K. J. Zülch, O. D. Creutzfeldt and G. C. Galbraith Cerebral Localization
An Otfrid Foerster Symposium
Springer, Heidelberg 1975
X + 339 p., 95 fig., cloth; DM 88.- / US $ 36.10
It is the aim of this symposium to revise the classic 'Lokalisationslehre' in the light of new experimental, clinical and pathological findings. New test models are at hand to study the roles of the two hemispheres, of the pyramidal and parapyramidal systems and of the sensory systems in detail. Many of the attacked problems like that of plasticity in early brain damage, of sensory substitutes for one lost system, the question of bilateral localization of speech in the brain, the changes in behavior after frontal or anterior temporal lobectomy or of the treatment of intractable pain by cerebral stimulation or coagulation are of major clinical interest. Recent observations in patients with split brain and in primates with cerebral lobectomies or with intracarotid amytal injection, stimulation and ablation procedures within the limbic system give answers to many of these questions. Competent researchers discuss in this symposium problems of brain localization on the basis of previous and of their own experiments: the loss of skilled finger movements after pyramidotomy, the organization of the visually guided hand, the inability to learn new bilaterally coordinated movements after commissurotomy, the changes of social behavior after section of the prefrontal cortex, the localization of sex in the brain, the possibilities to substitute vision by tactile sensations, the localization of vocal behavior and the localization of speech in one or in both hemispheres are some of the topics.

This book is of high interest not only to all who are engaged in brain research but also to the same extent to neurosurgeons, neurologists, speech and behavior therapists. It gives representative and concise information about the present state of brain localization.

H. Kaeser, Basel
Aids to the Examination of the Peripheral Nervous System
Medical Research Council Memorandum No. 45 Her Majesty's Stationary Office, London 1976 VI+ 61 pp., £0.80 ISBN 0–11–450033–9
This booklet is very helpful for the examination of the peripheral nervous system. The photographs and schematic sketches are excellent and the legends are concise. The booklet replaces the War Memorandum No. 7, printed first in 1941, revised 1943 and reprinted many times. In this edition all the photographs have been replaced and many diagrams have been redrawn. The Revision Committee has achieved very good work and the new edition will be of great help for students, practitioners, surgeons and future neurologists.

H. E. Kaeser, Basel
M. Mumenthaler Neurologie
Mumenthaler's textbook of neurology is the most popular in the German language. It is excellent, informative and inexpensive. Due to the rapid succession of editions new data and methods are continuously included. In the 5th edition this is, for example, the case for the computerized axial tomography of the brain and myelosintigraphy. Topics that have become of increasing importance in the last few years such as malignant hyperthermia, cerebellar apoplexy, benign paroxysmal positional nystagmus, syndromes of the sympathetic system and others have been introduced into the 5th edition. As the number of students without Latin training is increasing an explanation of many medical terms has become necessary. A list of 118 multiple-choice questions for the preparation of the State Board in Germany and Switzerland has been added. The list of references has been revised and increased to more than 800 titles. Mumenthaler's textbook will continue to be a bestseller. It needs no recommendation, as it is in the hands of most students as well as doctors and is translated into other languages. As the book is inexpensive, there is no problem for the reader in obtaining always the newest edition.

H. E. Kaeser, Basel
British Medical Bulletin
Vol. 33, No. 1: Multiple Sclerosis British Council, London 1977 £ 5.00 (UK: £ 4.50)
This issue of the British Medical Bulletin gives a modern account of all aspects of multiple sclerosis. It includes modern neurophysiological methods for the detection of subclinical focal anomalies and epidemiological and pathological findings. The biochemical and immunological aspects and the discussion of the possibility of a virus disease, the histocompatibility antigens and the problems of treatment are discussed by competent authors. The fascicule brings together all the problems of this disease relevant for both the clinician and the workers in basic problems of demyelinat-ing diseases.

H. Kaeser, Basel
F.-W. Spaar

Die menschliche Herpes-simplex-Encephalitis und -Meningitis

This thesis (Habilitationsschrift) from Gottingen deals with all the aspects of herpes encephalitis and its many unsolved problems. After the introducing chapters the properties of the Herpes simplex virus, the histopathology and immunobiology of human herpes encephalitis and meningitis (HS-EM) are treated. In a convincing manner the author substantiates, by means of a synopsis, his demand that the diagnosis should speedily be ascertained by proving an encephalitis histologically, by the evidence of inclusion bodies (or virus particles in electron microscopy) and by isolating the virus. Brain biopsy - favourite localizations of HS-EM are the temporal lobe and the lobus limbicus and immunofluorescence technique will confirm the diagnosis with a certainty outdoing by far the results of CSF examination and serology, which scarcely are conclusive.

Discussing therapeutic procedure the author exposes how, disappointed with vaccination and serotherapy, the actual trend has now changed in favour of a specific antiviral (virustatic) treatment with antimetabolites (formerly iodide-desoxyuridine, now cyto-sine-arabinoside, adenine-arabinoside or triazol-carboxyriboside - preferably combined with corticosteroids); the usefulness of a treatment with interferons, especially via stimulation by interferogens, is doubtful.

A concise summary, a detailed reference list and a register finish up this publication where the author succeeded with excellence in consequently demonstrating basic sciences and clinics in their dependence and correlation.

A.R. Koch, Basel

K. von Poeck Neurologie
3., neu bearbeitete Auf. Springer, Berlin 1974
XVI + 422 pp., 91 fig., 22 tab.; DM 48.- / US $ 19.60

Among the increasing number of textbooks of neurology in German I prefer the one by Poeck, not only because it is up-to-date, concise and well written but also because it stresses the pathophysiological aspects. The clinical descriptions are short, free of unnecessary details, the figures are easily understood and the chapters are well balanced according to their clinical significance. In the third edition there is no major change but a number of new diagnostic procedures and therapies have been included. The brain nerve syndrome and the chapter on ophthalmoneurology have become more detailed, the chapter on decerebration has been completely revised and the chapter on neuropsychology has been enriched by descriptions of the functional asymmetries of the hemispheres and the plasticity of the CNS. In spite of these and other changes and additions the third edition has not increased in number of pages or in price. The third edition of Poeck's textbook can be highly recommended to students, doctors and future neurologists.

H.E. Kaeser, Basel

E. Zaimis Neuromuscular Junction
Handbook of Experimental Pharmacology
Heffter-Heubner, vol. 42
Springer, Berlin 1976

This is an almost exclusively British multi-author book dealing with pharmacological, anatomical and electrophysiological aspects of motor end-plates. Like in other multi-author books there are overlaps both in text and references. The clinicians and neurophysiologists may wonder why certain aspects like the effect of corticosteroids and ACTH, the experimental myasthenia with antibodies to end-plate proteins or the phenomenon of late posttetanic depression are not mentioned. On the other hand, most problems and modern developments of neuromuscular transmission are adequately covered including some clinical aspects of myasthenia gravis, of anestheisia and drugs. One chapter deals with 20 years experience in anestheisia with Decamenthonium. Except for the above-mentioned points this is a modern survey of the problems of the neuromuscular junction. It is not only of particular interest for pharmacologists and anesthesiologists, but also for clinicians and neurophysiologists.

H. Kaeser, Basel

N. Gordon
Paediatric Neurology for the Clinician
Spastics International Medical Publications
London 1976

This book is a further representative element of the successful series Clinics in Developmental Medicine. The author was able to cover in 265 pages the most
frequent conditions and diseases concerning the nervous system during its development. It is inevitable that such a vast field cannot be considered in all its
details, but many valuable references permit one to go deeper into individual chapters. Emphasis is made not only on the diagnosis of neurological diseases but
also on developmental neurology and on the care of the handicapped child.

This book can be warmly recommended for postgraduates in paediatrics and neurology.

F. Vassella
M. Oehmichen
Cerebrospinal Fluid Cytology

This small book contains the latest stage of CSF cytological diagnostics. It is presented in logical construction taking into account the cytological terminology
generally recognized today. Anyone who is not familiar with the methods will gladly appreciate a clear description of the commonly used techniques at the
beginning. The presentation of the fundamental principles is consistently based on the probably important role of CSF cells in humoral and cellular
immunology. The biologically interested reader will find here new viewpoints on general immunological pathology. The description and interpretation of the
cytological findings which are important for diagnosis, and particularly the list of tumour cell findings of interest to pathology, keep to generally recognized
facts.

The evaluation of CSF cytology is complete and abundantly illustrated to offer sufficient diagnostic help even to the beginner in this method. In the references
the latest results of CSF cytodiagnosis are considered.

One could wish the titles larger and more prominent and the diagnostical directions to be more stressed for the practice, but apart from these didactic
shortcomings and a few insufficient pictures, the book may be called a success. It may well be recommended to everybody who is interested in neurology or
internal medicine and has connexions to a clinical laboratory.

A. Bischoff, Bern

Book Reviews

J.U. Toglia
Electronystagmography

Initially, this book briefly informs its reader on the historical development of nystagmography. According to the investigation technique preferably utilized,
the author distinguishes between periods of mechanical, optical and electrical methods. The various experimental tests for inducing a nystagmus as well as the technical aspects of the electrical nystagmus recording are clearly arranged and
scheduled. But only few hints are given as to the physiological background of this investigation method. No doubt, the quantitative parameter for the evaluation of an electronystagmogram are mentioned, however, the latest researches aiming at a definite and
complete recording of all information gathered in electronystagmograms remain unconsidered.

An annexed atlas demonstrates samples of recordings obtained in electronystagmography of neurological, otological and ophthalmological cases. Clear
evaluation parameters are lacking though, and, therefore, these diagrams are somehow bewildering, in particular to beginners in this field.

The book should be taken as an effort to represent the technical aspects of electronystagmography in the shortest possible form. According to the latest find-
ings, however, utmost caution should be exercised as far as the utilization of this method for the diagnosis of clinical pictures associated with nystagmus is
concerned.

A. Grohmann, Essen

H.F.R. Prechtl und D.J. Beintema
Die neurologische Untersuchung des reifen Neugeborenen
Deutsche Ubersetzung bearbeitet und erweitert von H.F.R. Prechtl
2. Uberarbeitete Aufl.
Thieme, Stuttgart 1976
104 pp., 54 fig., 89 tab.; DM 13.80

The original publication The Neurological Examination of the Full-Term Newborn Infant appeared 1964 and is a ‘classic’ for all those dealing with the
neurological examination of the newborn infant. The second edition of the German translation is supplemented by an introduction which explains the
theoretical concepts leading to this method of examination. This new edition is highly recommended not only for all students and physicians who start to
examine newborn infants but also for all experienced neo-natologists who developed a personal and not standardized way of neurological examination of the
newborn.

F. Vassella, Bern