arms and extended legs, from pallidal syndromes, in which Parkinsonian tremor goes with generalized flexion. (A difficulty is that athetosis or tremor could not be produced by lesions of putamen or globus pallidus in monkeys, although these lesions produced characteristic abnormal attitudes.) In Parkinsonism the loss of cortico-striate and corticopallidal fibres is more striking than the loss of pallidal neurones, but pallidal damage is an essential feature. Though the substantia nigra was severely affected in postencephalitic cases, it was spared in some cases of idiopathic paralysis agitans, and damage to it is not therefore essential for the manifestations of Parkinsonism.

These conclusions concerning the globus pallidus are of urgent importance today. Poverty of movement in Parkinsonism is a cardinal symptom, sometimes preceding the onset of rigidity and tremor. A surgical lesion of the globus pallidus ‘may have a remarkable effect in lessening the conflicts of physiological factors under-lying tremor at the expense of some spontaneity of movement’, but the author has seen it cause akinetic mutism in two cases. Since the benefits are probably due to lesion of thalamopallidal fibres, ventrolateral thalamic lesion is recommended.

It must be confessed that the book is not easy reading. It is mercilessly packed, and in places obscure. The reviewer, who teaches and researches without the distractions of clinical responsibility, has lived with it for a whole term, making plentiful notes and still finding new insights on successive readings. (He has sometimes found it helpful to alternate between the monograph and the abridged Lancet version.) Yet in one’s admiration and gratitude that the writer somehow made time and opportunities for research, one can forgive him for not having been able to find the leisure to write lucidly. Neurologists of all kinds will be rewarded in proportion to the time and effort that they can afford to spend on the book. The surgical neurologist will neglect it at his patients’ peril.

C. G. PHILLIPS


The two opening chapters of this book on Consciousness and Unconsciousness and the Cerebral Basis of Mind, reflecting the interest of Lord Brain in fundamental problems of neuropsychiatry, set a level by comparison with which the others are bound to suffer. The chapter on Neuroradiology by Dr. David Sutton is, however, of particular value having regard to the advances made in this subject during recent years. It is comprehensive and concise and illustrated by a number of excellent line drawings.

The long chapter on the E.E.G. is heavy reading, but the sections dealing with the application of the E.E.G. to clinical problems provide a good summary of advancing knowledge, and there is a full bibliography. Intracranial tumours are dealt with in an article which, good as it is, would have been more suitable for a text-book.

The chapter on Cervical Spondylosis is disappointing. The pathology is well described, but the delineation of symptoms due to root and cord compression lacks clarity, and the arrangement of the material has involved needless repetition. The sections on treatment and prognosis fail to present a clear picture either of the natural history of the disease or the indications for different methods of treatment. The bibliography is inadequate.

There is a brief but useful account of disease of the corpus striatum and the surgical treatment of Parkinsonism. A variety of other subjects are satisfactorily covered. The neurologist will find little in this book that is new to him, but it is a valuable source of reference to recent papers.


This paper-back volume contains 18 chapters on subjects ranging from the electrical activity of the cerebral cortex to the molecular biology of neurofilaments, all written by workers intensely active in current research. The result is a most stimulating series of essays on neurophysiological subjects which have been written with liveliness, authority, and lack of verbiage which mark this as a most valuable and rather unusual contribution to physiological literature and an enjoyable volume to read.

The earlier chapters deal with various neurophysiological aspects of the central nervous system, and there is a general trend to the periphery as one progresses through the book, so that one finds, for example, a chapter on ‘The rôle of acetylcholine in nervous activity’, and ‘Where does the energy of nervous excitation come from?’ occurring rather late in the volume. One chapter on the excitability of the peripheral motor system seems to have escaped the editor’s usual correctness for the experiments described and illustrated are on ‘Chat spinal curarisé par flaxedil’!

Nevertheless, the editor is to be congratulated on producing an interesting book. How sad it is that one like this does not exist in English!

SOCIAL REPORT ON A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS By E. Gruber. (Pp. 71; 25 tables. 2s. 6d.) Belfast: Graham & Heslip. 1962.

This report is concerned with the 444 survivors of 698 cases of multiple sclerosis which were traced in Northern Ireland in 1948 to 1951, the work being carried out ten years later. It emphasizes the basic inadequacy of the facilities available to these patients and attempts to outline some measures to alleviate the situation. This is a valuable and original contribution which should be read by all those concerned with the care of patients suffering from this disease.


The authors of this practical manual of techniques used in neurochemistry have based their description on their own highly successful teaching and research experience. They provide details of the preparation and technique
in handling neural tissues on which depend the validity of biochemical observations. The analysis of all the major biochemical constituents of neural tissues, metabolic experiments, enzyme studies, and electrical and respiratory measurements on these tissues are described in detail.

This is a most valuable guide to all interested in the investigation of the biochemical reactions of the neural tissues.


The publication of this third volume completes the proceedings of the IV International Congress of Neuropathology held at Munich in September 1961. With some exceptions it comprises reports of observations by traditional morbid anatomical and histological methods. This is no way detracts from the interest of the papers whose range and scope indicate a revival of interest in classical neuropathology, the importance of which has been enhanced rather than diminished by the development of newer investigational techniques.


From its first edition 25 years ago, this book has been regarded with affection. Although it is suitable for undergraduates, it is of particular value to postgraduate students of neurology, neurosurgery, and psychiatry whose requirements are not met by the larger treatises of general pathology. This third edition does not differ except in detail from its predecessor. There are small additions to the text and several new illustrations, but the author has wisely refrained from an extensive revision of a well-written book.


This bulletin includes 16 articles by authors in various parts of the Commonwealth. It gives an authoritative and clear account of what is known of the adrenal cortex, its reactions, and the factors controlling it. The emphasis is physiological rather than clinical, but at the present time too much clinical treatment with steroids is based more on hope than on knowledge, and a study of this bulletin will be a useful corrective.


This book gives the E.E.G. tracings of 43 patients during the course of epileptic seizures induced by intravenous Metrazol. For each case a clinical summary and interictal E.E.G. findings are given. A description of the seizures induced and photographic plates of the patient during the fit are also provided.

Information is thus provided concerning the distribution and type of electrical abnormality with clinical pattern of seizure. The site of origin of the seizure in terms of the electrodes first activated can also be seen. Differences between activated and resting E.E.G. records provide further interesting information. This is a useful piece of observational field work. Although such records can be seen at times in many busy neurosurgical clinics, this collection brings together and systematizes the information. It will be a useful source of reference for E.E.G. recordists whose personal experience may be more limited. Some succinct summary of the information would add to its value.


This small book describes the ways in which the electroencephalogram (E.E.G.) can indicate, within limits, the level of anaesthesia produced in the brain by various agents, for the pattern of cerebral activity shows a fairly consistent series of changes as anaesthesia deepens. Changes in cerebral blood supply and oxygenation can also produce recognizable changes so that the E.E.G. can be a valuable guide to what is happening to the patient.


This volume contains an account of some of the investigations into childhood schizophrenia carried out at the Henry Ittleson Centre for Child Research under the direction of Dr. Goldfarb. It provides an answer to those critics who wondered whether '. . . valid research would best be achieved in an effective treatment atmosphere'. The study consists essentially of the testing of two hypotheses: the first, that '. . . normals would be superior to schizophrenics (when schizophrenics are matched for sex, age, and socio-economic status) in cognitive functions or sensorimotor functions or speech appraisals'; the second, that '. . . normal children matched with schizophrenics in sex, age, and socio-economic status would not differ in physical measures, e.g., height, weight, sensory acuity, and strength of grip'. For this purpose 26 schizophrenic children were compared with a control group of normals in respect of a battery of physical and psychological tests. It is perhaps not surprising that the two initial hypotheses were confirmed. What is of more general interest is the sub-division of the psychotic children into a majority who were regarded as 'organic' by both the psychiatrist and an independent neurologist, and a minority who were deemed 'non-organic'. The differences obtained in the test results between these two groups, and the implications of these differences, constitute the most original part of a study which will probably stimulate many further enquiries into an important topic.

SCHIZOPHRENIA. By F. J. Fish. (Pp. x + 190; 9 tables; 2 figures. 32s. 6d.) Bristol: John Wright & Sons. 1962.

This little book is based on a series of lectures to post-
graduate students at the University of Edinburgh. The author lays no claim to originality; his chief concern has been to present '... the ideas of the classical German-speaking psychiatrists' in schizophrenia and to relate them to those of the better-known Anglo-American clinicians. The most substantial contributions of the older German workers reside in their careful clinical observations; many of these are incorporated into the chapter on 'Symptomatology' which is appropriately the largest in the book. Though the major problems of aetiology and classification remain unsolved, the views of such authorities as Jaspers, Kleist, Leonhard C. Schneider, Conrad, and Binswanger retain a more than historic interest and are still not easily accessible to the student without a working knowledge of the German language. In summarizing this material Dr. Fish has performed a useful service for examination candidates; it will be still more valuable if he stimulates some to consult the original texts.


This book contains the observations and opinions of one of the more progressive authorities on the state of mental hospital psychiatry in Germany at the present time. It makes rather sad reading. Professor Schulte covers a wide variety of topics, ranging from the physical setting of psychiatric institutions to the problems of communication within them, though whether it is necessary to include reproductions of the title pages of the patients' magazine does credit to his thoroughness rather than to necessity. The author's experience at Gütersloh appears to have brought him under the influence of Hermann Simon whose name is so closely associated with the theory and practice of work-therapy. The English reader who is unacquainted with this remarkable man will find the section devoted to him of some interest but most of the administrative reforms and therapeutic changes discussed in the text do little more than reflect post-war Anglo-American innovations. While it is good to know that the Germans are planning to improve mental hospitals, it is perhaps more important that we are now concerned with pulling them down.


Dr. Clauser's aim is to introduce the role of psychological factors in the genesis and treatment of conditions commonly referred to the general physician. The first part of his book is concerned with diagnostic concepts and the doctor-patient transaction; he then discusses the making of a 'multi-dimensional' diagnosis and outlines some neurotic patterns of illness; finally, he makes an excursion through the field of 'functional' disorders. For whom, in 1962, is such a book intended? Certainly not for the psychiatrist, who will take objection to the uncritical omnium gatherum of psychodynamic theories and the virtual disregard of the social aspects of illness. Nor for the experienced physician, who will already have accepted the view that his patients demand more than a mechanistic form of medical care but will baulk at the naive 'psychosomatic' alternatives which are so jauntily presented. Perhaps the inexperienced or badly taught student-physician may be tempted by the book's pretensions to enlarge his medical horizons. If so, he can find more reliable and better-balanced texts in English.


Perhaps it is the panarchistic role of psychoanalysis in the United States which accounts for the stream of publications on the subject since the end of the second world war. Most of them modify or revise old themes and despite its title the present volume, a collection of essays on various aspects of psychoanalytic theory and practice, is 'modern' in no recognizable way. Most of the material on the relationship of psychoanalysis to the social sciences, to philosophy, to teaching, and to therapy has been presented elsewhere. Even the polemics are familiar. What merit the book possesses is attached to one essay, 'Psychoanalysis and Experimental Psychology' by Professor Carney Landis, whose contribution is a model of clear and critical thinking. His concluding words could be taken to heart with profit by his co-authors: 'It is more than twenty years since Freud's death. That Freud was a man of genius, all will agree. He is dead; may he rest in peace'.

BOOKS RECEIVED

(Review in a later issue is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.)


AN INTRODUCTION TO CLINICAL ELECTRO-ENCEPHALOGRAPHY By Robert R. Hughes. (Pp. 126; 76 figures. 30s.) Bristol: John Wright. 1961.


