

present data already published. There are, however, useful reviews; for example, there are helpful chapters by Wisniewski and colleagues, one on hypotheses of aetiology, and another on the nature of neurofibrillary tangles; by Constantinidis on Pick's dementia; and a section on neurotransmitter metabolism is generally comprehensive and authoritative.

Part II is divided likewise into sections, covering clinical aspects, diagnostic methods, epidemiology, therapeutic aspects and patient care. Inevitably the contents are rather overshadowed by the disappointing results of drug treatment. Several chapters usefully address the problems of definition; this, and the section on cholinergic drugs in memory, were in this reviewer's opinion, the most useful components of Part II.

Overall this is not a very satisfactory publication, although it is elegantly produced and its breadth of coverage provides an overview which would make it useful in a departmental library, although the price will prejudice most individuals and many libraries against deciding to purchase it, particularly when there are more up-to-date and succinct presentations of a similar range of information.

P NIGEL LEIGH

**Neuropsychological Rehabilitation after Brain Injury.** By George P Prigatano and Others. (Pp 183; \$24.50.) Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986.

This is an important contribution to the hitherto neglected area of neuro-rehabilitation. While there are still very few practitioners in neurorehabilitation in Britain, this is not true of the United States where this area of rehabilitation is a growth industry. Unfortunately, research into process and outcome has not matched the growth in service delivery, but Prigatano's book represents a very welcome exception to this trend. The book gives a conceptual basis to rehabilitation by describing the common sequelae of acute brain injury, and describing simple means of intervention. The book then describes in detail the rehabilitation programme at Presbyterian Hospital, Oklahoma City, which has been Prigatano's. The unusual feature of this programme has been the extent to which Prigatano and his colleagues have attempted to measure patient deficits and outcome, and to document the impact of intervention. Indeed a paper by them on this topic has already appeared in this journal. This book is required reading

for any practitioner involved in rehabilitation of the acutely brained injured. It is absolutely fundamental reading for all neurosurgeons, particularly those who still believe that recovery stops very early after injury, and does so at a very low level of functioning. Congratulations to Prigatano and his team.

DN BROOKS

**Secretory Tumors of the Pituitary Gland** (*Progress in Endocrine Research & Therapy Vol 1*). Editors: Peter McL Black, Nicholas T Zervas, E Chester Ridgway and Joseph B Martin. (Pp 416; \$80.00.) New York: Raven Press, 1984.

Amongst the plethora of recent text books on the pituitary gland, this volume is one of the best. There are five sections: those on prolactin, growth hormone and ACTH secreting tumours are comprehensive and well written and the fourth section on glycoprotein hormones is particularly valuable because of the new information which is reviewed concerning tumours secreting these hormones. Recent research into tumours which are apparently functionless is reviewed critically in relation to LH and FSH secretion. Although this appears to be a biochemical finding frequently present *in vitro* but without clinical correlation, it is clear that attention has now turned to the possibility that functionless tumours will acquire endocrine significance.

The fifth section in the book is devoted to pathological and surgical considerations and includes a useful review of the results of an international survey of pituitary tumours treated by transphenoidal hypophysectomy. Reference is made to the satisfactory results in terms of improved vision following the treatment of macroadenomas, though it is not yet clear at what price the advantage of transphenoidal surgery is bought in terms of late recurrence.

Finally the book contains chapters in three sections on the genetic regulation of hormone synthesis summarising recent advances derived from molecular biology. These advances already have clinical significance, for example in our understanding of the action of dopamine on prolactin secreting tumours.

This book can be recommended because it includes new information as well as excellent reviews of accepted clinical practice.

NF LAWTON

**Extra-Intracranial Vascular Anastomoses Microsurgery at the Edge of the Tentorium** (*Advances in Neurosurgery Vol 13*). Edited H Dietz, M Brock, M Klinger. (Pp 350; £39.50.) Berlin: Springer-Verlag, 1985.

This volume is a collection of 53 papers presented at the 35th annual meeting of the German Society of Neurosurgery in Hannover in June 1984. The first 170 pages are devoted to aspects of extra-intracranial vascular anastomoses. Whilst these papers are a tribute to neurosurgical industry and ingenuity, the recently published co-operative study has, for the moment, dampened enthusiasm for this procedure in the relief of occlusive cerebrovascular disease. This situation is likely to persist until it can be shown that there is a group of patients with diminished cerebrovascular reserve whose natural history can be improved with a bypass.

The 40 page section on microsurgery at the edge of the tentorium is of interest but is both superficial and marred by inadequate line diagrams of the anatomy. The final 130 pages are devoted to Professor Pia's lecture on primary and secondary hypothalamus and brain stem lesions together with miscellaneous papers, the best of which have already appeared in refereed journals. Like most conference proceedings, this book is not worthy of purchase.

J PICKARD

**Recent Developments in Parkinson's Disease** Edited by Stanley Fahn, C David Marsden, Peter Jenner and Paul Teychenne (Pp 397; \$82.50.) New York: Raven Press, 1985.

In October 1984, when most of us were facing the hardships of a British winter earning a humble neurological crust, the contributors to this well produced volume were enduring the doubtless equal (if somewhat different) adversities of a sponsored workshop in Bermuda. The proceedings contain a great deal of the latest scientific research of a very high order from the best laboratories and departments in the USA, Great Britain and Europe.

The main sections cover: anatomy, biochemistry and pathology, imaging of dopamine receptors, MPTP-induced Parkinsonism, pharmacology and long term treatment, use of bromocriptine, and the use of other dopamine agonists.

There is an enormous amount of up to date basic science encompassed between these covers. Elegantly illustrated PET scans using fluorodesoxyglucose show storage