subcortical connections influencing areas of cortex remote from the lesion.

In general the translation has been made into idiomatic English. However, the literature of dysphasia is infamous for the complexity of its language and the use of unconventional terms. *The Working Brain* is no exception.

IVAN T. DRAPER

SOME PROBLEMS IN MUSCLE DISEASES Proceedings of the 2nd Conference on Myopathies at Jánske Lázně. (Pp. 260; illustrated; price not stated.) Czechoslovak Medical Press: Prague. 1973.

This small paper-back volume embodies the proceedings of a symposium on muscle diseases held at the spa town of Jánske Lázně in Czechoslovakia in March 1971. It includes some 37 contributions from the 60 participants, many of whom came from Eastern Europe, but three (Emery, Hughes, and Walton) attended from Great Britain and there were also invited papers from Western Germany, Italy, France, and Switzerland. While most of the papers are brief synopses of work previously published elsewhere, and some indeed are summaries only, a number of original papers from Czechoslovakian workers are included. Many of these deal specifically with the physical and psychological management of patients with the various forms of neuromuscular disease which are treated in the Children's Medical Institute at Jánske Lázně. All of the papers are printed in English. The book has been printed inexpensively and the reproduction of certain of the microphotographs and electron micrographs has suffered as a result, though on the whole the illustrations are reasonably clear. Essentially the book is a short and highly selective review of some important problems in neuromuscular disease but its brevity and selectivity mean that it will have a limited appeal to readers in the U.S.A. and Western Europe to whom most of the information which it contains is readily available *in extenso* elsewhere.

J. N. WALTON

EPILEPTIC SEIZURES. CLINICAL AND ELECTROGRAPHIC FEATURES, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT By H. Gastaut and R. Broughton. (Pp. 286; illustrated; \$25.50.) Thomas: Springfield, Ill. 1972.

This book is essentially a personal document, reflecting the authors' interests and its accent is upon the individual types of epileptic seizure which have been extensively studied by the 'Marseille School'.

Initially, there is brief reference to the classification of seizures and the use of electro-clinical investigatory techniques. The main chapter, comprising over a

third of the text, consists of a comprehensive review of seizure patterns, their EEG accompaniments, and their pathophysiological basis. They are classified according to their supposed generalized, local, or unilateral origin and there is reference to secondary generalization. Seizures are also considered according to their distribution in time, their mode of precipitation, the combinations in which they may occur and, finally, according to their patterns in relation to age and aetiology. *A propos* diagnosis, the authors are at pains to distinguish the condition of recurrent seizures (chronic epilepsy) from attacks considered not to reflect excessive neuronal discharge such as those due to anoxia or metabolic disorders. Finally, treatment is dealt with briefly in all its aspects, including genetic counselling and prognostication. This is undoubtedly a book of great interest, especially to enthusiasts, and contains a wealth of useful information.

MAURICE PARSONAGE

HEAD INJURY FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE PRESENT WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PENETRATING HEAD WOUNDS

By E. S. Gurdjian. (Pp. 139; \$11.75.) Thomas: Springfield. 1973.

Dr. Gurdjian's life-long concern with head injury should have fitted him well for a scholarly book on the historical aspects of this subject. Unfortunately in this short book, an expanded version of a lecture, he attempts too much and the result is disappointing. The historical information is more of a catalogue than an account, and such is Dr. Gurdjian's zeal as a teacher that half the book deals with current research and practice as seen from Detroit. There are 176 references, but many of these too are to recent literature on head injury. Nonetheless, there are many interesting facts and illustrations here which could be useful for someone looking for a historical introduction to an article or lecture on some aspect of head injury.

BRYAN JENNETT

TEMPERATURE REGULATION IN MAMMALS AND OTHER VERTEBRATES By John Bligh. (Pp. 436; illustrated \$30.20.) North-Holland: London. 1973.

There have been many advances in recent years in the understanding of the ways in which body temperature is controlled, and this readable book gives a valuable survey of the subject. The sensing of body temperature is essential for its control, and the author describes the sensitivity of the hypothalamus to heat and cold, and of the skin and nasal and buccal surfaces. He also argues that at any rate in some species there are temperature sensors which have