could profitably be up-dated and expanded to incorporate investigations other than the Anglo-American work which dominates the compilation.

An Analysis of Primary Medical Care—An International Study. By W. J. Stephen. (Pp. 401; illustrated; £12.50.) Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.

According to a recent WHO report, health 'depends more on the availability of good primary health care than on the advanced technical resources of modern hospitals'. With its long tradition of family medicine within a national health service the United Kingdom can claim some expertise in this sphere, so that it is appropriate for a British general practitioner to have undertaken an extensive survey of primary medical care in more than twenty countries. In his thorough analysis, which took twelve years to assemble, Dr Stephen includes personal views as well as impersonal facts and takes full account of the way in which health services reflect social, political and economic forces as well as medical needs. Psychiatry as such is not mentioned but the implications for the delivery of mental health services are apparent.

Functions of the Septo-Hippocampal System. Ciba Foundation Symposium 58 (new series). (Pp. 446; illustrated; $47.75.) Elsevier: Amsterdam. 1978.

The reasons for the current interest of neuroscientists in the septum and hippocampus emerge clearly from the proceedings of this Ciba symposium. Clinical readers should turn first to the last paper, which deals with the controversial issues relating to hippocampal pathology and the amnesic syndrome. Unfortunately, despite the preceding mass of anatomical, physiological, pharmacological and psychological information, it appears that the role, or roles, of the septohippocampal system have still to be established so that the effects of its dysfunction remain speculative. Nonetheless, the volume contains some meaty presentations, well-edited discussions, clear illustrations, numerous references and a helpful index. Perhaps it would be presumptuous to ask for more.

Neuropsychology. Handbook of Behavioral Neurobiology, Volume 2. Edited by S. Gazzainga. (Pp. 566; illustrated; $35.00.) Plenum Press: New York. 1979.

Though new terms may butter no parsnips, they can serve to justify new textbooks, at least in the United States. The example of 'behavioral neurobiology', defined in the foreword of this book as 'the study of the behaviors of animal organisms with reference to their neurological bases', has already led to the preparation of a ten-volume multi-author handbook, of which this is the second in the series. The dominant theme turns out to be cognition and its dysfunctions, elaborated so as to incorporate both clinical neuropsychiatric conditions and experimental data derived from studies of neuroscientific relevance. Much of the material therefore makes its mark as much because of its setting as of its content: for example, the juxtaposition of detailed chapters on cortical lobe function, the psychological disorders following brain damage and the psychometric assessment of cognitive deficit brings together information which is usually presented separately. Other sections on developmental neuropsychology, on language mechanisms, on brain mechanisms and behaviour, and on consciousness, are all clearly presented and packed with up-to-date references. Altogether a promising enterprise.

Advances in Neurology Volume 23. Huntington's Disease. Edited by T. Chase, N. Wexler and A. Barbeau. (Pp. 820; illustrated; $51.68.) Raven Press: New York. 1979.

The first volume of the Advances in Neurology series, published in 1973, was devoted to Huntington's chorea. Six years and twenty-two volumes later another hefty publication, containing the papers presented at a meeting held in 1978, bears witness to the explosive interest being taken by investigators from several disciplines in this rare but intriguing disorder. In seventy-one chapters more than 180 contributors cover every aspect of the disease, from its epidemiology, genetics, pathophysiology and basic neuroscience to the clinical phenomena and current therapeutic approaches. The inclusion of sections on cell biology, immunology, membrane physiology and neurochemistry indicates the direction of recent research and holds out hope for better treatment, as well as improved scientific understanding. An invaluable, but expensive, book for the reference shelves.

Nutrition and the Brain. Volume 3. Disorders of Eating and Nutrients in Treatment of Brain Diseases. Volume 4. Toxic Effects of Food Constituents on the Brain.

Both edited by R. J. Wurtman and J. J. Wurtman. Volume 5. Choline and Lecithin in Brain Disorders. Edited by A. Barbeau, J. H. Growdon and R. J. Wurtman. (Pp. 309, 222, 474; illustrated; $38.35, $29.90, $51.35.) Raven Press: New York. 1979.

These three volumes maintain the standard of their predecessors, which were favourably reviewed in