

evaluation, to bioengineering aspects, and its limitation to human movement or animal studies relevant to the latter, seem to imply that it is aimed at physical educationalists rather than a medical readership. The distinguished editorial board should ensure continuation of the high standard of the first number.

J. A. SIMPSON

NOUVEAU TRAITÉ DE TECHNIQUE CHIRURGICALE By J. Paillas and J. Lecuire. (Pp. 631; illustrated; price not stated.) Masson: Paris. 1975.

This is the fourth volume in a series of 15 French books on surgical techniques for the various body systems. It covers surgery of the central nervous system, cranial and peripheral nerves, the sympathetic nervous system, and the adrenals. Surgery of the spine, skull vault and head injuries is covered in volume 2 of the series. Three-quarters of the book is devoted to surgery of the central nervous system, the remaining quarter to that of the peripheral nerves, the sympathetic nervous system and the adrenals, which is not of concern to British neurosurgeons. The drawings are idealized as in most books on operative surgery. There is a limited bibliography to most chapters (two after brain abscess, one after hydrocephalus and none after cerebellomedullary malformations). The book is well bound, has good quality paper and the type is big, making reading easy for the eyes, but the text could have been reduced without affecting the content of the book.

KHALIL JAWAD

AN INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE By David Legge. (Pp. 144; illustrated; 65p.) THINKING AND LANGUAGE By Judith Green. (Pp. 144; illustrated; 65p.) SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR By Kevin Wheldall. (Pp. 144; 65p.) COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT By Johanna Turner. (Pp. 144; illustrated; 65p.) THE PSYCHOLOGY OF HANDICAP By Rosemary Shakespeare. (Pp. 143; 65p.) Methuen: London. 1975.

These five titles form part of the new Methuen series *Essential Psychology*, edited by Peter Herriot, and comprising thirty-six short books—each one less than 200 pages—and arranged in six units. A, Experimental Psychology; B, Social Psychology; C, Developmental Psychology; D, Personality; E, Psychology and Work; F, Psychology, Society and Change. The books under review here are: in order, A1, A7, B1, C2, and F2. The series is aimed at 'all students of psychology, or of the many subjects demanding a knowledge of some psychology', and the level appears to be that of first or second year university specialist courses in psychology.

Assuming that the five books are a representative sample of the whole series, then students seeking an introduction to the subject matter and concerns of psychology are very well served indeed, with the books giving a competent, interesting, and often pleasingly idiosyncratic view of a given area. Although the authors cannot go into their subject in any depth, this limitation is overcome by means of selection of topics to be covered in some detail, so that students may get a feel for how psychological research has developed.

Particular plus points include: Rosemary Shakespeare's thorough and passionate review of handicap, and Kevin Wheldall's refreshing treatment of social psychology in terms of learning theory. Particular minus points include: limitations of space which lead Rosemary Shakespeare to omit the topic of handicapped adults, and the trendy cover illustrations—particularly for the book *Thinking and Language*. Overall summary: a good introductory series which will be a 'must' for new psychology students for some years, and which has set a new standard for introductory texts.

D. NEIL BROOKS

## NOTICES

THIRD MEETING OF EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR STEREOTACTIC AND FUNCTIONAL NEUROSURGERY 19–21 September 1977, Freiburg i. Br., West Germany. Details from Permanent Business-Office: Neurochirurgische Universitätsklinik, Hugstetter Str. 55, D-7800 Freiburg i. Br. Telephone 0761/201 3663.

CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIETY FOR NEUROLOGY: VIIth NEUROLOGICAL CONGRESS, Bratislava, 19–23 October 1976, with international participation. Details from Professor D. Bartko, Congress Office, Slovak Medical Society, Mickiewiczova 18, 833 22 Bratislava, Czechoslovakia.

## CORRECTION

'Comparison of dantrolene sodium and diazepam in the treatment of spasticity' by R. T. Schmidt, R. H. Lee, and R. Spehlmann (April (1976) 39, 350–356).

The following corrections should be made: On p. 351 (Procedure): the low study dose of dantrolene was 50 mg (not 25 mg) four times daily, that of diazepam, 3 mg (not 2 mg) four times daily. In Table 5, hip flexor strength at Hi DZ vs Control was significantly decreased at 0.02 (not NS), and station stability at Hi DZ vs Control was decreased (not increased). On p. 353: improvement of muscle cramps or spasms by diazepam was reported by 50% (not 76%) of patients.