British neurophysiology has hitherto suffered from the restrictions of strict regulations on survival experiments on animals, but there is now an increasing interest in neurophysiological and experimental psychobiological studies on higher primates. Without an established laboratory tradition to learn from, many will welcome this useful little volume, from a series on experimental medicine and surgery in primates. The present volume is from an American aeromedical research laboratory. After a helpful comparative review of the chimpanzee central nervous system there are very practical chapters on research methods such as stereotaxic and implantation techniques and apparatus for psychobiological research. There is also a convenient summary of key references on the growth and development of the chimpanzee and its vision, audition, and other senses, motor behaviour, learning and concept formation, emotion, motivation, social organization and behaviour. This is not an exhaustive treatise, but it is very suitable for experimenters beginning to work with the chimpanzee.

J. A. SIMPSON

HANDBUCH DER ALLGEMEINEN PATHOLOGIE. VOL. 3: ZWISCHENSUBSTANZEN. GEWEBE. ORGANE Part 3: Die Organe. Die Organstruktur als Grund lageder Organleistung und Organerkrankung II. Edited by H. Hager and H. Noetzel. (Pp. viii + 526; 307 figures. DM 278.) Springer: Berlin, Heidelberg and New York. 1968.

This book has a strange title but it is actually about the reaction of nervous tissue to various insults. It is a monumental work written by only two authors.

Part I, by Professor Hager, is called 'General morphological pathology of nervous tissue'. It is not a textbook of neuropathology, but rather one of histology and deals with the normal appearances and pathological changes in nerve cells, glial cells, nerve fibres, and blood vessels. It also deals with the histology of necrosis, gliosis, myelin breakdown, deposits of abnormal substances (senile plaques, calcium corpora amylacea). Part I is profusely illustrated, mainly with excellent electron-micrographs and reproductions of quaint coloured drawings from textbooks and papers of the 1920s. The latter are charming but can be downright misleading—who has ever seen a nerve cell with its two satellites in mitosis as drawn by Spielmeyer (1922)? One man cannot these days have first-hand experience of all aspects of neuropathology and this tells in some of the sections. But it is good to have so much information especially about electron microscopic appearances collected together. There are thousands of references.

Part II, by Professor Noetzel, entitled 'The structure of the central and peripheral nervous system as basis for its function and its diseases', is less satisfactory. There is overlap with the first section and it is not clear on what grounds topics have been selected for discussion. The treatment of most subjects is extremely superficial. There are snippets of neuroanatomy, five pages are devoted to the ageing nervous system, and the influence of the nervous system on skin, skeleton, and muscle is dealt with in less than a page—these organs atrophy when they are denervated. One does not feel like paying a great deal

for a book which tells one nothing about carbon monoxide poisoning except that the globus pallidus is often affected. There are quite useful sections on the effect on the nervous system of diseases of other organs and the lipidoses and other 'inborn errors of metabolism' are discussed.

One wonders whether the days of the expensive and definitive handbook are not over and whether it would not be more useful to publish a 'Recent Advances' series containing reviews, by experts, on selected topics.

S. J. STRICH

DIAGNOSIS OF BRAIN DISEASE BY ULTRASOUND Edited by Kenji Tanaka. (Pp. vi + 164; 169 figures, 14 tables. No price given.) Shindan-To-Chiryo Sha Co: Tokyo, Japan. 1969.

This volume, edited by the professor of surgery, Juntendo University School of Medicine, Tokyo, Japan, consists of seven chapters, written by Professor Tanaka, four medically-qualified members of his department, and a radio-engineer. It would seem that this group of investigators were among the first to use ultrasonic methods in localizing space-occupying intracranial lesions and they give a comprehensive review of the principles involved, of the equipment required, and of the information which can be obtained by A-scope and B-scope echoencephalography. The text includes many illustrative case reports indicating how these methods have been helpful in localizing intracranial tumours and haematomas and in the investigation of hydrocephalus. A note on the use of an ultrasonic needle-type transducer for exploration of the depths of the brain is also included. The book is pleasantly produced and some of the illustrations are of good quality, but unfortunately the authors have not been able to arrange for the text to be carefully checked by an editor with a thorough grasp of the English language. While one must appreciate the difficulties facing those who set out to write a scientific monograph in an unfamiliar tongue, the quality of the prose in this publication is so uneven and at times so obscure that this fact alone detracts considerably from its value. Apart from the resulting lack of clarity, there are parts of the book where misprints occur in such profusion as to be a constant source of irritation to the reader. To read, for instance, on page 1 that '... the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission concluded that the tumor by ultrasonic in human skull is not suitable ...' and on page 2 that 'There were many contraversys (sic) about the reliability ...' can hardly be regarded as a felicitous beginning. Nevertheless, the book contains a good deal of useful information for those who are prepared to take the time to separate the wheat from the chaff.

JOHN N. WALTON

THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM. Some Experimental Models of Neurological Diseases. Edited by Orville T. Bailey and David E. Smith. (Pp. xiii + 364; illustrated. £8 10s.) Williams and Wilkins: Baltimore, Md. 1968.

The subtitle of this book, the ninth of a series of Monographs in Pathology from the International Academy of Pathology, reflects the difficulty in classifying this book. It is not a systematic textbook of human neuropathology,