other equally puzzling neurological riddles: the high incidence of intracranial arteriovenous malformations in patients with subarachnoid haemorrhage in South East Asia; the high frequency of nasal encephaloceles in Asia; the high incidence of meningioma among intracranial tumours in Africans.

Neurologists will find this a stimulating book and will realize only too clearly how much we all have to learn about disease in countries other than our own. It is not, of course, without its applications here and spinal tuberculosis among immigrant populations in this country may take the neurologist by surprise. Most neurologists will enjoy reading this book, although all will want to read particular chapters and all will want to have it available for reference.

C. J. EARL

GALEN ON PSYCHOLOGY, PSYCHOPATHOLOGY, AND FUNCTION AND DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM
By R. E. Siegel. (Pp. 310; £17·10.) Karger: Basel. 1973.

In these days of rapid medical advancement, it is salutary to take a backward glance at the contribution made by medical pioneers of the past. The author in this volume evaluates Galen's views and work on neurophysiology and psychology. The present work represents the last volume in a trilogy dealing with Galen's system of physiology and medicine.

Although Galen lacked our contemporary expertise in the basic sciences, he was a careful anatomist and experimenter. The early chapters of this book discuss his views on neurophysiology. To some extent he was indebted to Hippocrates, Aristotle, and Plato but he developed more sophisticated concepts of homeostasis, aetiology, and teleology.

In his psychology, Galen was anxious to avoid a dichotomy between body and soul. He linked psychological types with physical constitution. While his approach to psychological treatment was rather didactic by present-day standards, it is clear that his management of emotional disturbances was a humanistic activity based on philosophic principles.

This is a fine academic work which will prove essential reading to anyone interested in the history of medicine or psychiatry. It is rather expensive even when allowance is made for current price rises. The reviewer, incidentally, noted 12 typographical errors.

A. BALFOUR SCLARE

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM. STUDIES ON METABOLIC REGULATION AND FUNCTION Edited by E. Genazzani and H. Herken. (Pp. 249; illustrated; US \$30·50.) Springer: Berlin. 1974.

Publication of the proceedings of large general symposia are rarely worthwhile, for such books tend

to become disjointed collections of essays lacking in a connecting theme. This is true in the present book based on a symposium held nearly two years ago in Italy on metabolic regulation and function in the central nervous system. The editors have divided the 29 articles into three broad sections: one on metabolic pathways, a second on membrane function and neurotransmission, and a third on hormones and pharmacology. This has resulted in some inconsistencies, thus neuronal activity, axonal transport, and nerve terminal function appear under metabolism, whereas biochemistry of histamine is allocated to neurotransmission. No section is comprehensively covered. Metabolism of choline phosphoglyceride is interestingly discussed but not the functionally important polyphosphoinositides or the glycolipids and sterols. Intermediary metabolism, protein synthesis, development, drug dependence, behaviour, and memory are much too briefly dealt with. Despite these criticisms, the book has value in providing accounts of progress in research (particularly Italian) not readily available. Certain contributions stand out—for example, that on axonal transport of amine granules and nerve terminal function or another on application of micromethods to neurochemistry. Also of special interest is the review by McIlwain on adenosine in neurohumoral and regulatory roles in the brain.

Since emphasis is on the mechanisms of neurotransmission and drug interaction, this book is more suitable for the research-orientated neuropharmacologist than for the general reader.

A. N. DAVISON

ADVANCES IN NEUROSURGERY VOL. 1. BRAIN EDEMA—PATHOPHYSIOLOGY AND THERAPY. CEREBELLO-PONTINE ANGLE TUMOURS—DIAGNOSIS AND SURGERY Edited by K. Schürmann, M. Brock, H. J. Reulen, and D. Voth. (Pp. 385; illustrated; DM 60.) Springer: Berlin. 1973.

This soft-backed volume records the *Proceedings of the German Neurosurgical Society* at the 24th annual meeting held in Mainz in May 1973. The meeting coincided with the Otfried Foerster Centenary and many guest speakers participated, accounting for a third of the 65 papers presented. Attention was largely focused on the two topics in the title of the book. The first part, on brain oedema, comprises three sections dealing with pathophysiology, therapy, and intracranial pressure and blood-flow relationships. These 27 papers provide an up-to-date view of current trends in clinical and laboratory research in this important field. The section on the diagnosis and surgical treatment of cerebellopontine angle tumours is less successful because several of the better-known contributors have provided only short and un-

informative abstracts for publication. This is inevitably a disappointment and one feels the editors would have been wiser to have omitted these summaries altogether. The book finishes on a higher note with the publication in full of the Otfried Foerster Memorial Lecture given by Professor Krayenbühl on spinal intramedullary tumours. The publication in English of these papers in such a commendably short time is a worthwhile addition to the neurosurgical literature and an eloquent testimony to the healthy state of academic neurosurgery in West Germany.

J. DOUGLAS MILLER

RECENT ADVANCES IN THE BIOLOGY OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

By T. A. Ban. (Pp. 119; \$12.50.) Thomas: Springfield. 1973.

This is a concise and easily read monograph on the biological aspects of schizophrenia. It falls into two sections. The first concerns those findings in the fields of psychophysiology, neurophysiology, biochemistry, and genetics which give good evidence for the idea that schizophrenia is a biological disorder. The author mentions a very wide range of work and this is indeed a comprehensive review of current thought on this subject. It is perhaps regrettable that no comment is made on the relative merits of these pieces of work and the inexperienced reader could have the impression that positive abnormality in these fields is a more usual finding than is normally held to be the case.

The second section concerns physical methods of treatment of schizophrenia and the greatest emphasis is naturally placed on the use of phenothiazine drugs. Work on this topic is discussed at much more length than is given to any subject in the first section and ample space is devoted to the recent studies of the author and his colleagues. Valuable as this may be, it seems inadvisable to give so much space to the author's own work at the expense of the classic findings mentioned so briefly in the first section. This brevity is to some extent offset by the very detailed lists of references provided, although numbers of these would not readily be traced by the European reader. The book is, however, an interesting and understandable if rather expensive introduction to a topic which may easily appear beset with confusion and contradiction to those new to psychiatry.

EVE C. JOHNSTONE

ANXIETY FACTORS IN COMPREHENSIVE PATIENT CARE

Edited by W. Linford Rees. (Pp. 106; illustrated; \$10.40.) Excerpta Medica: Amsterdam. 1973.

Anxiety and patient care was the subject for an International Symposium held in Amsterdam in

March 1973 and eight papers presented are published in book form. Professor W. Linford Rees opens with a survey of psychological and physiological aspects of anxiety together with a very brief account of principles of treatment. Professor J. J. Groen presents an interesting and lucid account of the theoretical contribution of neurophysiological research to psychosomatic medicine illustrated by reference to the treatment of disorders of the respiratory, gastrointestinal, and vascular systems. Both he and Dr Meltzer, who adopted a similar approach when dealing specifically with anxiety factors in cardiovascular disease, stress the need for a combined pharmacological and psychological approach during treatment. Three papers concerning anxiety in sexual disorders, general practice, and gynaecology follow and, apart from the last one which is below the standard of the rest, are sound but uninspiring. The complexities of pain and anxiety are admirably summarized by Dr Bruyn who suggests ways in which neurophysiological mechanisms underlying these experiences may interact. Finally, Professor Max Hamilton gives a carefully balanced view of current opinions about the relation between depression and anxiety.

Although of limited scope this is an interesting book but the price is rather high for its size.

MICHAEL R. BONICA

NOTICES

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF PAIN (IASP) IASP has been founded to (1) stimulate progress in study of pain mechanisms and management of chronic pain by bringing together basic scientists, physicians, and other health professionals; (2) promote education, training, and communication in this field, including sponsorship of *Pain*; (3) sponsor triennial congress; (4) recommend standards related to use of drugs, appliances, and other procedures in treatment of pain. Details from Dr John J. Bonica, Chairman of Organizing Committee IASP, Department of Anesthesiology RN-10, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, Washington 98195, U.S.A.

SECOND INTERNATIONAL COURSE ON OTONEUROLOGY Paris, 7-10 May 1975. Details from Dr J. M. Sterkers, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Cochin, 27, rue du Faubourg St Jacques, 75674 Paris CEDEX 14, France.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CHILD NEUROLOGY Toronto, Canada, 6-10 October 1975. Details from: Miss B. Harrington, Executive Secretary (International Child Neurology Association), Division of Neurology, Hospital for Sick Children, 555 University Avenue, Toronto, M5G 1X8, Ontario, Canada.