

and outcome of surgery. Therefore the National Institute of Health set up a Consensus Conference on Surgery for Epilepsy. The majority of contributors are from the USA or Canada. However, most of the activity and development in this field has taken place there in recent years, especially the use of assessment techniques such as MRI which are expensive and technologically demanding. The papers represent up-to-date views, bearing in mind that the planning began in 1989 and the majority of the papers were written in 1990.

The chapters cover all the possible topics comprehensively, the first seven are devoted to the natural history of epilepsy. The next thirteen discuss various aspects of preoperative assessment. They are all written by experts who nevertheless give broad impartial accounts of the usefulness of the techniques and compare the proper place and usefulness of various structural and functional brain imaging techniques, both between themselves and with neurophysiological and neuropsychological techniques.

There remain six chapters devoted to the description of the use of various surgical procedures including callosotomy and three devoted to the outcome of surgery and methods of assessing outcome.

Since the first Palm Desert Symposium in 1987 there has been a considerable increase in the interest in the surgical treatment of epilepsy and a corresponding increase in the number of publications. This book is a very concise well-argued account of the present position and a suitable introduction. Unfortunately it is relatively expensive at \$200.

CE POLKEY

Parkinson's Disease: From Basic Research to Treatment (Advances in Neurology, Vol. 60). Edited by H NARABAYASHI, T NAGATSU, N YANAGISAWA, and Y MIZUNO. (Pp 773; Price: \$187.50). 1992. New York, Raven Press. ISBN 0-88167-967-4.

This volume is a synopsis of the presentations at the 10th International Symposium on Parkinson's disease held in Japan in 1991 hence the author list has a distinctly oriental flavour. It includes around 400 contributors to 126 chapters and consequently suffers from the repetition inherent in such works. Nevertheless, it presents a comprehensive survey of advances in Parkinson's disease research in recent years.

Most sections contain one or more reviews by leading authorities in the field followed by a selection of related papers. The latter at times fall short of an otherwise high standard. However, Wichmann and DeLong's contribution on the pathophysiology of parkinsonism is particularly valuable in view of the implications regarding excitatory amino acid antagonist therapy and subthalamic nucleotomy. Current hypotheses concerning neurotoxins are well covered, along with their relation to monoamine oxidase, iron, superoxide radicals, and mitochondria. The recent *volte face* concerning the genetic component to Parkinson's disease is well reviewed by Duvoisin.

Not surprisingly for a meeting in Japan, the relationship between dystonia and parkinsonism is debated at length, especially dopa-responsive dystonia or Segawa syn-

drome. The work performed by the UK Parkinson's Disease Society Brain Bank continues to raise doubts regarding our clinical ability to diagnose idiopathic Parkinson's disease, with profound implications for all aspects of research. The highlights of the drug therapy section are chapters on MAO and COMT inhibition, along with the benefits of broad beans, the latest fad in Parkinson's disease treatment. The most promising area of research concerns transplantation techniques which are well reviewed, if a little out of date. The final chapter reviews work with cell cultures transfected by viruses containing the tyrosine hydroxylase gene. Such cells release levodopa both *in vitro* and in animal models of parkinsonism. Extrapolated to man, homologous skin fibroblasts could be cultured then transfected with tyrosine hydroxylase before autologous striatal transplantation, thereby obviating the present problems of using heterologous mesencephalon from aborted foetuses.

This is an authoritative and well indexed source of reference. It will prove to be a valuable tool for all those engaged in Parkinson's disease research and should find its way onto the shelves of most university libraries.

CE CLARKE

SHORT NOTICES

Naturally Occurring Benzodiazepines: Structure, Distribution and Function (Ellis Horwood Series in Pharmaceutical Technology) Edited by I IZQUIERDO AND J MEDINA (Pp 134; Price: £60.00). 1993. London, Ellis Horwood. Distrib. by Simon & Schuster International Group, Hemel Hempstead. ISBN 0-13-015488-1.

Drug Safety: A Shared Responsibility Edited by International Drug Surveillance Dept (Pp 126; Price: £9.95) 1991. Edinburgh, Churchill Livingstone ISBN 0443-04655-7.

The Evolution of Psychotherapy: The Second Conference. Edited by JK ZEIG. (Pp 334; Price: \$89.00). 1992. New York, Raven Press ISBN 0-87630-677-6.

Motor Development in Early and Later Childhood: Longitudinal Approaches. Edited by AF KALVERBOER, B HOPKINS AND R GEUEZE. (Pp 385; Price: £55.00 H/b). 1993. Cambridge University Press. ISBN 0-521-40101-1.

Romanian Journal of Neurology & Psychiatry. Tome 30, 1992. No. 2 (April-June). Pp 153; ISSN 0035-3981; No. 3 (July-Sept). Pp 234; ISSN 0035-

3981. Those neurologists who have links with Eastern Europe will be interested in the high standard of clinical studies published in this journal.

Dynamic Biological Networks: The Stomatogastric Nervous System. Edited by RONALD M HARRIS-WARWICK, E MARDER, AI SELVERSTON AND M MOULINS. (Pp 328; Illustrated; Price: £58.50.) 1993. London, The MIT Press. ISBN 9-780262-082143.

Post-Operative Complications in Intracranial Neurosurgery. Edited by KD POST, E FRIEDMAN AND P MCCORMICK. (Pp 241, Illustrated; Price: DM 128.-). 1993. Stuttgart, Georg Thieme Verlag. ISBN 3-13-782901-1.

Infecções Neurológicas en Pediatría. (Serie: MEDICINA, No. 19). (In Spanish). By RAFAEL PALENCIA LUACES (Pp 187; Illustrated; Price: Not Indicated). 1992. Secretariado de Publicaciones, University de Valladolid Caja Salamanca y Soria. ISBN 84-7762-286-8.

'Make Believes' in Psychiatry or The Perils of Progress. (Clinical & Experimental Psychiatry Monograph No. 7). By HERMAN M VAN PRAAG (Pp 304; Price: \$44.50). Published by Brunner/Mazel, Inc. UK Distrib: Raven Press, New York. 1992. ISBN 0-87630-680-6.

The Neurobiological Basis of Memory and Behavior. By H RAHMANN AND M RAHMANN (Pp 292; Illustrated; Price: DM148,00 H/bk). 1992. Heidelberg, Springer-Verlag. ISBN 3-540-97545-4.

Handbook of Affective Disorders/2nd Edition. Edited by EUGENE S PAYKEL (Pp 699; Illustrated; Price: £80.00 H/bk). 1992. Edinburgh, Churchill Livingstone. ISBN 0-443-04302-7.

This second edition of a successful comprehensive text has been largely re-written. It now includes historical aspects, neuropsychology and imaging, depression in medical settings, and maintenance treatment. Anxiety disorders are discussed in relation to depression, and mania receives less space. This is a valuable text.

NOTICE

European Federation of Neurological Societies. The EFNS meeting will be held in Berlin, 8-11 December 1993. Further information from P & R Kongresse GmbH, Neue Promenade 6, D-O-1020 Berlin, Germany.