does not appear in the bibliography). One misses discussions of more modern techniques such as the use of radioactively labelled substances for studying, say, the morphogenesis of the nervous system. This 'out-of-date' impression is strengthened by a look at the bibliography: one chapter chosen at random has 81 references to papers written before 1960 and 18 to papers written since then. Twelve pounds seems rather a lot to pay for a textbook which badly needs a new edition.

SABINA J. STRICH

HEREDITARY SENSORY RADICULAR NEUROPATHY By David C. Wallace. Mervyn Archdall Medical Monograph No. 8. (Pp. 114; illustrated; price not stated.) Australian Medical Association: Sydney. 1970.

The author of this monograph is a medical geneticist at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, Brisbane. It is based on his study of a very large family of whom he was able to trace more than 400 members. There were at least 42 individuals who had suffered from the disease and he personally examined 25 of them. There was one adequate necropsy. He found that the disease was inherited as a Mendelian dominant, completely penetrant in men, but incompletely so in women.

Data on eight generations were discovered. The majority were of short stature, many were athletic, one winning an Olympic Gold Medal. There was a great variation in the age of onset, rate of progression and severity of the disease. In about one in 10 cases there was motor involvement; muscular weakness and wasting. In others, motor nerve conduction studies were abnormal at a stage when there was no clinical evidence of motor involvement. Sensory loss was of glove and stocking distribution, usually dissociated, and not radicular in type. It was often present for many years before any trophic changes appeared. Deafness, when it occurred, proved to be due to hereditary otosclerosis and not to perceptive loss, as in the families described by Denny-Brown and Van Bogaert.

He speculates on the possible role of exposure to a cold environment, the effects of trauma, and the development of the characteristic and often mutilating trophic changes.

The genetic aspects of this large family are described in detail. There are some summarized case histories, a bibliography but no index.

This is the largest family with this disease that has been described and it certainly deserved documentation.

J. D. SPILLANE

FUNDAMENTALS OF ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAPHY By Kenneth A. Kooi. (Pp. 271; 98 figures; \$12.95.) Harper and Row: New York. 1971.

This book has merits. It errs on the side of being brief, it is well written and produced, and is up-to-

date in the fields that have particular interest to the author. Part I, dealing with basic electricity, instrumentation, and the biophysics of recording, is too short to be useful and is not more than an expanded glossary. Part II discusses the basis of EEG interpretation and is particularly good on spontaneous and evoked activity as recorded from the human scalp. It is disappointing to find no discussion of corticography, depth recording, and experimental epilepsy, although some review articles are referred to. The remainder of the text covers the main clinical conditions for which the EEG is used and the illustrations are well chosen. The sections dealing with paediatric and psychiatric disorders could, however, be expanded. The general impression is of a balanced discussion of all the subjects covered. The book will be useful for the many who need an introduction to the EEG as it is practised today, but who do not need to go very deeply into its problems.

J. A. V. BATES

ÉTUDE EXPÉRIMENTALE DE L'HYPERRÉFLEXIE TENDINEUSE EN CLINIQUE NEUROLOGIQUE By Paul J. Delwaide. (Pp. 324; 69 figures, price not stated.) Collection *Médico-Monographies d'Agrégés* Éditions Arscia: Brussels. 1971.

From Liège, Dr. Delwaide reports his careful studies on hyperreflexic states using well-known techniques such as H-wave facilitation-inhibition curves, vibratory and sinusoidal stretch stimulation of muscles. His findings in spastic states are in general agreement with those of other workers but his interpretation of inhibitory phenomena differs from that of the Australian school. As so much apparent disagreement in this field of clinical neurophysiology depends on apparently minor details of technique, it is valuable to have this monograph which provides the necessary detail.

This valuable book underlines the move away from the monosynaptic reflex by physiologists interested in muscle tone and its reflex control. The author draws attention to the importance of presynaptic group Ia afferent fibres in regulating the excitability of stretch reflexes.

J. A. SIMPSON

FUNCTIONAL NEUROANATOMY By N. B. Everett assisted by John W. Sundsten and Raymond D. Lund. 6th edn. (Pp. x+357, illustrated, £6.5.) Kimpton: London. 1971.

Dr. Everett took over the editorship of Buchanan's *Functional Neuroanatomy* in 1965 and has now produced his second (the 6th) edition of this book. He has retained the valuable concept of tracing the nerve tracts and pathways throughout the substance of the nervous system. The original spidery drawings of Professor Buchanan's day have been supplemented by bold new illustrations and a number of photographs of brain sections have been introduced

into the text. These are in addition to the atlas of 44 brain sections in the appendix.

The underlying anatomy of some illustrative neurological disorders is described and there are short but good sections on the modern concepts of cutaneous sensibility, emotion, and the extra-pyramidal system.

This book does not provide detailed local anatomy, but presents the postgraduate student in neurology or psychiatry with a simplified working knowledge of neuroanatomy on which to interpret his clinical experience.

IVAN T. DRAPER

PERCEPTION AND ITS DISORDERS Edited by David A. Hamburg, Karl H. Pribram, and Albert J. Stunkard. (Pp. 405; 134 illustrations; 10 tables; £10.) Livingstone: Edinburgh. 1970.

This is the 48th volume in the series of publications of the Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Diseases and contains the papers presented at a meeting of the Association in December 1968. No volume of less than 400 pages could cover the whole field of perception and its disorders and the editors have not attempted to make this volume comprehensive. Instead, they have concentrated mainly on current research topics in visual perception – an emphasis which is justified, as they point out, by the wealth of material available, and by 'man's long primate heritage of heavy reliance upon vision'.

The topics selected include the coding of colour information, attention and orienting responses, perceptual development, and the effects on perception of drugs, epilepsy, abnormal endocrine balance, and lesions of the nervous system. Most chapters are written from the standpoint of physiology or biochemistry but there are also contributions from psychology and clinical medicine. References are appended to each chapter and include work published up to 1969.

The danger inherent in such an eclectic approach, that the result will be a collection of research papers linked only semantically by the general title, has been avoided to some extent by concentration on the physiological aspects of visual perception, and by the provision of an excellent subject index. Nevertheless, it is surprising to find in this context chapters on 'the perception of hunger', and 'the perception of satiety' – interesting though they are in themselves – while no chapter is devoted specifically to tactile or auditory perception other than the perception of speech. Perhaps there would have been a case for devoting an entire volume to problems of visual perception and its disorders.

Those whose work is concerned with perceptual research will find something of interest in this collection, but its chief value is likely to be the introduction

to the research worker in neurology or psychology of relevant and interesting work in allied disciplines.

FREDA NEWCOMBE

THE SENSORY CONTROL OF POSTURE AND MOVEMENT

A review of the studies of Derek Denny-Brown. By Orthello R. Langworthy. (Pp. viii + 145; 4 figures, £4.25) Livingstone: Edinburgh. 1970.

It is a rare compliment for a review of a major scientist's published work to appear during his life time. Though all will hope that there are more chapters still to come, there will be a general welcome for this useful volume, which summarizes Denny-Brown's seminal papers on postural control and movement with particular reference to the role of afferent impulses, because the original publications are difficult to read and to place in context without a synoptic view such as this book could provide.

So far as the reviewer can determine there are no major errors (other than literary) but it is impossible to carry out a sample check as the book does not refer to sources, even the limited number of key references printed at the end. This is doubly unfortunate as it limits the value of the book as a bibliographic guide, or as a source book for other scientists. It is to be hoped that this will be rectified in the second edition which is sure to be demanded.

J. A. SIMPSON

DISCUSSIONS ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT Edited by J. M. Tanner and Barbel Inhelder. (Pp. 920; £2.50.) Tavistock Publications; London. 1971.

This book is a 920 page paper-back reprint of four Tavistock Publications. These were the published proceedings of a series of meetings held in 1953 to 1956 by the WHO Study Group on the Psychobiological Development of the Child.

Several of the discussions centre around films which were shown at the meetings. Hence the reader is at a serious disadvantage, as the relevance of the sometimes spirited exchanges cannot be judged.

Undoubtedly, the participants have unequalled experience in their own fields, yet much of the discussion is on the level of anecdote and personal recollection. It is an interesting book to dip into, but one is left with a sense of dissatisfaction.

I. T. DRAPER

YEAR BOOK OF NEUROLOGY AND NEUROSURGERY 1970

Edited by R. Jong and O. Sugar. (Pp. 510; illus.; £6.80.) Lloyd Luke: London. 1971.

Year Books are welcome but distressing. They are distressing to reviewers by the frequency with which they appear—perhaps a sign of dysfunction of a senescent parietal lobe. They have the advantage of conferring up to date appearances on bookshelves, but the disadvantage of an abstracting system which