published by one of the author's mentors, Jean Talairach. The standard of production and illustration is uniformly high. This book will find a place in the library of all contemporary neurosurgeons who perform image directed tumour surgery and should also be acquired by general neurosurgeons who may themselves perform little or no stereotaxis but who wish to understand the value of stereotactic methods. It is a classic reference work.

DGT THOMAS

Brain Edema VIII—Proceedings of the 8th International Symposium Bern, June 17–20, 1990. Edited by J-J REULEN, A BAETHMANN, J FENSTERMACHER, A MARMAROU, M SPATZ (Pp 416; Price: DM250. Subscribers to "Acta Neurochirurgica" DM 225. 1990. Wien, Springer-Verlag. ISBN 3-211-82240-2.

This multiple author book is a compilation of papers presented at the Eighth International Symposium on Brain Edema held in June 17–20 1990 in Bern, Switzerland.

Within the Neurosciences, swelling and oedema of the brain continue to be major focal points of interest to basic scientists and clinicians. Not only because of its frequency and its association with different disease processes, but also because oedema is not a single entity and, therefore, is unlikely to be amenable to therapy from single agents. It is a common consequence of many acute and chronic forms of brain injury. Therapy, however, is dependent on full understanding of its etiology and the recognition of its different forms. The triannual meeting of the Brain Edema Group provides a forum for a free exchange of ideas about this condition in the scientific setting. This proceeding, therefore, not unexpectedly contains a wealth of information about the blood brain barrier and the development and spread of edema which will form some of the basis for hope for improved therapeutic intervention. Although the editors are to be complemented by the editing process and the rapidity with which the proceedings have been published, this book is not for the casual reader, rather for the specialist. A copy, however, should be available in the Central Libraries of all Regional and Neuroscience Units.

DI GRAHAM

Sensory-Motor Organizations and Development in Infancy and Early Childhood. Series D: Behavioural and Social Sciences—Vol 56. Edited by H BLOCH AND BI BERTENTHAL. (Pp 512; Price Dfl 240.00; US\$144.00; UK £89.00). 1990. Dordrecht, Kluwer Academic Publishers Group. ISBN 0792308131.

The study of child development has long been dominated by the figure of Jean Piaget, and it is his proposal for the existence of discrete developmental stages that has provided the framework for much of the research in this field over the last 40 years. According to Piaget, the first stage of child development involves sensory-motor processing, in which stimuli are coded solely in terms of their sensory properties and the actions that may be made to them. How

sensory data related to action, was not well specified.

"Sensory-motor organisations and development in infancy and early childhood" is a book of a Nato Workshop held in France in 1989. It contains 35 chapters detailing recent work on sensory-motor development. It attempts to specify the nature of the internal representations formed in infancy and early childhood, how the control of action develops, and how action is related to sensory information. There is a new emphasis on dynamic properties of systems, on how the environment constrains actions (as emphasised by the Gibsonian school of psychologists), on how both internal representations and actions are related to the development (the "coming on line") of different neural systems, and on the modelling of sensory-action relations in artificial neural-like networks. The field has moved a long way since Piaget's initial writing. This book presents the work of some of the leading lights behind these new developments.

The quality of the papers is quite mixed—both in content and quality. Some are straightforward empirical papers, some are reviews of the field. Some are written with admirable clarity, and express well the convergence of work from different disciplines for example, Butterworth, Johnson, von Hofsten. The book also contains a number of "discussion" chapters, in which the authors comment on the chapters by others. To my mind, these discussion chapters did not work well, lacking the kind of detached overview that would contribute usefully to the literature.

Much remains to be done. To name but one issue—authors tend not to specify the nature of the representations underlying different actions; there is little concern with the kind of co-ordinate systems involved, or how information is mapped between co-ordinate systems. These are issues that have been faced in work on computational vision, and may be incorporated into the modelling in this field.

This book provides a good view of the state of the art for researchers interested in early child development. It is most definitely a research book, and not to be dipped into lightly by those not already familiar with some of the topics. But for those who are, and want to know where research is currently headed, it provides a useful source.

GLYN W HUMPHREYS

The Neurology of Eye Movements. Edition 2. By R J LEIGH AND D S ZEE. (Pp 561; Price: £53.50). Beckenham, Quest-Meridien Ltd, 1991. ISBN 0-8036-5528-2.

This is the latest book in the Contemporary Neurology series, edited by Fred Plum from FA Davis & Co. Those of us who learned our eye movement disorders from Bing, Cogan and Walshe were grateful in 1983 for the first edition of this book, where a successful attempt was made to interpret the pathophysiology of the various disorders, an aspect of neurology not much understood nor investigated by the European Schools. The first seven chapters were and still are devoted to the neuroanatomy and neurophysiology of the oculomotor system followed by a comprehensive 179 pages addressing the individual clinical disorders, with the details of differential diagnosis and interpretation. The field is

fully covered, the text is accurate and thorough, providing not only an up to date assessment of what is now understood in ocular movements, but introducing the reader to much of the recent research in this limited but expanding field.

New material in this edition includes the gaze-holding network and its underlying substrate, the role of the otolith-ocular reflexes and the identification of a pathway for smooth pursuit. The authors also discuss the use of eye movements as a research tool in psychiatry and pharmacology.

A very useful appendix takes the clinician through a scheme for bedside examination, followed by a resumé of the common clinical methods of eye movement assessment.

This book makes a significant contribution to the Neurological literature and was generously introduced in its first edition by David Cogan. This second edition should prove equally popular.

JB FOSTER

Transient Global Amnesia and Related Disorders. Edited by H J MARKOWITSCH. (Pp 223; Price: Fr 88.— DM 98.—). Berne, Hogrefe & Huber Publishers, 1990. ISBN 3-456-81887-4.

The pathogenesis of the syndrome of abrupt but temporary cessation of remembering has teased neurologists for decades even before Fisher and Adams gave it a convenient name in 1958. Perhaps solely because Transient Global Amnesia (TGA) happens to middle-aged or elderly patients, the most popular idea is that it is a form of transient ischaemic attack (TIA), with epilepsy as a second favourite. Others have suggested that it is a form of migraine (the irritable brain syndrome), perhaps surprisingly in view of the age of onset. Hans Markowitsch has assembled a medley of reviews on and around this syndrome, some of which stray some distance from the subject. Sadly, despite the interest in this syndrome, this book is profoundly disappointing.

There are in this slim volume sections covering transient memory disturbance of nearly every cause including intracranial mass lesions (causing amnesia through epilepsy or even as a 'random association') and drugs such as benzodiazepines. The neuropsychological aspects are covered with discouraging opacity, not helped by the Harvard reference style. The latter on occasions entails inches of text being taken up by references, making the text difficult to follow. Many of the articles repeat and or contradict each other in the review of the same literature. Many are pre-scientific in their uncritical acceptance of poorly controlled clinical studies. For example to Fredericks "... it is clear that TGA is due to TIA. ..." because "... since ... we saw our first TGA patient, we have always had that impression ...". His review of the evidence that has "... only strengthened (this impression) ..." takes little account of the inconsistencies in the literature which have lead many others away from sharing this unshakeable confidence. Most of the contributors to this volume lack clarity of thought or language. In particular there is a need for clear definitions and diagnostic criteria.

It was a pleasure to find one chapter that was well written and helpful. This is the review by Louis Caplan, early in the book. Wise clinicians will only need to read this chapter to obtain a thorough but clear review of the subject. Clinical scientists will find little of value. That is especially so if they believe that clinicians now should be as critically scientific in their thought and writing as molecular biologists are said to be.

CMC ALLEN

Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome: A Clinical Approach. A Mosby Year Book. By G ADDONIZIO and VL SUSMAN. (Pp 167; Price £23.50). London, Wolfe Publishing Ltd, 1991. ISBN 0-8151-0055-8

There is undoubtedly a place for an authoritative review of this curious syndrome and the authors, who have already published a review of 115 cases, provide a well written account which will be of value to Psychiatrists and Neurologists. There are chapters dealing with the history, clinical features and pathophysiology, so that although the whole book can be read in a few hours, it may also be useful as a source for clinicians seeking guidance on the differential diagnosis or treatment of their patients.

It is, of course, not only neuroleptic drugs, (whatever that term means), which produce the condition but also, Metoclopramide, Lithium and even withdrawal of Dopa therapy. The identification of less typical cases is helpfully dealt with, and in a very useful chapter on treatment, the authors have assessed published accounts of different therapies, including ECT, and rational guidance is given. The condition is probably more widespread than we appreciate and those who have susceptible patients in their care may be stimulated by this book to study their cases and methods of treatment. There is a great deal that is not well understood and the syndrome may be a useful model for acute disturbance of Dopamine function in the nervous system.

MICHAEL H JOHNSON

Comprehensive Atlas of Lumbar Spine Surgery. By HARUO TSUJI. (Pp 327; Price £89.00). London, Wolfe Publishing, 1991. ISBN 0-8151-8937-0.

Acute back pain, or chronic backache, is the price the human race has to pay for adopting an erect posture. Twenty-six million working days in the U.K. are lost due to back pain. It is the most common cause of early retirement and costs the country more than £1,000,000 p.a.

Only a fraction of those suffering from back pain need surgery. However, the incidence of failed back syndrome is high and often due to the wrong diagnosis, inadequate patient selection, inadequate procedures, inadequate technique, and lack of commitment on the part of the surgeon. For these reasons, patients are often pushed around between various specialists.

This comprehensive Atlas of Lumbar Spine Surgery is written by a Japanese Orthopaedic Surgeon as a culmination of lecture

notes he made for his residents. The main strength of the book is graphical presentation of pathophysiology in degenerative lumbar disc disease and its comprehensive surgical treatment by the author after thirty years experience. This book is in fact one man's understanding of the problem and his method of dealing with it, irrespective of the consensus of views on the subject. The book is fortunately translated by an American Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery. Therefore, the philosophy of the author must have been well represented, although the hallmark of American English is quite evident.

The contents are divided into four parts: in Part 1 the general principles of low back surgery are outlined with the author's own drawings. I found it very useful for my own understanding. It would have been advantageous if the pathophysiological changes had been further illustrated with plain x-ray, myelography or MRI scan, to determine the indications and methods of surgery. In Part 2 the surgical instruments and various methods of bone grafting are depicted. Although neurosurgeons will find it less attractive I would have found it extremely useful had I been an orthopaedic surgeon. In Part 3, various methods of posterior lumbar surgery are well illustrated with diagrams and will be extremely useful to both neurosurgeons and orthopaedic surgeons. In Part 4, anterior lumbar disc surgery may be equally useful to orthopaedic surgeons, although hardly any neurosurgeon would undertake such a procedure.

Although I do not agree with the indications for some of the surgical approaches, I appreciate that a neurosurgeon's views may be equally unattractive to an orthopaedic surgeon. This does not diminish the importance of the book. It is a must in any orthopaedic departmental library. Neurosurgeons would do well to read this book where they will pick up many useful hints, and above all, they will learn how an orthopaedic surgeon understands the problem of disc surgery. As an Atlas it is very attractive, the drawings are quite clear and understandable. In these days of multiple author publications, it is refreshing to read one man's comprehensive views on such an important subject.

RP SENGUPTA

Manual of Aphasia Therapy. By NANCY HELM-ESTABROOKS AND MARTIN ALBERT. (Pp 279; Price \$24.00). 1991. Austin USA, Pro-Ed. ISBN 0-89079-404-9.

Community Psychiatry 1st edition. By D H BENNETT and H L FREEMAN. (Pp 704 Illustrated; Price: £49.50.) 1991 Edinburgh, Churchill Livingstone. ISBN 0-443-03308-0.

The International Classification of Sleep Disorders. Diagnostic and Coding Manual. (Pp 396; Price \$49.95 (P/bk). Prices 20% higher outside the US and Canada.) Rochester, USA. American Sleep Disorders Assoc. 1990. ISBN 0 935868 48 8.

Modular Deficits in Alzheimer-Type Dementia. Edited by M F SCHWARTZ. (Pp 346; Price £40.50.) London, The MIT Press. 1990. ISBN 0 262 19298 5.

Neural Monitoring. The Prevention of Intraoperative Injury. Edited by S K SALZMAN. (Pp 322; Price £67.30.) New Jersey, Humana Press (UK Distributors—John Wiley & Sons Ltd). 1990. ISBN 0 89603 189 6.

Neuroanatomy: An Atlas of Structures, Sections and Systems. 3rd Edition. By Duane E Haines (Pp 252; Price: £19.00.) 1991. London: Williams & Wilkins Ltd. ISBN 068303815X.

Purines: Basic and Clinical Aspects. By T W STONE AND H A SIMMONDS. (Pp 257; Price Dfl 185.00, US\$ 125.00, UK£ 64.00). 1991. Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers Group. ISBN 0792389255.

Left Brain, Right Brain. 3rd Edition. By S P SPRINGER AND G DEUTSCH. (Pp 394; Price £12.95.) New York, W H Freeman & Co Ltd, UK Distribution. Marston Book Services Ltd, Oxford. 1989. ISBN 9 7167 2000 0.

This is an interesting survey of the history, development and clinical problems of hemisphere asymmetry in man and animals. It is written by non-medical scientists and provides a number of provocative conceptual dilemmas for the interested reader.

SHORT NOTICES

Cognitive Changes in Epilepsy: A Ten-Year Follow-Up: Helsinki 1991. By Hely Kalska. (Pp 85; price not indicated.)

Copies can be obtained from Academic Bookstore, PO Box 101 28, SF-00101 Helsinki, Finland. Published by The Finnish Society of Sciences and Letters. ISBN 951 653 219 5.

Handbook of Psychiatric Drug Therapy. 2nd Edition. A Little, Brown Handbook. By G W Arana and S E Hyman. (Pp 198; Price £14.95.) Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone 1991. ISBN 0 316 04938 7.