Book reviews

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY OF THE LIMBS IN PARAPLEGIA
By L. S. Michaelis. (Pp. vii + 54, 30 figures. DM.12.)
Berlin: Springer-Verlag. 1964.
This small book describes some of the operations used by
the author to correct contractures and other complications
of paraplegia. For cervical cord lesions there is
sometimes an opportunity to improve function by tendon
transplant, such as the tendon of a strong flexor carpi
radialis into that of the paralysed flexor digitorum.

AN INTRODUCTION TO NEUROSURGERY
By W. Bryan Jennett. (Pp. xiv + 326; 64 figures. 45s.) London:
Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. 1964.
English-speaking neurosurgeons should welcome Mr.
Jennett's book for in a relatively short compass and at a
reasonable price it includes descriptions of most of the
pathology and methods of treatment encountered in a
neurosurgical department. This book should be found in
the library of every large general hospital, and should be
compulsory reading for junior staff when they join a
neurosurgical department. Naturally, not every neurosurgeon will agree with Mr. Jennett has written and,
indeed, your reviewer disagrees with some points and
regrets one or two omissions. Nevertheless, this volume
provides a very good basis, with the help of which a
junior member of a neurosurgical team may be expected
to understand quickly the workings and the aims of his
department. This book will be comprehensible and
valuable not only to the person who has already determined on
a career in neurosurgery, but also to those others who
venture into neurosurgery temporarily in the course of
their training for another specialty.

The book ends with two contributions from Mr. Robert
Tym. The first is a humane and sympathetic description
of neurosurgical methods for the treatment of pain; the
second is a brief outline of the aims and achievements of
stereotactic surgery.

A. JEFFERSON

SAMMLUNG ZWANGLOSER ABHANGLUNGEN AUS DEM
GEBIETE DER PSYCHIATRIE UND NEUROLOGIE.
Heft 26.
Stauungspapille Bei Nicht Tumorrhösen Hirnprozessen.
By Horst Albrecht. (Pp. 94; 35 figures. DM. 14.-)
In the decade 1950-1960 16 patients were admitted to the
University Neurological Clinic in Greifswald with papillo-
edema which was conclusively shown not to be due
to a cerebral tumour. Dr. Albrecht reports these
cases, which were judged to be due to transient disturbances of
cerebral circulation, arterial hypertension, trauma,
inflammatory conditions, hypoparathyroidism, Paget's
disease, and various other known causes of papilloedema.
His purpose is to drive home a simple diagnostic lesson,
rather than to say anything new.

DISORDERS OF LANGUAGE
Ciba Foundation Symposium.
Edited by A. V. S. de Reuck and Maeve O'Connor.
(Pp. xii + 356; 35 figures. 50s.) London: J. & A.
Churchill Ltd. 1964.
This well-printed book contains the proceedings of a
Ciba symposium held in London in 1963 under the chair-
manship of Dr. Macdonald Critchley. There are papers
by experts in a wide variety of fields together with verba-
tim accounts of the discussions following them. Although
the papers contain little that is entirely new in the field,
they serve a useful purpose in drawing attention to the
great variety of work that is going on in the study of
language in different parts of the world. Bias is under-
standably on the side of medical disorders, but Goldman-
Eisler, Neff, and Ross give interesting reviews of how
language can be studied in other conditions.

The discussions are refreshingly alive and the reader
quickly, and probably erroneously, builds up pictures of
the personalities of the participants. The remarks range
from purely trite through critically reflective to basically
informative. Now and then speakers take the opportunity
of describing work in progress or recalling forgotten
surveys.

Gratitude is due to the editors and the participants
for providing references to all the work mentioned in the
discussions. It is not easy for a speaker to delve into his
memory and dig up the exact location of a recalled
remark, but it is probably from this bibliography that the
reader may gain most profit.

BASIC READINGS IN NEUROPSYCHOLOGY
Edited by Robert L. Isaacsom. (Pp. xi + 429. 37s.) New York and
This paper-backed book assembles 16 important articles,
published between 1937 and 1959, concerned with relations-
ships between the central nervous system and behaviour.
The Editor tells us that these papers have been brought
together in order to provide the student with easy access
to some of the original landmarks in the field of physio-
logical psychology. For this reason some important work
which is readily available is not included.

As the Editor points out, the selection is also influenced
by his own special interests. These two constraints result
in a rather narrow spectrum. Nine papers are concerned
with the physiology of emotion or motivation, mostly
in relation to the limbic system, three with sensory
functions, two with conditioning, one with the mind-
brain problem, and one, rather inappropriately, with
metabolism. All of the experimental papers consist of
animal work. Work with humans is entirely neglected
and the only paper dealing with intellectual functions,
and then not primarily, is Kluver and Bucy's discussion
of temporal lobe function.

If Lashley and Hebb had to be omitted because their
work is readily accessible elsewhere, then the balance
might have been restored by including some of the more