bilitation scene in Denmark and in the United Kingdom, and his views are at odds with those reported in the book. Christensen and Danielson review the scene in Denmark, but restrict their attention largely to a recent Luria-driven approach, and only pay brief lipservice to the important work of Thomsen and others in Hornbaeck Hospital, a hospital supplying rehabilitation services for the past 25 years. The British scene is described by Wilson, and is disturbingly selective. Nowhere is there any mention of the important work on neurorehabilitation carried out under the aegis of the Armed Forces, and the important work of Eames and his colleagues in behavioural approaches appears to go without mention.

In conclusion, this book is good in parts. The second part is by far the most valuable, but overall it is difficult to see what unique contribution the book makes to the growing literature on neuropsychology and rehabilitation.

NEIL BROOKS

The Bramwells of Edinburgh. By Bryan Ashworth. (Pp 96; £13.00.) Edinburgh: The Royal College of Physicians, 1986.

The coat of arms of the Bramwell family includes the motto "Like Begets Like" and Bryan Ashworth worthily records the truth of that sentiment in this account of the Bramwell dynasty of doctors. Their forebear was the Reverend William Bramwell (1759–1818) a fanatical evangelist whose influence on General Booth is evidenced in his naming his son after him. Dr William Bramwell (1792–1854) in turn sent two sons into medicine. Dr John Byrom (1823–1882) had thirteen children among whom Byrom Bramwell (1847–1931) was educated at Cheltenham College and Edinburgh Medical School. He became House Surgeon to James Spence but refused a post with Laycock to return to rescue his father's general practice in North Shields. He moved via Newcastle in 1874 to the new Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh in 1879. He confined his work entirely to consulting practice. Kinnier Wilson, his one time House Physician dedicated his book to him. He was the leading physician in Scotland though he was not elected to a chair. He was author of many books and papers particularly in neurology and was President of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh (1910–1912) and in 1924 accepted a knighthood. Two of

his sons qualified in medicine. Edwin Bramwell (1873–1952) was appointed to the Moncrieff-Arnott Chair of Clinical Medicine and John Crichton Bramwell (1889–1976) became Professor of Cardiology in Manchester and Physician to the Manchester Royal Infirmary. Edwin's disappointing career at Cheltenham led at least one master to despair of him. He resolved nevertheless to take up medicine. (How sad that cognitive rather than genetic traits are now the basis of selection). After a modest undergraduate career, he embarked upon a European tour of self-education which launched him on the stunning orbit which culminated in the Presidency of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh in 1933. John Crichton went from Cheltenham to Trinity, Cambridge where he took a first before reading Medicine in Manchester where, apart from his Rockefeller Scholarship, he remained.

Bryan Ashworth illuminates his text with interesting sidelights on eminent personalities as they interact with the Bramwell saga and with some fascinating appendices. This is a good read for anyone wanting to see the evolution from Victorian to modern medical training and practice. Medical students might read it with profit.

DC TAYLOR

The Chromosomes and Their Disorders 4th ed. (*An Introduction for Clinicians.*) By GH Valentine. (Pp 223; £17.95.) London: William Heinemann, 1986.

This book is written by the type of clinician I would recommend to all parents who have had the misfortune of having a child with a chromosomal abnormality. In the absence of the clinician (he lives in Canada) I would recommend that we read his book. Parents would then get an explanation about a complex chromosomal re-arrangement in a way that they would understand and they would feel at the end of the consultation that, at least in part, "nature's imperfect design" might not altogether alienate them from the rest of society. The book is totally unfussy about science and the facts are accurate although unreferenced. Indeed the author makes no bones about saying that references would be out of place in this sort of book.

It is a book I would recommend to clinicians in a hurry to understand cytogenetics and to medical students if they had time to read books, to intelligent parents seeking an

understandable text (and there are a number of simple explanations worthy of being tucked away in the mind to be used at the next out-patients).

The author admits that he finds dysmorphology difficult and when he strays into that subject there are errors like Noonan syndrome being sometimes autosomal recessive and that there is no prenatal diagnosis for Meckel syndrome, but this is not the sort of book I would consult for those facts. I would highly recommend this fourth edition and wish Dr Valentine to write a fifth edition—even in retirement.

MICHAEL BARAITSER

Correction

Barnes *et al* Magnetic resonance imaging of experimental cerebral oedema (*J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 1986;49:1341–7.)

In figure 6 the ordinate should have been labelled $\Delta \% T_1$.