future promised by the work on artificial neural networks discussed in several excellent chapters serves to emphasise the continuing excitement in neuroscience.

This book will be of most interest to those engaged in research in acquired and developmental dyslexia. It is recommended to those requiring an up to date state-of-the-science collection of developments in the neural and molecular representation of higher cognition in the brain.

CHRIS CODE


Few textbooks provide a comprehensive account of speech and especially language disorders meeting the needs of speech pathologists, neurologists and psychiatrists. This volume was especially welcome for its chapters on aphasia, including a comprehensive account of the neuroanatomical models of the Boston (Norman Geschwind) and Moscow (A. Luria) schools. The associated disorders of apraxia, alexia and agraphia are clearly dealt with together with a description of language disorders associated with sub-cortical and non-dominant hemisphere lesions. The breakdown of language in non-focal disorders such as Alzheimer’s disease and Pick’s disease are described in addition to the acquired childhood aphasia. The text is clearly written, mercifully free from linguistic jargon and the references are comprehensive and up to date. The text is warmly recommended in this modestly priced paperback version.

D NEARY


The editors, working in multidisciplinary pain clinics, became aware that advances made in various specialities “were not being recognised or appreciated by all the parties involved in the care of the patient with pain”. Hence “a need existed to bring this cross-fertilization process to the medical and dental communities”. They, therefore, gathered a series of articles on the anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology of orofacial pain, psychological aspects of orofacial pain in the head and neck, migraine and related vascular headaches, cluster headaches, neuralgias, head and neck fibromyalgia and temporomandibular arthralgia, ocular pain, otalgia, paranasal sinus causes of headache and facial pain, neuropsychological aspects and head injury.

The result is a feeling which some patients describe of being sent from one department to another with no one physician being in charge. What seems to be lacking is a chapter in which the initial interview indicates which specialists may be able to help the individual patient. There is a considerable amount of repetition, for example of pain pathways in the head with reproduction of similar diagrams. There is little cross reference so that in the chapter on ocular pain, migraine and cluster headaches are described without referring to earlier chapters on the topics. In the otalgia chapter, temporo-mandibular joint syndrome is considered, but no mention is made to the chapter on temporo-mandibular arthralgia where the term temporo-mandibular joint syndrome is not recommended. Similarly trigeminal neuralgia appears in otalgia, although dealt with under “neuralgias”.

Most of the illustrations are good but a number—particularly those photographed inside the mouth, may have been instructive in colour, but in black and white are not adequate. The references do not contain the titles of the papers that have been quoted; only books receive their titles in full.

The book seems to have had a long gestation period: Saper’s writing on migraine still quotes the obsolete Ad Hoc Committee on Classification of Headache, 1963; a new classification by the International Headache Society, appeared in 1988 and this book was published in 1990. The editors’ objectives—laudable though they are—have only been partially realised.

JN BLAU


This splendid, very pocket-sized atlas shows normal CT anatomy in adults and in children. It includes pictures of the skull base, temporal bones and sella. A series of coronal and axial images with bone windows illustrate the problematic areas of basal pathologies which can be so difficult to discern. The illustrations are mostly of good quality, though occasionally the arrow label fails to land on a clearly visible target—usually because the resolution does not allow tiny structures (eg the optic canal and aqueduct) to be seen clearly. CT reconstructions of the temporal bone anatomy in sagittal section complete this very useful basic booklet which will enlighten all clinical trainees and not a few of their mentors.


This book reflects the increasing importance of anaesthetists in Accident Departments, Trauma Units and Intensive Care Units, especially as applied to patients with spinal injuries. The thirteen chapters form a useful statement of current practice, but they stray miles from the area stated by the title. Associated injuries, nursing care, non-traumatic spinal disease, moral and legal issues, are all highly relevant to the subject but are not germane to the topic implied by the title.

In fact this collection of essays forms a useful manual for all specialists handling spinal injury patients, though prognosis and outcome do not figure in the index.


If the contributions to previous volumes of this work were rather biased towards recondite subjects and to modern technology of little importance to the working clinical neurologist, this 10th volume is firmly based on major clinical problems. HIV and HTLV-I viruses, Duchenne dystrophy, dysphagia, headache, stroke, seizures and Alzheimer’s disease are amongst the topics covered in the ten chapters. A great deal of basic neuroscience data is invaluable for reference, but the clinical orientation shines through most sections.

Since most of us have access to computer bases of current literature, not a lot of readers will be impressed by 438 references in the chapter on autonomic neuropathies. The general layout is however satisfactory and the volume is warmly welcomed.