

JOURNAL
OF
NEUROLOGY
NEUROSURGERY
AND
PSYCHIATRY

Volume XII
New Series
1949

ISSUED BY THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
LONDON: BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE
TAVISTOCK SQUARE, W.C.1

Edited by

W. RITCHIE RUSSELL

E. A. CARMICHAEL

A. MEYER

G. JEFFERSON

R. A. McCANCE

AUBREY LEWIS

DENIS WILLIAMS

with the assistance of the following Editorial Committee :

E. D. Adrian

F. L. Golla

F. C. Bartlett

R. G. Gordon

W. Russell Brain

J. G. Greenfield

G. L. Brown

W. R. Henderson

Hugh Cairns

D. W. C. Northfield

W. E. Le Gros Clark

Dorothy Russell

D. Denny-Brown

Eliot Slater

N. M. Dott

C. P. Symonds

A. Feiling

J. Z. Young

R. A. Fisher

Editor of the British Medical Journal

PRINTED IN ENGLAND BY
HAZELL, WATSON & VINEY LTD
LONDON AND AYLESBURY

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL NEUROLOGICAL CONGRESS PARIS, SEPTEMBER 5 to 10, 1949

The Fourth International Neurological Congress will be held in Paris from Monday, Sept. 5 till Saturday, Sept. 10, 1949.

Scientific business will comprise discussions upon four main topics: (1) the thalamus and its pathology; (2) electroencephalography and electromyography; (3) virus diseases of the nervous system; (4) the surgery of pain. The official openers of these four topics have already been nominated by the various National Vice-Presidents. Members of the Congress can participate in the discussion, their remarks being strictly limited to five minutes each.

Short papers on any neurological topic will also be given, and members are invited to submit titles and an abstract of their communication to the Secretary by Feb. 1, 1949. The length of the communication must not exceed ten minutes. No member may give more than two communications.

It has been decided by the General Committee of the Congress that application for membership and all financial contributions must be made through a National Committee for each country, which will transmit all applications for membership and all subscriptions to

the General Committee in Paris. The British National Committee has been constituted by the Section of Neurology of the Royal Society of Medicine, and is as follows: *President*, Dr. Anthony Feiling; *Secretary*, Dr. Macdonald Critchley; *Treasurer*, Dr. M. J. McArdle, *Other Members*, Drs. Douglas McA Alpine, W. Ritchie Russell, and G. Smythe, and Sir Charles Symonds.

There are two classes of members: (1) full members, i.e., all medical men or women interested in neurology, and (2) associate members, i.e., non-medical men or women interested in the Congress.

Every member of the Section of Neurology of the Royal Society of Medicine is earnestly invited to contribute the sum of 10s. towards the general expenses of the Congress (whether attending or not). The subscription for full members is £2 10s 0d. and for associate members £1 5s. 0d. All cheques should be made payable to and sent to Dr. M. J. McArdle, 58a, Wimpole Street, London, W.1, before April 1, 1949.

Details as to hotel accommodation will be published later. The local committee of the Congress have appointed the American Express Company to be the official travel agents.

BOOK REVIEWS

Critical Studies in Neurology. By F. M. R. Walshe. 1948. Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone. Pp. xxv. + 256. Price 15s.

Dr. Walshe's critical writings and orations of recent years are well known to neurologists. In this volume six of his papers are republished in a well-produced little volume. Some may from time to time have regretted the almost vitriolic words of comment used by Dr. Walshe to disagree with the hypotheses of some well-known physiologist, but none can fail to acknowledge the great educational value to the young neurologist of reading, or preferably hearing, Dr. Walshe's expositions. To quote from the foreword, "A prime purpose of this reprint therefore is to stimulate critical thinking amongst postgraduate students of neurology who may wish to penetrate more deeply into one or other aspects of this fascinating branch of medicine, and, when they sit down before the literature, to make of them gourmets rather than gourmands." The training of the critical faculty was never more required than it is today, for our minds tend to be overwhelmed by the stream of new knowledge. Dr. Walshe exemplifies the critical spirit, and though the young neurologist can rarely hope to emulate his remarkable choice of words, he should endeavour to

train himself to understand some part of neurology so well that he can criticise research studies on at least some aspects of his speciality with the confidence and clarity of thought and expression which he will find in these papers.

The Skull, Sinuses, and Mastoids: A Handbook of Röntgen Diagnosis. By Barton R. Young. 1948. Chicago: The Year Book Publishers Inc. London: Messrs. H. K. Lewis. Pp. 328. Illustrated. Price 36s.

It is unfortunate that neuro-radiology is often relegated to the position of being a branch of bone radiology. Dandy introduced pneumo-encephalography thirty years ago, and it is over twenty years since Moniz began carotid arteriography. When properly combined these methods of investigation, together with the straight radiography of the skull, probably provide information more accurate and yet more diverse than can be obtained from any other branch of diagnostic radiology. This is the main fascination of the subject. Radiographing the "dry bones" of the head seldom provides the whole radiological answer, and should be only a prelude.

In its limited sphere, however, this little "Handbook of Röntgen Diagnosis" covers the ground well. It is