

STOORNISSE VAN DIE LIGGAAMSKEMA

Het Lichaamsschema. Een klinisch-theoretische studie. By J. A. M. Frederiks. Pp. 240. f 11.25. Amsterdam: F. van Rossen Uitg. 1961.

Die skrywer gaan uit van die amputasie-fantoom en die funksies van die pariëtale kwab. Sy opvatting is gebaseer op 'n kritiese ontleding van die wêreldliteratuur en op 'n studie van 45 gevalle waargeneem in die neurologies Universiteits-kliniek van Amsterdam. Die probleme van lateralisasie en van die verskillende agnosieë en apraksië is duidelik behandel. Die boek kan aanbeveel word aan elkeen wat belang stel in die moeilike gebied van die liggaamsskema-stoornisse en die daarmee verbandhoudende neurofisiologiese en anatomiese probleme. F.H.K.

ADVANCES IN LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS

Progress in Medical Laboratory Technique, 2. Ed. by F. J. Baker, F.I.M.L.T., F.I.S.T., F.R.M.S. Pp. vii + 191. R3.70. London and Durban: Butterworths. 1963.

In the second of a commendable series the authors have succeeded in producing a volume that covers a wide variety of recent advances in routine hospital laboratory diagnosis.

Particular interest is attracted by the advances in chemical pathology, where methods such as the estimation of porphyrins in urine, barbiturates in blood, forminoglutamic acid and pregnanetriol are discussed, as well as the sections on extracorporeal circulation, hypothermia and acid-base control in cardio-pulmonary bypass. Equally well written are the chapters dealing with practical diagnostic laboratory methods on vitamin-B₁₂ deficiency, disorders of coagulation, serological problems associated with the ABO group system, mycobacterial infections, viruses, the histological demonstration of calcification in tissue sections, and macroscopic methods used for the study of pulmonary emphysema. Adequate and up-to-date references are provided with each section.

Although a book of this nature lacks the unity of a monograph, benefit from it will be gained by pathologists, laboratory technicians and the research worker, who may find many valuable hints in it. A.J.B.

PSIGIATRIE VIR MEDIESE STUDENTE

Psychology in Relation to Medicine. By R. M. Mowbray and T. F. Rodger. Pp. vii + 399. R3.60. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone Ltd. 1963.

Hierdie handboek is vir die mediese student geskryf, en is bedoel om as inleiding te dien tot die mediese sielkunde en psigiatrie. Die twee skrywers is beide dosente, die een in die kliniese sielkunde, die ander in die psigiatrie. Hulle maak van talryke kliniese voorbeelde gebruik.

Die basiese sielkundige verskynsels word op 'n duidelike wyse behandel: die leerproses, intelligensie, emosies, motivering van gedrag, persoonlikheidsontwikkeling en persoonlike wanaanpassings. Die belangrikheid van die normale geestesfunksies van die mens, en die rol wat hierdie prosesse speel in siektetoestande, word beklemtoon.

'n Waardevolle wetenskaplike werk wat die mediese student 'n beter begrip van alledaagse psigosomatiese verskynsels kan gee. A.B.v.d.M.

ATLAS OF ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY

An Atlas of Electrocardiography. By H. Roesler, M.D., F.A.C.P. and E. Fletcher, M.D., M.R.C.P. Pp. vii + 700. Illustrated. R14.70. Bristol: John Wright & Sons. 1963.

This book can be regarded as a 'collector's item'. It consists of a series of electrocardiographic tracings from some 400 patients seen by the authors. A reasonable amount of clinical and gross pathology is available as well as a great deal of speculation. Each electrocardiogram is analysed in the fullest detail without deviation from beginning to end, even when a series of almost identical tracings, e.g. cardiac infarc-

tion with right bundle-branch block, appear one after the other. Conditions are jumbled together, the print is small and the text interminable.

The work cannot be recommended to the undergraduate student, the practising doctor or the busy physician, not only because it is quite unreadable. From the beginning no attempt has been made to define terms, so that a 'marked degree of left axis deviation' includes anything from zero (Fig. 10) to at least -60 (Fig. 13). It is assumed that the reader has a background of electrocardiographic knowledge and terminology so that most potential readers are automatically excluded. Many of the interpretations are open to question and not generally accepted, e.g. the substitution of interatrial block for what is conventionally accepted as left atrial hypertrophy.

To the experienced electrocardiographer there is a great deal of interest and a mine of well-documented material. He will, however, have to dig deeply to find it, and the mass of verbiage will discourage all but the bravest hearted. The collector, however, will be able to find countless more examples of cardiac infarction, ventricular hypertrophy, etc., to delight his heart if he can afford the R14.70.

Mention should be made of the excellent quality and magnificent mounting of most of the tracings. At times there are far too many complexes tightly wedged in and reduced so that a lens is necessary. It is also, unfortunately, not always possible to arrange text and record on the same page, which adds to the reader's difficulties. V.S.

EMERGENCY SERVICE MANUAL

Emergency Service Manual. Ed. by J. H. Schneewind, M.D. Pp. viii + 246. Illustrated. \$4.50. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1963.

This pocket-sized book has been designed for use in hospitals that are not attached to universities and which have no interns or residents. It is therefore intended for the nursing staff associated with casualty departments.

The manual was designed originally for use at the University of Illinois Research and Education Hospitals and gives far more full information and advice than would normally be delivered in our country for our qualified nursing staff, however senior.

It is clear that the intention is to train the registered nursing staff up to a very high standard of efficiency, and this implies that nurses who are seconded to a casualty department should be kept in this position for a long time if full benefit is to be derived from their work.

Very rightly, the book restricts itself to such work as lies within the scope of the extended duties of a highly trained nurse. It should be read by hospital superintendents in charge of smaller hospitals, who may find therein much of value to pass on to their casualty staff. T.S.

ANATOMY OF THE EYE

Applied Anatomy of the Eye. By A. Kestenbaum, M.D. Pp. xii + 292. Illustrated. \$12.50. New York and London: Grune & Stratton. 1963.

This book is written primarily for the postgraduate student and for the practising ophthalmic surgeon. The author presents a great deal of detail in a concise form, and as such the book is suitable for a final 'brush-up' before the examination and for quick reference. It contains a number of diagrams which serve as an aid to memory. The illustrations are clear though sometimes rather sketchy. The description of the autonomic nerve supply differs somewhat from the accepted description. J.F.vanE.K.

ALDOSTERONE

The Sodium-retaining Action of Aldosterone. By J. Crabbé. Pp. 119. Belg.Fr.220. Brussels: Editions Arscia S.A. 1963.

This little monograph, running to 96 pages, was presented as

a thesis to the Faculty of Medicine, University of Louvain, in the Spring of 1962. Further information which has become available is included in an addendum.

The author commenced his studies in the laboratories of Dr. George Thorn at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital while he was holding a research fellowship. He continued later in the Cardiovascular Research Laboratory of Dr. A. Leaf before returning to Belgium.

This is a study of the effect of aldosterone on sodium transport, using two amphibian species, *Bufo marinus* and *Rana ridibunda*. He suggests that aldosterone stimulates the synthesis of, or activates a substrate involved in active sodium transport. This monograph, therefore, can only be of interest to workers with a very specialized interest in aldosterone action. L.E.

CONTROL OF HOSPITAL INFECTION

Infection in Hospitals. Epidemiology and control. A symposium organized by the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences established under the joint auspices of UNESCO & WHO. Ed. by R. E. O. Williams and R. A. Shooter. Pp. xviii + 355. Illustrated. R5.25. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1963.

This absorbing book would be well worth acquiring by those who have special interest in this field of research. It is a résumé of the present position, depicting the difficulties facing workers, and also clearly showing how far this vexing problem is from being solved. It deals comprehensively with such popular issues as the *Staphylococcus aureus*, cleanliness in theatres and wards, blankets, carriers and a central sterilizing department, among other things. J.G.B.

AUTOPSY PATHOLOGY

Autopsy Pathology. A guide for pathologists and clinicians. By P. R. Rezek, M.D. (Vienna) and M. Millard, M.B. (Dublin), M.R.C.P. (Ireland), D.C.P. (London). Pp. xiii + 845. Illustrated. \$24.50. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas. 1963.

Most of the older pathologists are well aware that morbid anatomy no longer occupies the position it did 30 years ago, or retains the interest it then had for some physicians and rather more surgeons. Today there are even established pathologists who start and end their examination and diagnosis of organs and tissues with the microscope, and who rarely attend, much less perform, a postmortem examination, largely because they are fully occupied in more pressing and less time-consuming duties.

In many laboratories, as a result, the performing of autopsies is largely the province of the trainee pathologist, and there are few subjects in which experience and judgement are as fundamental as in morbid anatomy. There is no lack of textbooks of surgical pathology, and adequate postmortem manuals exist, but the production of comprehensive textbooks on postmortem pathology, in English at least, seems to have ceased with the last edition of Shennan's *Post-Mortems and Morbid Anatomy* nearly 30 years ago. We therefore welcome this text.

Chapters on general matters such as the organization of the postmortem room, etc., are followed by chapters discussing lesions on a regional basis, though where more convenient the treatment is on a disease basis. Medico-legal matters are excluded, and more attention is paid to subjects not dealt with in textbooks of surgical pathology. Clinical and aetiological considerations and adequate summaries of the recent literature are included to widen the field of readers and increase the usefulness of the book.

The justification for the book is perhaps the extent to which it is more helpful in studying and evaluating findings at autopsy than an ordinary textbook of pathology. The modern trend in these books is to devote more space to general pathology and to aetiology and pathogenesis, but even in the absence of this, most would agree that the book fully

justifies itself and will prove of great service to present and future generations of trainee pathologists, and to many pathologists.

The abundant illustrations, nearly 300, are all macroscopic, well reproduced and large enough to show what is intended. A few of the legends to the illustrations are questionable, e.g. those of figs. 232, 239, 252, and 265, and we are surprised to see 'agonal' thrombi in the pulmonary arteries brought to life again many years after their burial, or the statement that 'hypernephroma is a tumour of early metastasization'. In a book dealing with such a wide field, however, statements of this type are few, and the coverage is remarkably complete. The book conforms to the usual high standards of the publisher, as unfortunately does its price.

A pathologist of the old school, well versed in morbid anatomy, may feel that there is less descriptive and especially less diagnostic morbid anatomy in the volume than expected, and too much pathology. But this was the intention of the authors, and he will be grateful, none the less, that they have so successfully filled a genuine gap in medical and pathological literature in the English language. J.G.T.

PERTHES' DISEASE

Perthes and Parents. The care of your child with Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease. By V. W. Rosar. Pp. xv+94. Illustrated. \$4.75. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas, 1963.

The merit of this book lies in the fact that it is founded upon the personal experience of a mother whose child had Perthes' disease. The problems of the domiciliary treatment and the adaptation of the family to the situation are described, and her solutions are given. Although the background to the story is American, the principles enunciated are, with slight modification, applicable anywhere.

This book should be read by the orthopaedic surgeon who will find in it assistance for the solution of the non-medical problems, and he will also be able to recommend it to intelligent lay-parents and thus get the desired cooperation. A.S.

HANDLEIDING OOR TROMBOLIESE SIEKTES

Chemistry of Thrombolysis: Human Fibrinolytic Enzymes. By K. N. von Kaulla, M.D. Pp. xvi+333. \$12.75. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas, 1963.

Ten spyte van 'n baie akademiese titel sal hierdie boekie, deur 'n professor van interne geneeskunde geskrywe, nie bo die vuurmaakplek van klinici wees wat geïnteresseerd is in die huidige stand van fibrinolise-navorsing en -toepassing nie. Na 'n kort historiese oorsig word basiese fisiologiese beginsels bespreek, met verwysing na die praktiese implikasies van die konsep trombolise, in teenstelling met fibrinolise. Die veelvuldige metodes waardeur fibrinolitiese aktiwiteit gemeet kan word, word uiteengesit en vergelyk, met spesiale verwysing na die diagnostiese waarde van urokinase uitskeiding waaroor die skrywer baanbrekerswerk gedoen het. 'n Uitgebreide literatuursoorsig van die assosiasie tussen fibrinolise en verskillende fisiologiese- en siektetoestande word gevolg deur twee puik hoofstukke gewy aan die huidige onsekere stand van trombolitiese terapie. Ingesluit hierby is 'n bespreking van die probleme van gekombineerde antistolbehandeling in die

lig van laboratorium-bewys dat fibrinolise op paradoksale wyse normale bloedstolling mag rem sowel as versnel. Dit is interessant om op te merk dat nikotiensuur (as versneller van plasmolise) weer eens aanbeveel kan word vir vaskulêre studies!

Die boek kan sterk aanbeveel word as 'n beknopte handleiding met die jongste informasie oor 'n onderwerp van groot aktuele belang in 'n tydperk van tromboliese siektes. 'n Besonder volledige bibliografie vul 'n reeds volledige teks aan, en die verhandeling word afgesluit met wenke vir toekomstige navorsing soos voorgestel deur 'n wêrelddeskundige in die bloedstollingsveld. A.J.B.

CONDITIONED REFLEXES

The Functioning of Paired Organs. By K. S. Abuladze, translated from the Russian by Dr. R. Crawford. Pp. 100. Illustrated. R3.00. Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1963.

The human organism is constructed on the principle of bilateral symmetry. Certain paired salivary organs appear to have identical function—but is this so?

The book has been divided into two parts, the first gives detailed methods of how to anaesthetize the animals and isolate these organs without interfering with their physiological function. The second part illustrates how to carry out the experimentation on these organs.

Though this book will not have a wide reading audience it is a must for any laboratory worker who deals in conditioned reflexes and allied fields. R.L.

THE GASTRO-OESOPHAGEAL JUNCTION

The Lower Esophageal Vestibular Complex. By C. Zaino, M.D., F.A.C.R., M. H. Poppel, M.D., F.A.C.R., H. G. Jacobson, M.D., F.A.C.R. Pp. xiv+272. Illustrated. \$12.75. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas, 1963.

This small, rather expensive, well-illustrated book (137 illustrations) on the gastro-oesophageal junction is dominated by radiologists' views. As such it has, in both experimental and clinical aspects, at times lost touch with functional and pathological realities. There is little new that is acceptable, and authoritative work published within the past two years is unfortunately not referred to (latest reference, 1960). Factual and typographical errors are common, but the book is neatly produced. It would be of interest to specialists in this field. G.S.M.B.

BACKGROUND TO SURGERY

The Instruments of Surgery. By Mitchell-Heggs, T.D., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), F.R.C.S. (Edin.), and H. G. Drew. Pp. x+526. Illustrated. R10.50. London: William Heinemann, 1963.

This book is of more historical than practical interest, because the instruments in use in surgery soon become obsolete owing to rapidly advancing techniques. The author covers a wide field of surgery, including the instruments used, as well as their innovators.

This is a well-illustrated book which should be of interest to those desirous of obtaining this type of background knowledge, but is of doubtful value to those actively engaged in surgery. P.R.