

## Notices and Books

**ANTICONVULSANT THERAPY — 2ND EDITION.** Pharmacological Basis and Practice, by Mervyn J. Eadie and John H. Tyrer, published by Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, London, New York, available in Canada from Academic Press Canada, Don Mills, Ontario, 1980. 338 pages. \$53.15 Canadian funds.

The rapidity of advances in this field inevitably required the appearance of the second edition five years later. Eadie and Tyrer have revised and expanded much of the material and added new illustrations.

The book is divided into three unequal parts. The first five chapters are short, succinct and contain many useful points. Principles of treatment of epilepsy; basic concepts of clinical pharmacology; techniques of measurements with emphasis on gas liquid chromatography, but enzyme-immune assays particularly EMIT (Enzyme Multiplied Immune Test) are also covered. Unlike the first edition no details of individual assays are given, but up-to-date references for those requiring more details are added.

The second section details the principles of anticonvulsants in nine chapters with emphasis on commonly used drugs, but other drugs in use are not excluded. Only one reference with no critical analysis (page 157) of the teratogenic effects of Tegretol is given. The hepatic side effects of Valproic Acid are omitted, granted that life threatening complications are uncommon. Valproic Acid has been used with increasing frequency in the treatment of absence seizures and its use (page 298) is only mentioned in passing.

The International League's Classification (Gastaut 1969) and the treatment of various types of epilepsy comprise the major portion of the final section.

This book which is "intended primarily for clinicians who treat epileptic patients" does not mention the treatment of benign rolandic epilepsy. The incidence of the latter is 4 - 7 times as common as absence

seizures. Status epilepticus which commonly presents to the non-neurologist should also have been defined and a logical system of investigations outlined in more detail. The pharmacokinetic parameters, therapeutic ranges and average doses of the commonly used anticonvulsants are summarized in two tables at the end.

For the epileptologist, the book has little to offer. The price is certainly not modest. However, such deficiencies as exist are not crucial to the message of the book and should not preclude taking advantage of the present updated edition.

N. Pillay, MB

**CURRENT TOPICS IN NERVE AND MUSCLE RESEARCH.** Selected Papers of the Symposia Held at the IVth International Congress on Neuromuscular Diseases, Montreal, Canada, September 17 - 21, 1978. Edited by A.J. Aguayo and G. Karpati, published by Excerpta Medica — Amsterdam, Oxford, distributed in Canada and US by the Elsevier-North Holland, Inc, New York, 1979. 327 pages. \$58.50 US funds.

This book contains most of the papers presented in the symposia of the IVth International Congress on Neuromuscular Diseases held in Montreal, Sept. 1978.

The IVth congress was the first in this series to officially include "nerves". It was the largest of the four international congresses, but the published proceedings book is the smallest, because it has been limited to the invited papers presented in the symposia. Naturally this resulted in a more uniform quality of the papers printed, because these papers were written by leaders of the respective fields. However, one misses the occasional small gem, from less well known scientists, such as were found in proceedings of the previous international muscle congresses. Interestingly, this book contains no contributions from Canada, although the congress was held in Montreal.

The papers are mainly reviews. However, one must recognize that these cannot cover the very large fields of present research on muscle and nerve. E.g., the symposium on 'Metabolic Aspects of Muscle' was limited to 'protein degradation', 'cyclic nucleotides' and 'the role of calcium' in physiological and pathological conditions. Although many of the neuromuscular diseases are genetically determined the book contains nothing on genetics or on molecular biology.

Considerable space is given to 'Acetylcholine Receptors and Myasthenia Gravis', and deservedly so, because this area probably has seen the most solid advances in recent neuromuscular research.

The editors were primarily responsible for an excellent organization of the IVth International Congress and they are to be commended for the rapid publication of this book. It would be of special interest to the many participants of the Congress as well as to neurologist, wanting to get a current view on the above topics as well as membrane structure and muscle disease, developmental disorders of muscle or, e.g. toxic disorders of nerve. However, at over \$70.00 in Canadian funds most scientists will probably consult this book in their library rather than adding it to their own collection.

K. Wrogemann, M.D., Ph.D.

## Books Received

**ANALGESIC DRUGS.** by J. Parkhouse, B.J. Pleuvry, J.M.H. Rees, published by Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, London, Edinburgh, Melbourne, available in Canada from Blackwell Mosby Book Distributors, 86 Northline Road, Toronto, Ontario, M4B 3E5, 1979. 159 pages. \$21.00 Canadian funds.

**NEUROLOGY — VOLUME 5.** of the Science and Practice of Clinical Medicine, John M. Dietschy — Editor-in-Chief, edited by Roger N. Rosenberg, published by Grune &

Stratton, New York, London, Toronto, Sydney, San Francisco, available in Canada from Academic Press Canada Ltd., 55 Barber Greene Road, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 2A1, 1980. 740 pages. \$51.35 approximately Canadian funds.

Annual Research Reviews SOMATOSTATIN — VOLUME 3. by Mary T. McQuillan, published by Eden Press, 245 Victoria Avenue #10, Westmount, P.Q., H3Z 2M6, 1980. 238 pages. \$30.00 Canadian funds.

Annual Research Reviews ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES — VOLUME 4. by Michael H. Briggs and Maxine Briggs, published by Eden Press, 245 Victoria Avenue #10, Westmount, P.Q., H3Z 2M6, 1980. 232 pages. \$30.00 Canadian funds.

THE METHANOL HYPOTHESIS — A NEW CONCEPT OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS. The Path to Causal Treatment, Report on 80 cases, by Dr. med. Hugo Henzi, published by Juris Druck-Verlag, Zurich, Switzerland, 1980. 102 pages. \$15.00 U.S. funds.

Life Sciences Research Report 17 PAIN AND SOCIETY. Report on the Dahlem Workshop on Pain and Society, Berlin, November 26 - 30, 1979, edited by H.W. Kosterlitz and L.Y. Terenius, published by Verlag Chemie-Weinheim-Deerfield Beach, Florida-Basel, 1980. 513 pages. \$39.40 U.S. funds.

Annual Research Reviews ULTRASTRUCTURAL PATHOLOGY OF HUMAN TUMORS — VOLUME 2. by Ivan Damjanov, published by Eden Press, 245 Victoria Avenue #10, Westmount, P.Q., H3Z 2M6, August 1980. 144 pages. \$24.00 Canadian funds.

Annual Research Reviews THE PINEAL — VOLUME 5. by Russel J. Reiter, published by Eden Press, 245 Victoria Avenue #10, Westmount, P.Q., H3Z 2M6, September 1980. 236 pages. \$30.00 Canadian funds.

Annual Research Reviews EFFECT OF HORMONES, DRUGS AND CHEMICALS ON TESTICULAR FUNCTION — VOLUME 1. by A.G. Davies, published by Eden Press, 245

Victoria Avenue #10, Westmount, P.Q., H3Z 2M6, September 1980. 279 pages. \$32.00 Canadian funds.

THE ANALYSIS OF HYSTERIA. by Harold Merskey, published by Bailliere Tindall, London, England, available in Canada from Collier MacMillan Canada Ltd., Cambridge, Ontario, N1R 5W9, 1979. 310 pages. \$35.95 Canadian funds.

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#### ANNOUNCEMENT

The Eighth In-Service Training and Continuing Self-Assessment Examination in Neurology will be given throughout the United States and Canada on Saturday, May 16, 1981. The examination will consist of approximately 480 multiple-choice questions, utilizing the format of the National Board of Medical Examiners, and will cover the following areas: (1) clinical neurology, (2) pediatric neurology, (3) neuroanatomy, (4) neuropathology, (5) Neuropharmacology, (6) neurophysiology (including EEG and EMG), and (7) neuroradiology. The examination will be given at centers with neurology training programs. The examination is thorough and clinically relevant.

House officers, faculty, and practitioners in related fields are invited to take the examination on this date at a designated neurologic training center. Results of the examination will be provided only to the individual taking the examination. Anonymity will be preserved.

An additional feature following this examination will be the provision of the "keyword" report to each individual listing the area covered in each question answered incorrectly.

Cost of the examination will be \$50 for house officers and \$100 for others. A \$5 Advance Registration Discount will apply on all applications received on or before March 6, 1981. Deadline for receipt of applications is March 25, 1981.

A cancellation fee of \$10 will be charged each written cancellation received on or before May 13, 1981. No other cancellation requests will be honored.

For additional information, including a list of participating centers, and an application form, write to: Mr. Stanley A. Nelson, Executive Director, American Academy of Neurology, 4015 West 65th Street, Suite 302, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55435.

## MIGRAINE SYMPOSIUM

AT  
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS  
OF NEUROLOGY  
KYOTO, JAPAN

22nd September, 1981

Abstracts (less than 100 words) not  
later than 31st March to —

Dr. F. Clifford Rose  
Princess Margaret Migraine Clinic  
Charing Cross Hospital  
London W6 8RF

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### Call For Papers

"Hope Through Research and Education," and International Symposium on Autism and Related Disorders of Communication and Behavior, will be held on July 14 and 15, 1981, at the Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts. The symposium is a part of the 13th Annual Meeting and Conference of the National Society for Autistic Children, U.S.A.

#### DEADLINE:

International Symposium on Autism  
National Society for Autistic Children  
1234 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 1017  
Washington, D.C. 20007  
Attn: Frank Warren  
Phone: (202) 783-0125

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## INTERNATIONAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The International Neuropsychological Society wishes to encourage interdisciplinary participation in its meetings. The next annual North American meeting will be held in Atlanta, GA, February 4 - 7, 1981. The Program Committee will be very pleased to consider abstracts in the area of neuroanatomical and neurophysiological correlations with neurobehavioral studies. Membership in the Society is not required in order to be on the program. For further information, contact the Chairman of the Program Committee, Dr. Frank Wood, Section of Neuropsychology, Bowman-Gray School of Medicine, 300 South Hawthorne Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27103, or the Executive Secretary of the Society, Dr. Louis Costa, Department of Psychology, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, Canada V8W 2Y2.