from this drug with the high incidence of side-effects. It has little use in eye surgery because of increase in intraorbital pressure and there are also some doubts about its use in obstetrical and visceral surgery.

JOHN BARKER


Three psychiatrists have edited this compilation of 13 essays by themselves and eight Edinburgh colleagues from the fields of paediatrics, genetics, nursing, social work, education, hospital administration, and voluntary organization. Despite its strong local orientation the book is intended for a wide market of students and for workers in subnormality services. References are unusually plentiful for a brief text mostly at introductory level; the 58 after T. D. Hunter’s polemic on hospital management take up 3½ pages. J. K. Brown’s survey of the paediatrician’s role is a concentrated distillation of clinical experience, but other medical chapters are of uneven quality and in places extremely cursory. In the 14 pages on clinical syndromes, cerebral palsy, for example, is described in 16 lines only under the section-heading ‘rubella’ (and to find it anywhere in the index one must look under E—for ‘environmental causes’); only nine metabolic abnormalities are very briefly described. Provision of care rather than pathology is the major theme, however, and the non-medical contributions reflect vigorous endeavour to gain recognition and resources for the needs of the mentally retarded. Loose editing has allowed repetition and overlap to an extent unfortunate in a book advocating the multidisciplinary team approach, but the authors’ enthusiasm and the urgency of their case come across well.

P. G. CAMPBELL


This is a report of a symposium organized in 1972 in Paris on the morphology, cytochemistry, metabolism, and physiopathology of cholinergic synapses (almost entirely neuromuscular). The papers will be of interest to those actively working in that field but the book is not a systematic review, and the interpretations offered are those of the contributors.

J. A. SIMPSON

BOOKS RECEIVED


THE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF MIGRAINE Edited by W. E. Waters. (Pp. 81; illustrated; price not stated.) Boehringer Ingelheim: Bracknell, Berks. 1974.

NOTICES

WORLD FEDERATION OF NEUROLOGY In honour of the President, a MacDonald Critchley Lectureship has been established by the Institute of Neuroscience, St Barnabas Hospital, New York. A distinguished speaker in the field of neurosciences or humanities will be invited every second year, commencing June 1975.

ERRATUM

We much regret that a phrase was omitted in the editorial ‘SI units and problems of communication’ (Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry, 1975, 38, 4). The final sentence in the first paragraph should read ‘It is recommended that these should be expressed in terms of International Units. In the meantime blood pressure will continue to be expressed as mmHg and not as pascals’.