Book reviews

HEMISPHERE FUNCTION IN THE HUMAN BRAIN Edited by Stuart J. Dimond and J. Graham Beaumont. (Pp. 398; illustrated; £7.50.) Elek: London. 1974.

Most readers will be aware of the important findings of experimental and clinical workers on 'split-brain' syndromes and the implications for disconnection theories of aphasia and for concepts of cerebral hemisphere dominance. Much of the literature is in journals of experimental neurology and psychology. It is, therefore, valuable to have a collection of papers from most of the prominent workers in this field. Although a certain amount of overlap or disagreement is inevitable in a book of this type, the editors have made a splendid collection of the important topics with good references to original work and sufficient informed speculation to encourage others to explore the fascinating byways. The book is very well produced at a reasonable price. The reviewer found it compelling reading.

J. A. SIMPSON

TRANSACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN NEUROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, VOL. 99. Edited by S. A. Trufant. (Pp. 308; \$16.50.) 1975.

This annual volume, always welcome as advance information on the best of American neurology, on this occasion reports a joint meeting with the Association of British Neurologists. This year's presidential address by C. H. Millikan is on cerebral vasospasm associated with subarachnoid haemorrhage due to ruptured intracranial aneurysm. Surprisingly, it seems to have no effect on mortality, or on the frequency and severity of complications.

J. A. SIMPSON

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM 2nd ed. By W. B. Matthews and H. Miller. (Pp. 362; illustrated; £4.25. Blackwell: Oxford. 1975.

It is a pleasure to welcome the second edition of this deservedly successful neurological textbook. It is, as the authors state in their introduction, intended specifically for students and designed for reading rather than reference. In these aims it succeeds admirably, and the text retains much of the freshness and flavour of actual ward teaching. The chapter on neurological symptoms (headache, paraesthesiae, pain, dizziness, and so on) is a particularly valuable feature, and makes pleasurable reading for neurologists of all ages.

Considering the size and range of the book, therapeutic aspects receive admirable coverage, and

instructions for treatment are both sensible and clear. The few photographs of diagnostic radiographs which are included are well reproduced, and will give the student a good idea of what neuroradiological techniques can achieve.

Although this book is intended for students, its size should enable it to fit comfortably in the pocket of a resident's ward coat. The resident starting on his first neurological firm would be well-advised to take this with him, and to study it carefully during his appointment.

R. W. GILLIATT

BEHAVIORAL NEUROLOGY By J. H. Pincus and G. J. Tucker. (Pp. 205; illustrated; £2.40.) Oxford Medical Publications: London. 1975.

Although derived from a lecture course originally intended for medical students, this small and easily read book provides an admirable survey of the classical borderland between organic neurology and psychiatry. Much of this material will be quite familiar to experienced physicians in these specialties but there will be few who can learn nothing from it. Among others there are brief accounts of the pathology of violent behaviour, and the relationship between behaviour disorders and epilepsy. There is a lucid chapter on schizophrenia, and another on the biogenic amines.

The distinction between neurology and psychiatry, fostered to some extent by convenience, has done much to hamper constructive thought about common problems. *Behavioral Neurology*, free from idiosyncratic terminology, or a narrowly partisan philosophy can be recommended to trainee neurologists and psychiatrists, psychologists, and those therapists whose work is concerned with higher neural function. A knowledgeable appreciation of complementary interests should stimulate a more confident approach to common problems.

I. T. DRAPER

NEURAL INTEGRATION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL MECHANISMS AND BEHAVIOUR By G. J. Mogenson and F. R. Calaresu. (Pp. 442; illustrated; £17.50.) University of Toronto Press: Toronto. 1975.

This book is a collection of articles which have been prepared to commemorate the work of the late J. A. F. Stevenson. The central theme, in keeping with his interests, concerns central mechanisms in homeostasis, and the editors have been fortunate in obtaining the collaboration of a distinguished group