gists, physiologists, biochemists, histochemists, pathologists, and clinicians to understand each other (and in so doing make points clear to the reader) can be appreciated. The participants were fortunate to have with them A. N. Studitsky, of Moscow, who was able to describe his pioneering work in muscle transplantation. The neurogenic theory in the aetiology of muscular dystrophy is explored in depth, and the myogenic theory defended with equally powerful arguments by Cosmos. It is evident that some of the early evidence for the neurogenic theory based on muscle transplants between normal and dystrophic mice can no longer be defended in view of the opposite results obtained in the dystrophic chicken model and in cross-innervation experiments using parabiotic mice. As a contribution to the difficulties of fibre typing by existing methods which do not necessarily correlate with the physiological characteristics of the fibre, Perry describes new knowledge in the realm of the regulatory and contractile proteins in skeletal muscle, opening up the possibility of typing slow and fast twitch muscle by their content of the inhibitory protein, troponin I. Rash and his colleagues show how the freeze-fracture method may demonstrate new classes of membrane particles at the neuromuscular junctions of normal, denervated, and dystrophic neuromuscular junctions in mice.

There is a wealth of information in this book, which must be consulted by all who are interested in research in neuromuscular disease.

D. G. F. HARRIMAN

A MANUAL OF HEAD INJURIES IN GENERAL SURGERY
By G. Martin. (Pp. 158; illustrated; £2.) Heine-
mann: London. 1974.

This is a pocket-sized book which admirably fulfils its object. It is written for the non-specialist surgeon who may be called upon to deal with head injuries, and its audience would include registrars, students, and nurses. The information it contains is presented in an easily acceptable fashion with numerous headings and small paragraphs. It is illustrated by simple line drawings, has a small but well-selected bibliography to each chapter, and a good selection of multiple-choice questions. Being designed for the non-specialist, the methods of investigation are essentially clinical, but there is an adequate simple description with good diagrams on the use of angiography in head injuries. Since even in Great Britain most head injuries are dealt with by non-specialists, a clear understanding of a routine approach to the management of head injuries is essential to general surgeons, who should be prepared to assess and, when necessary, to operate on the head injured patient.

JOHN HANKINSON

CENTRAL RHYTHMIC AND REGULATION CIRCULATION
Edited by W. Umbach and H. P. Koepchen. (Pp. 418; illustrated; price not stated.) Hippokrates: Stuttgart. 1974.

As the title might suggest this is a curious publication of 97 contributions, mainly of European origin, delivered at a symposium in Berlin in 1972. The theme of the conference was the cerebral control of visceral and motor function. About 30% of the papers are on respiration, 30% are on blood pressure and the heart, and 30% are on the sympathetic nervous system. A few papers, mainly of clinical nature, are concerned with the basal ganglia. Odd chapters caught the reviewer's eye: Korsakewitz *et al.*'s description of carotid sinus nerve stimulation in man for angina controlled by feedback from pulse or blood pressure to mimic baroreceptor function; Wallin, Delius, and Hagbarth's account of micro-electrode recording from sympathetic neurones in mixed peripheral nerves in man; and Kim and Heidrich's account of stereotaxic hypothalamotomy in a man for pedophilia and Raynaud's disease (both abolished by the operation). But by and large, this must be a book for the specialist neurophysiologist, and perhaps only to remind him of the trip to Berlin.

C. D. MARSDEN

LECTURE NOTES ON NEUROLOGY 4th edn. By Ivan T. Draper. (Pp. 216; illustrated; £2.) Blackwell: Oxford. 1974.

The publication of the fourth edition of this synopsis of neurology is evidence of its continued popularity, and of its success in its evident main purpose, the passing of examinations. In addition to basic facts, a good deal of sensible advice is also given but the necessary condensation leads to some imbalance—for example, the Eaton-Lambert syndrome might well be sacrificed for a practical account of the management of Parkinson's disease. However, neurology clearly cannot be compressed into 200 pages in a manner entirely satisfactory to every reader, and the author is to be congratulated on his continued success in this difficult task.

W. B. MATTHEWS

RECENT PROGRESS IN NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY Edited by K. Sano and S. Ishii. (Pp. 346; illustrated; \$10.40.) Excerpta Medica: Amsterdam. 1974.

Relentless criticism of published conference proceedings has led some recent meetings to decide not to enshrine their deliberations in print at all. The present volume represents a more constructive response. It consists of five symposia and three special lectures which formed part of the international Congress of Neurological Surgery in Tokyo, and it is published only nine months after the meeting.