now being recognised as important contributory features in motor handicaps. This is discussed by A. W. G. Ewing in respect of hearing, and Norah Gibbs deals with the psychological aspects. Eleanor Schonell discusses intelligence testing and educational problems and methods. H. M. Cohen reviews some British institutions for treatment and education, and Alexander Innes describes some of the special equipment that has been developed to facilitate living and education. A very small chapter by Winthrop Phelps deals with physical therapy which is of interest in view of the large scope claimed by physiotherapists. The scope is often that obtained through peculiarly coloured spectacles—and there is little agreement between the various groups about the methods used, though all agree that by frequent intensive individual care they do get results. The question is: how long does it last after the extra brain has been removed from the case? Speech therapy is well discussed, and it is refreshing to find how much emphasis is given to posture, gesture and manual activity as manifestations of speech. G. A. Pollock and W. J. W. Sharrard give an excellent and well balanced account of the orthopaedic surgical possibilities, both in general principles and detailed discussion of particular problems: the correction of deformity, the reduction of overactivity in groups of muscles, the treatment of pathological dislocation. They emphasise the importance of splintage and other methods of overcoming contractures rather than by neurectomy: they also prefer that splintage shall be rigid. Russell Meyers reviews the present position of neurosurgery. The great difficulty is that of localising anatomically the lesions responsible for different types of cerebral palsy, particularly in relation to the newer knowledge of the physiological processes of cerebration. He recalls that during sleep the hyperkinetic and myotonic phenomena of certain disorders are suppressed. We need to know more about the physiology of sleep. "Can we divine what the state of the organism is during sleep and soon after awakening, and, if so, can we duplicate that state in our patients by the use of drugs and/or surgery? These are intellectual challenges as exciting as ever confronted a frontiersman." One feels that in contributing to this and other aspects of neuropathology there is justification for the vast cost of special institutions for the care of such children.

This volume is a worthy addition to the publishers' series of "Recent Advances." Everyone having to deal with children suffering from cerebral palsy must have it.—Norman Capener.


The author in his preface calls this volume a cookery book, and it is a good description. It covers the whole field of surgery of the hand, giving an outline of the surgical treatment, and a detailed description of the physiotherapy, occupational therapy, methods of splinting, mobilising and exercising of the hand, and ending with a review of the resettlement programme available for a permanently disabled patient.

There is a valuable chapter explaining the theory of electro-diagnosis. This is unfortunately made difficult to read by an erroneous figure reference number. For the physiotherapist there are detailed instructions, clearly illustrated, for carrying out specific activities with the hand. For the occupational therapist there is a mass of classified suggestions for obtaining and encouraging activity by work and games.

Mr Donal Brooks has written a clear exposition of the principles governing reconstruction of the hand, based on the types of treatment available for each particular cause of disability. There is an excellent section contributed by Dr D. A. Brewerton on the hand in rheumatoid arthritis, in which he outlines the deformities and disabilities, attempts to explain them and lays down rational lines of treatment for each. The surprising point which comes out of the sections on surgery in this chapter is the repetition of the phrase "There are no detailed accounts of the results of such surgery."

The book is well produced and well illustrated, almost entirely with photographs; their quality is good, and the arrangement varied enough to aid the memory. This will be a valuable addition to the libraries of physiotherapy and rehabilitation departments, for it is a real dictionary of information on all aspects of the after-care of hand injuries. Any surgeon who is making the hand his special interest will find it of great value.—H. Graham Stack.