Book Reviews

B. Weber
Pediatric and Adolescent Endocrinology, Vol. 9
Diabetic Angiopathy in Children
Karger, Basel 1981
384 pp.; SFr. 198.- I DM 237.- I US$ 118.75
ISBN 3-8055-1574-X

This volume of a series on pediatric and adolescent endocrinology includes the proceedings of a conference held in 1979 in Berlin, where vascular complications of diabetic origin in children were discussed by distinguished scientists working in this field. It is a state of the art review of our present knowledge about early diabetogenic vascular and neural changes and their underlying pathogenetic mechanisms. Most of the papers deal with retinal microangiopathy or retinopathy and blood platelet aggregation, some others with peripheral and autonomic neuropathy. Otologists will not find a single paper, not even a short remark on hearing or vestibular disorders due to diabetic angiopathy. On the other side they will find a few very instructive chapters on platelet function aggregation as a risk factor in diabetes mellitus. This type of micro vascular disorder might be considered as one of the major pathogenetic factors in inner ear lesions, but still more facts have to be established in our own field before we are allowed to draw any definite conclusions.

C.R. Pfaltz, Basel
K.H. Vosteen et al. Ménière’s Disease
Pathogenesis, Diagnosis and Treatment Thieme, Stuttgart 1980

This monograph is based on the papers presented at an international symposium on pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment of Ménière’s disease. This excellent workshop, directed by K.H. Vosteen, was in a way a very critical state of the art review of our present knowledge about this particular cochleo-vestibular disorder. The question, whether Ménière’s disease is a pathophysiologic entity rather than a nosologic entity was discussed by several authors approaching the problem from different clinical, histopathological, biochemical and pathophysiological angles. The final answer to this problem, however, is still lacking although nowadays it seems to be an established fact that symptomatology is based on a progressive endolymphatic hydrops and that the episodic nature of the symptoms is most logically explained by rupture of the membrane walls, allowing large amounts of neurotoxic endolymph to contaminate the fluid environment of the sensory and neural tissues.

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With respect to therapy of Ménière’s disease there are still many open questions and it is yet very difficult to interpret both the success of medical treatment and surgery in terms of an etiologic, symptomatic or even placebo effect. Overall, this monograph provides solid up-to-date information about Ménière’s disease, presented by a very competent international panel. Illustrations are first rate and carefully chosen and comprehensive reference material is included.
in the various contributions for further study. This book should become a basic text for every medical library and deserves widespread use by otorhinolaryngologists, neurologists, pathologists and biochemists concerned with neurologic disorders in general and inner ear problems in particular.
C.R. Pfaltz, Basel

Preliminary Announcement

2nd International Symposium on Audiological Medicine
Verona, Italy, April 10-13, 1983

This Symposium, held under the auspices of the International Association of Physicians in Audiology, will be based on two themes: (1) Syndromes Connected with Hearing Disorders, and (2) Training in Audiological Medicine.

The Symposium will be held in the lakeside resort of Sirmione on Lake Garda (Italy).

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