Other sections include papers on: immunogenic sites on MBP; the role of lipids in immunisation; the use of liposomes in treatment of experimental allergic encephalitis; the presence of soluble factors including oligoclonal Ig in the CSF and serum in multiple sclerosis and experimental allergic encephalitis.

A major problem with multiple sclerosis research is that clinical multiple sclerosis may represent a final common pathway of pathogenic reactions which have been initiated by a variety of genetic and environmental causes. As EC Alvord Jr points out, the early stages of multiple sclerosis are essentially unknown. Consequently much work on experimental allergic encephalitis concentrates on understanding and preventing relapses. However, multiple sclerosis may really be a progressive disease, with relapses merely the tip of the iceberg. Hopefully the new immunological techniques such as cell cloning and molecular genetic analysis will define the role of immunity in this disorder. This should facilitate analysis of the other genetic and environmental factors which are at present elusive.

WA TAYLOR

**Clinical Neuropsychology—2nd Edition.** Edited by: Kenneth M Heilman and Edward Valenstein. (Pp 540; £30·00.) Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1985.

This second book will not be compared directly with Kolb and Wishaw's text. The two are intended to serve quite different functions. While Kolb and Wishaw's book is intended as a text for basic as well as advanced teaching of neuropsychology, the one edited by Heilman and Valenstein is a basic source book, providing the clinician with detailed descriptions of the major neurobehavioural disorders.

There are 16 chapters. With the exception of the first (a general introduction to neuropsychology) and the last (recovery and treatment), each chapter deals with a specific syndrome or complex of syndromes. These are *Aphasia* (DF Benson), *Alexia* (RB Friedman and ML Albert), *Agraphia* (D Roeltgen), *Acalculia* (HS Levin and PA Spiers), *Body Schema Disturbances* (A Benton), *Apraxia* (KH Heilman and LJ Gonzales Rothi), Visuospatial, Visuospatial and Visuoconstructive Disorders (A Benton), *Agnosia* (RM Bauer and AB Rubens), *Neglect and Related Disorders* (KH Heilman, RT Watson and E Valenstein), *Callosal Syndrome* (JE Bogen), *the Frontal Lobes* (AR Damasio), *Emotional Disorders Associated with Neurological Diseases* (KH Heilman, D Bowers and E Valenstein), *Amnesic Disorders* (N Butters and P Moliotis), *Dementia* (RJ Joynt and I Shoulson).

The use of the syndrome concept is a clear reflection of the clinical bias of the book. Implicit in the concept is the treating of each syndrome as a neurobehavioural condition isolated from other syndromes. A multi-authored text such as this further encourages such an approach. Of great value would have been a chapter attempting to provide an integrated picture of the relationships between brain and behaviour. While a daunting task, the lack of such a chapter relegates the book into a mere collection of independent, if authorative essays.

The second edition is little changed from the first in terms of organisation and authors. The major change is the omission from the second edition of chapters on Childhood Learing Disability, and Hyperactivity Syndrome. The remaining chapters have, of course, been updated with increased emphasis on the clinicopathological correlations provided by the new generations of brain imaging techniques. Despite this, the price is high for what is essentially an occasional reference text, and may discourage individual purchasers, particularly those who already possess the first edition.

RICHARD BROWN

**Epileptic Syndromes in Infancy, Childhood and Adolescence.** ***(Current Problems in Epilepsy II.)*** Edited by J Roger, C Dravet, M Bureau, F E Dreyfuss and P Wolf. (Pp 350; £34·00.) London: John Libbey & Co Ltd, 1985.

This excellent book which describes the discreet syndromes of epilepsy from infancy to adolescence came from a meeting at the Centre Saint-Paul, Marseilles in 1983. It contains admirably short but comprehensive scientific accounts of the separable syndromes of epilepsy seen in the developing nervous system. The EEG illustrations are clear and appropriate and the discussion summaries are a very helpful summary of different points of view for example of the definition of the Lennox-Gasteaux syndrome. For many the international classification on epileptic seizures has been only a partial solution to our communication on this subject because of the wide differences in the significance of similar attacks as part of different syndromes. This book fully redresses the balance making the point time and again that a predicted statement on outcome can often be made at an early stage if attention is paid to this sort of syndrome definition. A huge amount of work has been done on pulling the literature together and all research workers in the fields of epilepsy and paediatric handicap and neurology I think would be both grateful for this book and find it an essential source of reference. A great deal of the credit for the work in the book goes to certain centres of epilepsy research particularly in France and other parts of Europe. In a short but emotional preface Henri Gastaut claims a significant advance in our understanding of epilepsy and I agree with him. This is certainly one of the most interesting and useful books for a long time.

BGR NEVILLE

**Core Text of Neuroanatomy.** 3rd ed. By Malcolm B Carpenter. (Pp 473; £18·00.) Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins, 1985.

This is an updated edition of a popular text-book of neuroanatomy, first published in 1978, and revised in 1982. It is intended for medical and basic science students, rather than clinicians and Professor Carpenter has succeeded admirably in fulfilling his aim "to explain the organisation of the central nervous system in a lucid, meaningful fashion". His extensive experience of teaching and research are evident throughout the text, which is readable, authoritative and up-to-date. In the eight years which have elapsed since the previous edition, chemical neuroanatomy has come of age, and a new range of neuroanatomical techniques have become available, and the important advances have been incorporated. The author is adept at explaining anatomy in functional terms; for example, the sections on functional organisation of the visual system, and on the basal ganglia are masterpieces of lucid exposition. Unfortunately for clinicians, this book does not cover clinical neuroanatomy extensively enough for it to compete with Brodal's classic, but that is not its brief. There can be no doubt that this text deservedly will remain a favourite on neuroscience courses.

NIGEL LEIGH

J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry: first published as 10.1136/jnnp.49.3.340 on 1 March 1986. Downloaded from http://jnnp.bmj.com/ on April 28, 2022 by guest. Protected by copyright.