

with useful summaries (though unillustrated) of examination of individual muscles, and of the various entrapment syndromes, and each chapter has two or three references for advised further reading.

"*Entrapment Neuropathies*" is a much more detailed book, extending well beyond its title, beautifully produced and written for those who wish to delve much deeper into the subject. Profusely illustrated, and with good clear diagrams of the anatomy, the very readable text includes excellent summaries of systemic diseases capable of mimicking entrapments. Particularly valuable are the pages differentiating the carpal tunnel syndrome from cervical spondylotic disease, and co-existing *with* spondylosis—the "double crush" syndrome which hasn't achieved too widespread recognition in this country. Amongst the excellent illustrations of physical signs they emphasise many important little details, of great value at the bedside, such as that cervical spondylosis rarely produces sensory splitting of the 4th digit. Photographs taken at operation are not as clear, and one wonders if their value justifies the space they take. The authors clearly prefer epicondylectomy to transposition in ulnar nerve lesions at the elbow but they, indeed both books, lay surprisingly little importance on pre-existing cubitus valgus in these cases. It is surprising to read that carpal tunnel syndrome is common in golfers, without any mention of the much more common "golfers' elbow." Some neurologists might also be confused to find ulnar nerve compression at the wrist in occupational trauma referred to as the Ramsay Hunt syndrome, but on the other hand cheer-leaders' and surfers' neuropathy, and video-game palsy, are new syndromes to most of us. One sympathises with the helplessness they feel in trying to treat successfully a compensatable occupational neuropathy; and in chronic cases, particularly in low morale occupations, they recommend giving up and concentrating on helping to get financial settlement. The section dealing with dystonias, other than writer's cramp is very interesting; these are specific to certain occupations. As many of these are among musicians they advise that during examination the appropriate instrument be available for demonstration, adding that it is also, usually, a delightful "change of pace to hear music in the office." Extensive references, and an excellent index, complete a very fine book, which is highly recommended.

EDWIN R BICKERSTAFF

**Radiology of the Eye and Orbit.** (Modern Neuroradiology Vol 4). Edited by T H NEWTON AND L T BILANIUK. (Pp 320; Price \$138.00.) New York, Raven Press. 1990. ISBN 0-88167-662-4.

This latest addition to the series of "Modern Neuroradiology" maintains the high standard of the preceding volumes. It presents a comprehensive lucid text which is well referenced and easily accessed through a good index.

The book can be divided into three main sections. The longest of these, dealing with magnetic resonance imaging constitutes well over half of the book. About a third is devoted to computed tomography and one sixth to ultrasound examination. In each section technology is discussed followed by anatomy and ocular and orbital pathology. All the sections are beautifully illustrated with a wealth of well chosen images of the highest quality produced on modern equipment.

The chapters on computed tomography as acknowledged by the editors were previously published in Vol. 3. This is considered appropriate in order to bring together in a single volume all the diagnostic modalities which should be of interest to ophthalmologists, plastic surgeons and general radiologists as well as to neuroscientists and in particular neuroradiologists to whom the previous volumes were more relevant. The republished chapters remain state of the art.

The book is strongly recommended to all clinicians and radiologists with an interest in orbital pathology but it will be particularly valuable in neuroimaging departments.

B KENDALL

**Spinal Tumors in Children and Adolescents.** International Review of Child Neurology Series. Edited by IGNACIO PASCUAL-CASTROVIEJO. (Pp 296; Price \$130.00.) 1990. New York, Raven Press. ISBN 0-88167-576-8.

This book is written by a Paediatric Neurologist under the auspices of the International Child Neurology Association, whose aim is to "improve the quality of care that child Neurologists provide children and to promote scientific exchange around the world . . ." The book is addressed "first and foremost to Child Neurologists and Neurosurgeons". The book is a compendium of the many and usually incredibly rare pathologies that can affect the spinal cord in childhood. Most of the chapters are written by the author, but four chapters, on pathology, neuroradiology, surgery and "non-surgery" (ie radiation and chemotherapy) were mainly by North American authors. Fred Epstein's chapter on surgery is refreshing; his first hand experience comes over in the didactic manner we have come to expect from him. Epstein would give the recurrent or malignant astrocytomas radiotherapy, but otherwise radiotherapy is given the thumbs down for spinal cord gliomas. The Radiotherapists on the other hand, advocate radiotherapy routinely after glioma surgery and chemotherapy for "salvage" therapy. I wonder if they would give their own children chemotherapy for "salvage". I wouldn't.

Apart from Epstein's chapter, this is not a book for Neurosurgeons, who anyway will have read about Epstein's views and techniques elsewhere. What we have, is a compendium of rarities, written for the most part, it seems, without the sureness of touch of "hands on" experience. I wonder when paediatric Neurologists will stop equating

professional skill with an encyclopaedic knowledge of rarities? I want a paediatric Neurologist to be interested in, and kind to, children, to be able to talk to parents and to show commonsense. Yet in this book, there is no chapter on the clinical symptoms or signs of spinal tumours; there is nothing about caring for children or supporting their parents; there is nothing about pain relief, nor rehabilitation and no balanced assessment or guidance as to the relative advantages and disadvantages of surgery and radiotherapy for spinal cord gliomas. A chapter on how to support bereaved parents would also be helpful.

This is a book for those paediatric Neurologists who want to impress by trotting out 13 different types of soft tissue sarcomas. For those who aren't impressed by this approach, give it a miss.

CBT ADAMS

**Schizophrenia Genesis, The Origins of Madness.** By I I GOTTESMAN. (Pp 297 Illustrated; Price: Board £17.95; Paper £10.95). Oxford, W H Freeman & Co Ltd, 1990. ISBN Board 0 7167 2145 7, Paper 0 7167 2147 3.

In the past, authorities working on this side of the Atlantic have found literature coming from the New World on Schizophrenia to be somewhat woolly, non-scientific and diagnostically over-inclusive. This criticism should not apply to Irving Gottesman's *Schizophrenia Genesis, The Origins of Madness*.

The author himself comes from an unusual background, he is described in the American Medical Directory as a retired General Practitioner. We are told in his book that he is both a Professor of Paediatrics and also of Psychology and an elected Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. From this wide range of experience he sets out to separate fact from fiction. The book will appeal to a variety of readers. The history of the illness, its diagnosis, epidemiology, demography, inheritance and environmental stresses would be of general interest. The anguished voices describing personal accounts of the symptoms would probably appeal more to non-professional readers, perhaps patients and their families. It also holds much of interest for all members of the caring professions. To a Psychiatrist, his description of genetic and environmental research is comprehensive and more recent neurobiological investigations fascinating. His work would be useful for reference when attempting to counsel relatives and perhaps couples with a relevant family history contemplating marriage.

The book ends on a note of optimism, whilst still admitting that formidable problems remain. It strikes a note of encouragement towards resolving what may hopefully prove to be a preventable as well as a treatable illness.

JOYCE L DUNLOP