cochlear potentials of perfusing the cochlea with metabolic inhibitors; and an overlong discussion on pressure changes occurring in the middle ear during anaesthesia. On the other hand, the potentialities for future research implicit in some of the articles make exciting and relevant reading. Frazer poses the question whether deafness arising postnatally from cochlear degeneration of genetic determination might yet be prevented. Engstrom and his colleagues in Sweden and the U.S.A., and Kiang and his colleagues in Boston, give beautifully illustrated examples of how carefully controlled experimental models of cochlear pathology can be investigated by refined electron microscopical and electrophysiological methods, respectively. Burns and Robinson provide a fascinating account of how occupational hearing loss may be predicted from measurements of the sound environment, and therefore, in principle, prevented. The question of the practicability of producing an auditory prosthesis is seen to be a controversial issue. Anderson and Liden from Sweden emphasize the role that might be played by measurements of intra-aural reflexes in providing objective methods of diagnosis.

Finally, the Symposium closes with a review of the possibilities for future research, and an entertaining discussion on how best research into normal and abnormal hearing might be encouraged and funded.

E. F. EVANS

JAMIESON'S ILLUSTRATIONS OF REGIONAL ANATOMY, SECTION 1 CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM 9th edition. Revised by Robert Walmsley and T. R. Murphy. (Pp. 56; illus.; £1.00.) Churchill Livingstone: Edinburgh and London. 1971.

Jamieson's Plates are an old friend now revised in a ninth edition which will ensure that yet another generation of medical students will be helped by them. For this is their great merit. Without sacrificing essentials, these modern equivalents of the coloured blackboard diagrams prepared by a master are exactly what the undergraduate student needs. Indeed the reviewer has rarely required more for the clinical practice of neurology.

The editors of this edition have reduced the legends in a further attempt to simplify for the beginner, and have introduced some new plates. Perhaps the extrapyramidal system has been oversimplified. But for the avowed purpose the book remains outstanding value.

J. A. SIMPSON

THE COMPARATIVE ANATOMY AND HISTOLOGY OF THE CEREBELLUM FROM MONOTREMES THROUGH APES By Olof Larsell. Edited by Jan Jansen. (Pp. 269; illus.; £7.50.) Minnesota University Press: Minne-

apolis and Oxford University Press: London. 1971. The title of this volume is misleading. Actually it forms part two of the late Dr. Larsell's long-awaited monograph on cerebellar anatomy. An earlier section, *Myxinioids through Birds*, appeared in 1967. The human cerebellum is reserved for a third volume, yet to come, which will also deal with fibre connections, histology, and ultrastructure. In contrast with the first volume, and in spite of its title, the present work contains no histology. Reference to fibre connections and to the cerebellar nuclei is restricted to a very compressed review chapter which, in 20 pages, deals first with the connections of the eighth nerve and vestibular nuclei, and then with the structure of muscle spindles and tendon organs. This obviously intercalated chapter does not link up at all with the rest of the book, which is devoted entirely to descriptions of the layout of the lobules of the cerebellar cortex in about 40 mammalian species from platypus to the gorilla.

The older system of names—lingula, centralis, culmen, etc.—is rejected in favour of a numerical system in which 10 main lobes are designated with roman numerals. Within these the naming of individual folia proceeds in two stages using large and small letters. The naming of the lateral parts in the hemispheres depends on dissections to reveal continuities with the lobules of the vermis. Throughout there is repeated reference back to the conformations seen in the cerebella of foetuses or very young specimens. The result is a descriptive system that is unlikely to be superseded. Although references to function are almost totally lacking and the few that are given cannot unfortunately be traced through the index, the book remains indispensable, as anyone will realize who has opened the skull of a mammal to look at its cerebellum. Just try naming the lobules in any posterolateral view without looking at Larsell's labelled diagrams!

T. D. M. ROBERTS

METHADONE MAINTENANCE Edited by Stanley Einstein. (Pp. 249; \$12.50.) Marcel Dekker: New York. 1971.

The present volume reports the proceedings of the Second National Methadone Maintenance Conference held in New York in October 1969. The papers presented at the meeting have been appropriately revised to make good reading; the open discussions of the Conference, however, too often convey a wearisome transatlantic prolixity.

Methadone maintenance denotes a method of treatment which has been pioneered by Dr. Dole and Dr. Nyswander of New York in the long-range stabilization of diamorphine addicts. The underlying theory is a pharmacological one: it is claimed

that methadone blocks 'heroin hunger'. The maintenance regimen has produced a polarization of positive and negative professional attitudes. The conference reported in this volume records a considerable body of evidence in favour of methadone maintenance, although the editor correctly frowns upon 'homogenous and simplistic answers' to the problem of narcotic addiction.

A definitive statement about methadone maintenance is given by Dr. V. P. Dole. Others describe methadone programmes set up in New Orleans, St. Louis, Minneapolis, and elsewhere. Dr. W. R. Martin of Lexington, Kentucky, however, has the last word when he states that there remains an unmet need for rigorous evaluation of methadone maintenance.

This book will be of interest to all professional workers who are involved in the rehabilitation of narcotic addicts.

A. B. SCLARE

DIMINISHED PEOPLE. PROBLEMS AND CARE OF THE MENTALLY RETARDED Edited by Norman R. Bernstein. (Pp. 340; £6.50.) Little, Brown: Boston, Mass. Churchill: London. 1971.

This book by 15 authors distinguished in the field of mental deficiency is very different from most books written in the past about mental defectives. It is not concerned with describing rare syndromes and statistics, but instead presents a sensitive humane description of the plight of the defective, who carries his own stigma and the effects of stigma contamination.

The book is divided into two main parts. Part I is concerned with social issues. It describes the gaps in the educational system and the cultural influences on education; the importance of work for the retarded, and the fixed expectations and often low aspirations and assumptions that we have for them; the variety of feelings that parents have, resulting in a variety of parental strategies towards the several agencies concerned with the child's care; the legal position of the defective and the need to clarify this; and the role of specialists in this 'Cinderella' of psychiatry.

Part II is concerned with clinical issues, and again the positive attributes of the retarded are stressed. The chapter on personality development includes genetic and dynamic formulations, and attempts to follow ego development from childhood through latency and adolescence to old age, with the dice too often loaded against the retarded. There is a valuable practical guide in the psychiatric assessment of defective, brain-damaged, and psychotic children, calling for a team approach, and much helpful information is given regarding verbal and non-

verbal psychotherapy with these children, as well as interesting and thorough case histories, and a review of the literature.

A realistic appraisal and critique of behaviour-shaping by operant conditioning follows, and there is a general survey of useful drugs, as well as pertinent questions about the relative value of drugs for retardates. The bibliography throughout is invaluable to workers in this field.

The concluding chapter talks of the parents and the 'chasm of nonassistance' they so often encounter. But optimism is shown in the value for parents of group discussions with 'concerned leaders', both as a therapeutic tool and to activate and support parents in achieving the goal of near-normal conditions for their children. Remembering that 'any child is capable of better performance' and that the retarded child has a 'profile of abilities' guards us against a too narrow approach and attitude.

This very good book leaves the reader with a feeling of hope as well as humility.

HETI DAVIES

NOTICES

EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR STEREOTACTIC AND FUNCTIONAL NEUROSURGERY First meeting, 18, September 1972, Edinburgh. Main topics: stereotactic surgery on pituitary, including hypothalamus; surgery of pain, including spinal stereotactic procedures; treatment of epilepsy; complications of special interest following stereotactic procedures; movement disorders. Details from Dr. E. Hitchcock, Local Secretary, Department of Surgical Neurology, Royal Infirmary, Lauriston Place, Edinburgh 3, Scotland, U.K.

MICROSURGERY: NEUROSURGERY AND RELATED OTOLARYNGOLOGICAL TOPICS, SURGERY OF PERIPHERAL NERVES AND VESSELS Symposium, Vienna, 15-21 October 1972. Details from Secretariat, Symposium for Microsurgery, c/o Vienna Academy of Medicine, Alserstrasse 4, A-1090 Vienna, Austria.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY Annual Meeting, 4-7 September 1972, Oxford. The Sixteenth Annual Award of the Academy will be presented for the best presentation by a doctor training in neurological surgery on original clinical or laboratory research pertaining to the nervous system. The Academy offers travel expenses to the meeting, and an honorarium to the successful candidate. Details from Dr. Byron C. Pevehouse, Secretary-Treasurer, 2001 Union Street, San Francisco, California 94123, U.S.A.