the seat of the defect in these retarded children is in the cochlea, along the auditory path or even due to late myelinisation of the nerve fibres.

The author, who is not a medical man, is to be congratulated on the manner in which he has discriminated between failures in natural speech development in childhood and the breakdown of the perfected processes in later life. Neurologists and educationists will appreciate the fundamental character of the work.

Repetitorium Anatomicum. By Prof. G. BROESIKE. (Second edition by Dr MAIR.) (Leipzig: Fischer's Medicinische Buchhandlung.) 1930. Pp. xi + 305. 71 figs. Price 22 marks.

This synopsis of human anatomy can be recommended to students who wish to gain familiarity with German anatomical literature as the definitions of terms and structures are particularly lucid and simple. The form of the book demands short crisp sentences in typical didactic form, and this is a great advantage to the English reader. The illustrations, particularly those of the central nervous system, are excellent and the price is within reach of the student. The book can be recommended instead of the more expensive anatomical atlases as an easy road to the acquirement of a German vocabulary.

Shorter Convalescence. By Lieut.-Colonel JAMES K. McCONNELL. (London: Wm. Heinemann (Medical Books), Ltd.) 1930. Pp. xi + 132. Price 5s. net.

This short hand-book by so enthusiastic an exponent of massage and medical gymnastics as Lieut.-Colonel McConnell is a valuable summary of the main exercises which can be used to guard against loss of tone during illness, and to acquire physical fitness rapidly during convalescence. The exercises designed for the circulatory, respiratory and digestive systems are invaluable not only on the score of their sound anatomical and physiological basis, but also on the extent to which they make use of the mentality of the patient as a guard against boredom. The language is concise and the presentation affords considerable help to the nurse, student and doctor.

Aquatic Mammals. Their Adaptation to Life in the Water. By A. BRAZIER HOWELL. (Illinois: Charles C. Thomas, Springfield; London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox.) 1930. Pp. xii + 338. 45 figs. Price 22s. 6d. net.

There are signs of a revival in morphology in the schools of anatomy wherein experimental embryology has monopolised the field for many years. This book, by the comparative anatomist at the Johns Hopkins University, is an attractive attempt to depict the main aquatic specialisations. The author claims the right to put forward hypotheses and emphasises how meagre are the anatomical facts in relation to this specialised group of mammals. The modes of aquatic propulsion in aquatic mammals are compared with those in aquatic vertebrates and a brief account is given of the external features in all forms including the fossil reptiles.

The specialised features of the various species are considered in terms of visual, acoustic and olfactory adaptations, and the respiratory apparatus of the mouth and nose is discussed in detail. The vexed problem of the telescoping of the cranial axis leads to interesting theories in relation to the morphology of the skull. It is held that the form of the skull has been determined far less by flotation and water pressure than by muscle migration in relation to minimal cephalic movement. The neck, the trunk and the tail lead to an expression of views in relation to "stream-lining" and