
By means of a rigorous clinico-psychological analysis the author attempts a synthesis of the approaches and theories represented by PIERRE JANET and by SIGMUND FREUD. Concentrating on the disorders of the vegetative functions, on anxiety, and on the production of mental images, the author arrives at the conclusion that the unconscious, far from being exclusively subjective, image-bearing, and historical, is also the seat of pathological automatisms ('processus névrotiques') whose interactions produce the various types of neuroses. A combination of psycho-, chemo-, and physiotherapy is suggested.

H. ADOLF, Philadelphia


Basic anatomie and pathophysiologic changes of spondylosis are introduced followed by radiological observations which are correlated with cervical myelopathy and radiculopathy and their attending neurological complications. Conservative and surgical management are outlined. The effects of spondylosis on vertebral artery insufficiency are presented.


This book, made up by 17 authors under the editorial leadership of H. BÜRGER-PRINZ and P. A. FISCHER, presents outstanding chapters about rarely analyzed psychologic conditions and psychosomatic problems which will help the obstetrician to make correct decisions in unusual cases. The neurologic chapters discuss many pathologic complications during and after pregnancy which are caused by diseases of the nervous system. Every obstetrician who is familiar with the German language may not hesitate to add this instructive volume to his library.

ROBERT TAUBER, Philadelphia, Pa.


This congress was not limited to the study of ballistocardiography; its scope was extended to the broader field of cardiovascular dynamics, where ballistocardiography continues to be at the center of interest. For the neurologist the papers by KNOOP et al. and by FOSSEN et al. dealing with the cardiovascular status in neurological disorders will be of particular significance.

E. A. S.

The main task of this monograph is the comparative description of the mesencephalic structures in primates based chiefly upon Cercopithecus, Macaca and Papio. The cytoarchitectonic is critically analyzed. We must be thankful particularly for the author's critical discussion of the reticular formation in view of the recent interest of physiologists in this region.

E. A. S.


241 cases with anatomically verified occipital lesions were studied. Among simple visual disorders, cerebral blindness, obscurations, elementary visual hallucinations, cerebral metamorphopsia, dysmetropsia, oblique and inverse vision, polyopia and visual allidesthesia are included. Three groups of agnostic disturbances are distinguished, visual object agnosia (prosopagnosia), visual alexia and coloragnosia, and spatial agnosia. Gerstmann's syndrome is related to lesions of the parieto-temporo-occipital region of the dominant hemisphere. Right-sided lesions may disturb the spatial-temporal background of man's world image; left-sided foci may disturb symbolic behavior.

E. S.


The author attempts to analyze the activity of the nervous system from the point of view of an electrical engineer. He describes simplified engineering models of the nervous system, admitting that 99 percent of the models may be wasteful mutations; but he asserts that the one percent that survives is more than sufficient justification for model making. The study of this text presupposes considerable mathematical training.

E. S.

News

The 3rd European Symposium on Epilepsy will take place at Hotel Marienlyst, Elsinore (near Copenhagen), Denmark, on the 21st-23rd June, 1970.

The medical topics will be: Etiological factors in the epilepsies. A. Genetic factors. B. Prenatal and perinatal factors.

The social and psychological topics will be: A. Life insurance and invalid pension. B. The interaction between the epileptic child and teenager and the milieu.

For further information and registration apply to: DIS Congress Service, 36 Skindergade, DK-1159 Copenhagen K, Denmark.