorax in this section.

The book is designed to be a resource for veterinary students and for general practitioners. The author says in the preface, "The addition of a small chapter on radiograph duplication and slide making should provide a reference for the practitioner who wishes to use radiographs to illustrate talks or to satisfy client requests. The chapter on economics should prove useful to those who wish to understand how income is derived and expenses incurred in the radiology department." WEJ