detailed anatomical section which the original edition contained. Although addressed primarily to the non-specialist and shorter than its predecessor, it remains a comprehensive and authoritative work which will continue to prove useful to the serious student of neurology. The book is a pleasure to read and will clearly become a standard work in the field. It is illustrated with line drawings and half-tone reproductions of radiographs, which are of good quality. There is a good index but the bibliography at the end of each chapter could be made more useful if titles were included of the references cited.

J. A. R. LENMAN


This book comprises the proceedings of the symposium on the effects of cyclandelate on mental impairment. Efficient editing and publishing produced the book within a few months of the symposium and the quality of the text and illustrations is uniformly good.

The early part of the book contains papers on methods of psychological testing, both simple and complex. Some carefully controlled studies showed that cyclandelate produced improvement in some aspects of mental performance, notably orientation, verbal communication, social behaviour, and interest in surroundings in elderly patients thought to have cerebral vascular occlusive disease. These conclusions were reached after a double-blind crossover trial, but attempts to correlate clinical improvement with various indices of cerebral blood flow were unsuccessful. The mode of action of the drug is unknown.

With the notable exception of the thoughtful and critical paper by M. D. O'Brien on the complex relationship between neuronal degeneration and reduced blood flow, the second half of the book is less satisfactory. It deals with disordered circulatory physiology and various methods of assessment. The demonstration that the cerebral vascular system even in senility is still capable of considerable alteration in resistance is certain to lead to the introduction of many more vasactive agents and to a reappraisal of therapy in arteriosclerotic dementia.

This symposium does a service in focusing attention of physicians and physiologists on the need for a critical and unbiased appraisal of these drugs and their possible action both on neurones and blood vessels. In this way, new light may be shed on more fundamental questions of causation.

R. W. ROSS RUSSELL


Over six million human beings were done to death in the German (not Nazi) concentration camps during and before the last war. How many escaped with their lives is unknown.

What psychological consequences occurred in the survivors? This is the question posed by Matussek and intensively investigated in a group of 245; of these 186 were Jews, interviewed not only in Germany, but also in Israel and in the U.S.A., where they are presently domiciled. Since, however, the investigation was predominantly carried out in Germany I believe that the number of persons persecuted for political or religious reasons in this investigation does not give a true picture of the concentration camp inhabitants or their fate, because, in fact, the vast majority had been incarcerated because they were Jews and fared worse than the other concentration camp inhabitants.

The investigation of the psychological effects is thorough. It includes the concentration camp experiences and minutely examines in prolonged interviews the ability or disability of survivors to come to terms with life at present in its various ramifications.

As others have done before him, Matussek finds that the ones who fared best were those who at the time of their persecution had a strong belief, a feeling of community with other prisoners, as well as those who before internment had already matured and had happy childhoods.

The volume is followed by exhaustive references to the literature.

J. SCHORSTEIN


In the last 10 years the interest of electromyographers has moved from disorders of muscle and peripheral nerve to 'supranuclear' problems of motor control using reflex methods for studying central function. The technical problems have not been entirely solved and interpretation of findings varies with each new contribution from animal physiologists exploring synaptic function in the spinal cord and the afferent bombardment from muscles and skin which have proved to be more elaborate than was previously conceived.

Many workers have attempted to analyse spasticity and Parkinsonism by these indirect methods according to the concepts of their time. This monograph reviews earlier work and the author's personal