So in conclusion, I believe this book is an excellent summary of our current knowledge about the acute stroke patient. It provides useful practical guidelines for diagnosis and management, it raises many questions about our current terminology and management of these patients and it points out how little we can often do to effect clinical recovery. On the other hand by emphasizing the basic anatomy, physiology and biochemistry of ischemia, the potential for a breakthrough in treatment becomes obvious, even after a stroke has occurred. I would highly recommend this book for all neurologists and neurosurgeons who manage acute stroke patients.

Joseph G. D'Alton
Ottawa, Ontario

NEUROHISTOCHEMISTRY: MODERN METHODS AND APPLICATIONS. By Pertti Panula, Heikki Paivarinta and Sepo Soinila. Published by Alan R. Liss Inc. New York. 710 pages. $210 Cdn. approx.

This book is a collection of papers presented at a symposium in Helsinki in 1984, and is dedicated to the memory of Olavi Eranko, who demonstrated, in the early 1950's that formalin treatment of the adrenal glands induced fluorescence of the contained catecholamines.

The book consists of a number of papers contributed by 67 scientists from all parts of the world. There are three sections; the first deals with methods in histochemistry of the nervous tissue; the second is concerned with differentiation and development of neurons particularly those of the autonomic nervous system, and the third deals with the organisation and function of neurotransmitter systems in the central and peripheral nervous system.

The papers will be primarily of interest to basic scientists; the papers are based on studies of the normal nervous system, and there is little reference to findings in natural or experimentally induced disease. It is nevertheless exciting reading for the clinician; knowledge of the neurotransmitter systems has increased exponentially in the last several years, and it is fascinating to read how much is known, and how sophisticated technology has become. Of particular interest to this reader were the papers on the peptide and amino acid neurotransmitter systems.

David M. Robertson
Kingston, Ontario

EPILEPSY IN CHILDREN. 1986. By Jean Aicardi. Published by Raven Press. 425 pages. $90 Cdn. approx.

Dr. Aicardi has written a complete, accurate, authoritative and scholarly work on epilepsy in children. Its value extends beyond the childhood epilepsies as many principles in this volume apply to epilepsy at all ages.

Following an introduction with definitions and the classification of epileptic seizures and the epilepsies, Dr. Aicardi describes completely and in detail the major types of epileptic seizures in childhood. As he has done in the past, the author is very careful to define the border zones between these overlapping entities and thus diminishes the unnecessary confusion which often surrounds entities such as the myoclonic epilepsies.

Dr. Aicardi recognises that instruction in epilepsy extends beyond a simple enumeration of the details of specific seizure disorders. Thus, the additional sections on epilepsy in relation to age, etiology, and precipitating factors and the concluding section on diagnosis, prognosis, and management provide additional perspectives of the subject. Although the author states in his acknowledgements that he only undertook to write this volume after considerable hesitation, it is evident that he gave the matter considerable thought while hesitating. Typical of his scholarly approach is Dr. Aicardi's most complete discussion of the management of infantile spasms in which he compares the efficacy and unwanted effects of the several methods of treatment based on a thorough literature review and his own extensive experience.

For North American readers, a particular value of his work is the inclusion of contributions from around the world.

As evident from the foregoing, "Epilepsy in Children" will be particularly valuable for the clinician who wants an authoritative up-to-date review of the many aspects of childhood epilepsy. Therefore, one can recommend it to paediatric and adult neurologists, internists, paediatricians, and neurosurgeons who have more than a casual interest in this discipline. I have never read a better book on clinical epilepsy.

W.T. Blume
London, Ontario

PARKINSON'S DISEASE. Series: Advances in Neurology. Volume 45, 1987. Edited by M.D. Yahr and K.J. Bergman. Published by Raven Press, New York. 616 pages. $131 Cdn. approx.

This book was long awaited since the 8th International Meeting on Parkinson's disease, held in New York City, June 9-12, 1985. Despite the delay, the information provided is timely as research on Parkinson's disease is leaping to new frontiers: preventive therapy with antioxidant therapy and nigral cells implants. Rationale and preliminary data on these topics is found in the first two sections of this book. The sections that follow are of direct interest to clinical neurologists: clinical variants of parkinsonism; autonomic dysfunction in Parkinson's disease with particular emphasis on breathing disturbances; genetics and environmental factors; dementia and depression; long term effects of Levodopa therapy; new dopamine agonists. For Canadian neurologists this book has a specific appeal: the summary by André Barbeau of his data and ideas about the interaction of genetic susceptibility and environmental factors in the pathophysiology of Parkinson's disease. This is *the* reference book on Parkinson's disease, year 1987.

Serge Gauthier
Montréal, Québec

INTENSIVE NEURODIAGNOSTIC MONITORING. Series: Advances in Neurology. Volume 46. 1986. Edited by Robert J. Gumnit. Published by Raven Press, New York. $74 Cdn. approx.

This volume contains 18 chapters and just over 300 pages written by North American and European experts in EEG and epilepsy. The focus is on the application of new EEG technology to epilepsy and to conditions which mimic seizures. Polysomnography and evoked responses are not included. The book will be of interest particularly to neurologists who work in epilepsy units.

A few chapters are excellent: the advantages and problems with EEG-combined video monitoring, the usefulness and limi-