Book Reviews / Varia


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Buchbesprechungen - Book Reviews - Livres Nouveaux

This book explains in a simple, clear form, and with detailed documentation both the basic technique for obtaining records on the child and their characteristics from the first month through the fourteenth year. This knowledge is indispensable to anyone who wants to work with abnormal electroencephalograms. E. A. S.

Thirty-one experts have contributed to the 4th edition of this text that has been thoroughly revised and enlarged by chapters on the treatment of posttraumatic meningitis and of bladder and related complications developing in spinal paraplegia. The chapters on general pathological considerations of brain injury, intracranial hematoma, posttraumatic neuroses and roentgenography have been rewritten. Except for legal problems, the reader will find up to date information on all aspects of this field. E. A. S.

In this volume ultramicroscopic, microelectrode and chemical-pharmacological studies are reviewed. The ultramicroscopic studies are concerned with the glia cells; the microelectrode studies deal with the cerebral cortex, particularly convulsive discharges and the sense organs and centers of insects. A supplementary review discusses the functional organization of somatic areas of the cerebral cortex. The
biochemical chapters discuss the possible role of body fluid indoles in mental illness, some aspects of lipid metabolism in nervous tissue and the convulsive effects of hydrazides. All reviews are written by experts in their respective fields. 

E. A. S.


This 3rd series of neurophysiological papers is devoted to the following subjects: histology, biophysics and biochemistry of the nerve fibers; pain mechanisms; potentials of the oblongata induced by peripheral mechanisms; reaction of the cortex to vestibular stimulation; components of evoked somesthetic potentials; effects of anesthetics, of ionizing radiation and gas embolism upon the central nervous system and of serotonin upon peripheral structures; specificity of the synaptic connections in the central nervous system. While the majority of the authors are experts in their field, the author of the chapter on cortical effects of vestibular stimulation neglects the pertinent literature.

E. A. S.


This monograph deals with symptomatology of the transtentorial herniation of the brain stem in various types of brain tumors. In the treatment, the authors employ hypothermia and urea; they avoid any surgical measures which would alter the hydrodynamics of the intracranial contents. Adequate treatment of the primary lesion is paramount. In some cases the herniated tissue is elevated and in other cases 20—50 cc of saline is injected into the subarachnoid space while the dura is still open. Sometimes the tentorium is incised, especially where there is venous congestion.

H. T. Wycis, Philadelphia


This treatise deals with the roentgenology of bony changes in various forms of meningiomas. The non-specific changes (increased digital marking, displacement of the pineal and choroid plexus) are due to increased intracranial pressure and displacement by the tumor. The specific changes (localized hyperostosis, endostosis and intra-ventricular calcifications) are due to local effects of the tumor. Air encephalography and cerebral angiography of these tumors are also described. There is an excellent summary.

H. T. Wycis, Philadelphia


This volume represents the proceedings of a symposium held in Antwerp in 1959. While former presentations of this disease stressed the clinical and pathological aspects, in the present volume the subject has been placed on a much wider base. The progress of virology has made it possible to find in many cases an etiological factor. Part of the book has been devoted to biochemical aspects, immunologic studies, possible chemical alterations of the CNS and electrophoretic investigations of serum and CSF. A better understanding of the clinical findings with the help of
EEG recordings has been attempted. The papers are profusely illustrated and the findings are well coordinated. The editors and the publisher are to be congratulated to this volume.  

M. Spiegel-Adolf, Philadelphia


Basic as well as clinical aspects of the spinal cord are expertly covered in this monograph, except for surgical problems in children. The text will serve as an excel lent, well documented source of information to research workers and clinical neurologists and neurosurgeons. For a later edition inclusion of a discussion of abnormal reflexes such as the Babinski phenomenon is suggested.  


Based upon numerous personal studies and those of his co-workers, the author discusses first the morphologic peculiarities of the cerebral circulation, the blood supply of the various parts of the brain and the innervation of the cerebral vessels. The second part is devoted to the physiology and pharmacology of the cerebral circulation emphasizing the modern methods of investigation and the differences between man and the usual experimental animals. This text supplies an excellent up to date survey of this important field.  

E. S. 


In the last volume of this section, 27 contributors review the neurophysiological basis of the higher functions of the nervous system, the circulation, fluids and bar riers of the central nervous system and the neural metabolism. In a concluding chapter Gerard combines a "review of reviews" and his personal impressions.  

E. S. 


In this symposium held under the auspices of the Kaiser Foundation, the neuro physiology of emotions, endocrine stress responses in man, the possible role of cate chol amines, drugs influencing affect and behavior, sex differences in the physiolog ical bases of mating behavior, neuronal dynamics in neuroses and the psychophys-
iology of death are discussed. Research workers as well as clinicians will find valuable data and thoughts in this small volume.


This book represents the proceedings of a symposium attempting to improve the quality of drug evaluation. In the first part the problems of drug testing confronting all medical fields are discussed. In the subsequent section, problems in planning and conducting clinical trials are outlined. The final chapters consist of panel reports dealing with the special criteria for better evaluation in various fields such as epilepsy, vertigo, neuralgia, headaches, glaucoma, multiple sclerosis, diseases of mus-
II. Ajuriaguerra, J. de; Aubry, M.; Blanc, C; Cadilhac, J.; Gangloff, H.; Gloor, P.; Green, J. D.;
MacLean, P. D.; Liberson, W. T.; Le Magen, J.; Magnus, O.; Monnier, M.; Naquet, R.;
Passonant, P.; Pialoux, P.; Seanljiens, H. et Vigouroux, R.: Physiologie et pathologie du
rhinencéphale. 340 p., 108 fig. Prix fr. 43.-. The rhinencephalon neglected for a long time has
attracted the attention of
neurophysiologists and clinicians in recent years. The rich material collected in this period is
critically reviewed in this series of lectures held at the Salpêtrière. A de-tailed study of the
anatomy, development, blood supply and connections of the rhinencephalon is foliowed by
presentations of electrographic studies, analysis of the somatic, behavioral and vegetative effects
of stimulation and ablation in experi-mental animals and of the clinical semiology of this archaic
part of the brain. E. S.

This book offers more information on all aspects of ischemic and hypoxic hy-
poxia of the brain than any other publication. It encompasses physiologie studies
in animals, including the recording of single neuronal activity, the effect of transient
hypoxia in man, EEG studies during open heart surgery, in the Stokes-Adams syn-
drome, in cerebral ischemia resulting from carotid sinus stimulation and ocular com-
pression, the diagnostic value of the EEG changes induced by inhalation of nitrogen
or by carotid compression. Many disciphnes, neurophysiology, cunical neurology
and neurosurgery, anesthesiology, internal medicine, and pediatrics will benefit by
the data collected in this volume. E. S.

Garland, H. (Editor): Scientific Aspects of Neurology. Williams & Wilkins, Balti-
These postgraduate lectures held at the University of Leeds, England, deal with
a series of theoretical problems (origin of the pyramical tract, pathogenesis of mul
tiple sclerosis, calcarine cortex, sleep, asymmetry of cerebral hemisphere function,
pharmacology of the reticular system) as well as with clinical and pathological sub-
jects (muscle biopsy, lipidoses, EEG of epileptogenic foei, Broca and aphasis, facil-
itation and arrest of epileptic seizures, trigeminal neuralgia, writers cramp, radiol-
ogy of strokes, posterior communicating aneurysms, basilar insufficiency, leuco-
encephalitis, disseminated sclerosis, traumatic tetraplegia and tranquilizers). All
subjects are discussed by outstanding British neurologists. E. S.

Varia

The 10th Latino-American Congress of Neurosurgeons will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentine,
13th to 17th October, 1963. Secretary: Dr. Ricardo Morea, Callao 1685, Buenos Aires.
Argentina.