pain (rheumatoid disease, migraine) and there is a welcome emphasis on helping the child to cope with such discomfort. It has to be said that the chapter on the physical management of pain, with its emphasis on a pharmacopoeia largely unfamiliar to British paediatricians, is less help than other sections that deal with behavioural and cognitive intervention, providing as they do ideas for play therapists and psychological strategies for children to use. Those of us who have a sinking feeling that there should be a greater use of these strategies in both medical and surgical children's wards may be comforted that in one of the authors' own research projects, which asked what would help a child most when experiencing the 'worst pain ever', 99.2% of the children felt that, regardless of the kind of pain, the 'thing that helped most' was to have one or both parents present. Here, at least, we are on home ground.

J GOODALL

Pediatric Surgical Pathology. 2nd ed. By L Dehner. Pp 1121: £147 hardback. Williams and Wilkins, 1987. ISBN 0-683-02425-6.

It is rare that a reviewer of my degree of senility handles a book that can be recommended without reservation. This is one such.

Every clinical paediatric pathologist will be familiar with the first edition of *Pediatric Surgical Pathology*, which appeared over 10 years ago, and will have wondered about a new edition. This book is about twice the size of the first (3.5 kg) with over 1100 pages and firmly packed three column script, and an almost similar number of photographs. Louis Dehner has involved some others to help him in some sections of the book but most of the writing appears to be his alone. The term 'surgical pathology' is perhaps a too limiting term for this book's scope which covers virtually every organ and tissue. In the renal tract, renal biopsies and metabolic disease receive as much attention as cysts and gross anatomical 'surgical' deformities. The book covers all of the medical conditions for which the biopsy needle can be applied. It is difficult to find a section of this book that has less than 1000 references, the kidney itself has about 1400, and every section list

contains many in 1986, within a year of the date of publication.

This is a black and white book. There have been a number of recent colour atlases of children's pathology, which against this look like popular coffee table volumes and beside this volume look slick and superficial—which they are! The microphotographs are of good quality and there is a scattering of reproductions of clinical radiographs that will help the clinician. If I have one criticism, it is that the reproduction from gross specimens have that slight woolly texture that suggests that they have been obtained from colour slides.

This book costs £147 but its value related to the extent of its contents is cheap. Its scope is encyclopaedic, its style concise and non-philosophical—it is a very practical workbook. It is a high priority book for inclusion in any paediatric department's library, an essential book for departments of paediatric pathology, and a reference book for general departments of pathology.

J L EMERY