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.

The symposia deal with congenital anomalies of the CNS, tumours of the CNS, operations for craniospinal vascular conditions, with stereotaxis and with neurotraumatology. Obviously these subjects are not dealt with comprehensively but the views of experts are presented, together with a chairman's summary of the discussion, and together these give a good idea of the areas of continuing interest and controversy in contemporary neurosurgery. This volume is, therefore, a useful addition to the neurosurgeon's bookshelf and is commendably slim. Excerpta Medica are coy about quoting prices either for the volume in the reader's hand, or for those advertised on the back. Another mystery is why the 'co-editor' with the two Japanese editors, should be an orthopaedic surgeon from London; could no English-speaking neurosurgeon afford to go to Tokyo?

BRYAN JENNETT

A CENTENNIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF HUNTINGTON'S CHOREA 1872-1972 By G. W. Bruyn and N. C. Myrianthopoulos. (Pp. 314; DG57.50.) Martinus Nijhoff: The Hague. 1974.

Anyone with an interest in Huntington's chorea will have cause to thank the compilers of this bibliography, which will prove an invaluable source of reference for many years to come. Over 2000 references to Huntington's chorea, published between 1972 and 1973 have been listed, first in chronological order where each is given a code number. The codes are then listed under 16 categories, such as biochemistry, or differential diagnosis, and also under different geographical sources. The bibliography is completed by extensive subject and author indices.

C. D. MARSDEN

TRENDS IN NEUROPHYSIOLOGY Edited by A. M. Monnier. (Pp. 267; illustrated; \$45.50.) Masson: Paris. 1974.

This volume results from a symposium held to celebrate the 70th birthday of A. von Muralt, professor of physiology in the University of Bern since 1935. Others than von Muralt's very many personal friends and admirers may think of buying or borrowing it to get a general view of recent trends in neurophysiology. For the physiology of nerve cells, they will not be disappointed. The contributors in this field are mostly very distinguished. They write mainly about their own work, and sustain a high standard of interest and readability. Between them they cover nearly every aspect of the physiology of nerve cells at least in rough outline, and many aspects in detail. The physiology of the brain as a whole (or of anything larger than a cell, fibre or synapse) is

considered in only two of the 25 chapters, of which one is regrettably uncritical, and the other, though interesting and economically written, describes work completed nearly 30 years ago.

G. S. BRINDLEY

COMMON NEUROSES IN GENERAL PRACTICE By J. C. M. Wilkinson and K. Latif. (Pp. 164; £2.95.) Wright: Bristol. 1974.

It is important to note the subtitle of this book, '*A Behavioural Approach*' since it looks at the neuroses from this viewpoint and indeed aims to be a do-it-yourself behaviour therapy manual for general practitioners. Other approaches to treatment—namely, traditional psychotherapy and psychotropic drugs—are mentioned especially where their use can be combined with behaviour therapy, but the main emphasis is on their limitations. This is fair enough especially in a book on behaviour therapy, and I think all would agree that treatment of neurosis is at present often unsatisfactory. A fresh approach in this field is, therefore, welcome.

Unfortunately, the practitioner looking for shortcuts may be disillusioned, since many of the treatments described are time consuming by the standards of general practice here and now. One merit of the book is its practical approach, based as it is on the authors' considerable experience in a behaviour therapy unit. For a book of this size quite a lot of detail is given, probably enough to deter the over-casual amateur.

As well as covering the neuroses as commonly understood, the book has useful chapters on sexual dysfunction and deviations, based on the work of Masters and Johnson (which not everyone may have had time to read). There is a useful guide to behaviour therapy units in this country.

The book is up to date in a developing field, and, although it may be appreciated by the general practitioner with special interest in psychiatry, it is, in my opinion, more suitable for psychiatric trainees or even consultants.

N. A. TODD

NOTICE

ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN NERVOUS AND MENTAL DISEASE Meeting: Basal ganglia disorders, 5 and 6 December 1975, New York City. President and Chairman Dr Melvin D. Yahr. New developments in ultra-structure, biochemistry, and physiological abnormalities of the many disorders of the basal ganglia as well as mechanisms involved in control of motor and behavioural activities in brain will be discussed, and particularly aetiology, pathogenesis, and treatment of Parkinson's disease, Huntington's chorea, and dystonia. Details from Secretary-Treasurer of ARNMD, Dr H. Houston Merritt, 722 West 168th Street. New York, N.Y. 10032, U.S.A.