to many—assimilated with his own. This is followed by a tabulation of the clinical and pathological data on 150 cases, and assorted comments on these; then a chapter on the clinical (including EEG) manifestations; and a selection of detailed case reports, including 'fringe' cases—an essential part of the study of a disease the causes and nature of which are unknown.

A final chapter on the neuropathological aspects of the disease includes recent biochemical and electron-microscopical studies, but was written before the demonstration that at least one form of the disease can be transmitted to experimental animals. The author discusses, and appears to reject, the distinction between Jakob-Creutzfeldt disease and subacute spongiform encephalopathy; but his own views on whether he is dealing with one disease or several are not very clear. Through most of the book, he writes as if he were dealing with a single disease, with variable manifestations, in some ways related to other diseases—for instance, motor neurone disease—but at the end he italicizes the conclusion that 'J-C disease is not a unified disease concept'.

The book will be a very valuable work of reference for many years to come. Blemishes include the use of a rather peculiar jargon, which makes many passages difficult to understand; and the grand tabulation of cases contains some errors of fact, of which the reader must beware.

D. R. OPPENHEIMER

INTRODUCTION TO CLINICAL NEUROLOGY By Sir Gordon Holmes. 3rd edition, revised by Bryan Matthews. (Pp. viii + 187; illustrated. 35s.) Livingstone: Edinburgh. 1968.

The third edition of this well-known text has been edited and revised by Dr. Bryan Matthews. The textual alterations have been quite extensive and some new material has been included, though the total length is only slightly increased. Several new illustrations have been added and old ones removed. The section on convulsions has been revised and appears as a separate chapter headed 'Epilepsy and Loss of Consciousness', surely a retrograde step, for Gordon Holmes often stressed that epileptic attacks were merely one form of involuntary movement and that to consider 'epilepsy' as a disease *sui generis* was dangerous in the clinical field. A short new chapter on neurology in children has been added, though this contains little information which could not have been scattered judiciously among the text.

Dr. Matthews has done his revision well, and this remains an excellent introduction to neurology for the clinical student. The changes have, inevitably, removed some of the highly original style of Gordon Holmes and many older readers will regret this. Nonetheless, some of the material in the first edition would now be misleading or frankly incorrect, and one could hardly expect an undergraduate to identify these areas. The dilemma as to whether to modernize the text or leave it as a 'period piece' must have been hard to resolve. Many people will agree, however, that Gordon Holmes's approach to the subject has so much to commend it that it was justifiable to make a modernized text available to the present-day student. The first edition will continue to be read by

those, now rapidly decreasing in numbers, who knew or worked with the author, but I would hope that this edition will be read by most medical students and not only those interested in neurology.

BRODIE HUGHES

ZUR NEUROANATOMIE UND NEUROPATHOLOGIE DER FRÜH-FETALZEIT (Monographien aus dem Gesamtgebiete der Neurologie und Psychiatrie, Heft 127). By Hanns Solcher. (Pp. 78; 39 figures. DM 39). Springer-Verlag: Berlin, Heidelberg, and New York. 1968.

This monograph is based on the histological examination of the brains of 65 human foetuses ranging in size from 13 to 38 cm crown-heel length, which corresponds to a gestational age of 14 to 32 weeks. The material consists of 56 'spontaneous' abortions (the number of pregnancies artificially interfered with was not known), four therapeutic abortions, and two foetuses removed from the uterus after the mother's death. The first section contains some observations on the normal development of the brain during the stated period. The striking pathological finding is the frequency of intracerebral haemorrhages of various sizes and locations which were found in 61 cases. The author found it difficult to distinguish pathological changes in nerve cells from autolytic changes and cellular pathology is not, therefore, described or discussed. The author surmises that a foetus may survive a cerebral haemorrhage contracted *in utero* and that the destruction of tissue may result in what looks like a congenital malformation. The pathogenesis of these haemorrhages remains obscure and it is not clear whether they arise before or after delivery. No light has been thrown on the causes of abortion. Nevertheless this monograph is of interest because so few investigations of this kind have been undertaken.

S. J. STRICH

CERVICAL SPONDYLOSIS AND ITS NEUROLOGICAL COMPLICATIONS By B. H. Smith. (Pp. viii + 231; illustrated. \$12.00). Charles C. Thomas: Springfield, Illinois. 1968. The well-known Thomas Monographs vary greatly in quality, but this is one of the very best, and can be warmly recommended. A difficult subject has been handled with skill, good judgement, and clarity. Only a gifted and astute clinician could have succeeded in producing such a helpful and comprehensive study.

ZUKUNFT DER NEUROLOGIE (Future of Neurology) Edited by H. G. Bammer. (Pp. xii + 262; illustrated. DM 48.) Georg Thieme: Stuttgart. 1968.

This volume has been prepared as a tribute by over 40 neurologists from all parts of the world to Herr Professor Dr. Georges Schaltenbrand on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Most of the articles are in English and some are of great interest.

THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BRAIN By S. A. Sarkisov. (Pp. xxiii + 291; 158 figures. 93s.) American University Publishers Group. 1967.

If this volume is really an up-to-date account of current work, it is disappointing to find that the brilliant Russian