

lining and the formation of a diverticulum which might then extend up and down the cord between fibre bundles (secondary hydromyelia), pushing the central canal to one side. This kind of eccentric cyst could extend into the brain stem and would account for asymmetrical cord and bulbar signs, as well as the finding in post-mortem studies of a large cyst separate from the central canal.

SOME USES OF METHYL METHACRYLATE IN  
SURGICAL NEUROLOGY

PHILLIP HARRIS (Edinburgh) discussed the clinical, physical,

and biological features of methyl methacrylate in relation to its use as an implant in the body. Studies on the strength of the material were described, and methods of sterilization were criticized.

He mentioned various uses for methyl methacrylate in surgical neurology, including the manufacture of special surface scalp-skull markers that he is using to speed up the initial part of the stereotaxic procedure, employing the Guiot type of apparatus. Cranioplasty, the investment of certain intracranial aneurysms, and fixation of parts of the spinal column could also be achieved by means of methyl methacrylate.

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## THE FEBRUARY 1962 ISSUE

THE FEBRUARY 1962 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS:—

Post-tetanic Potentiation of Myotatic Reflexes in Man KARL-ERIK HAGBARTH

Peripheral Nerve Conduction in Diabetic Neuropathy R. W. GILLIATT and R. G. WILLISON

Some Circulatory Responses to Valsalva's Manoeuvre in Patients with Polyneuritis and Spinal Cord Disease W. E. WATSON

Cerebral Complications of Hypotensive Anaesthesia in a Healthy Adult J. B. BRIERLEY and J. E. COOPER

A Myasthenic Syndrome Associated with Bronchial Carcinoma. R. P. WISE and VIOLET MACDERMOT

Tentorial Meningiomas HOWARD S. BARROWS and DONALD H. HARTER

The Migrainous Symptoms of Cerebral Angiomata F. LEES

Non-infectious Granulomatous Angiitis of the Nervous System Associated with Hodgkin's Disease NEILL B. REWCASTLE and MARY I. TOM

Birth Order in Epileptic Children T. COLVER and D. F. KERRIDGE

Familial Cerebro-macular Degeneration and Ataxia J. B. FOSTER and T. T. S. INGRAM

Phantom Experiences Following Amputation in Childhood MARIANNE L. SIMMEL

Effect of Intrathecal Purified Protein Derivative of Tuberculin in Multiple Sclerosis JACK COLOVER, MICHAEL KREMER, R. E. LOVELACE, and J. R. SILVER

Stereotactic Surgery: A Note on Instrumentation VERNON H. MARK, WILLIAM H. SWEET, and PAUL M. MCPHERSON

Book Reviews

Copies are still available and may be obtained from the PUBLISHING MANAGER,  
BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, W.C.1, *price 17s. 6d.*

ACTA NEUROPATHOLOGICA, Vol. 1 No. 1. (Pp. 112; 67 figures. DM. 38.-) Berlin-Wilmersdorf: Springer-Verlag, October, 1961.

The much-needed coordinating activities of the World Federation of Neurology are being felt in many fields; none of them can be more desirable than the establishment of periodicals of high quality. For some time it has been felt that the only existing journal devoted to neuropathology is overloaded. The Commissions on Neuropathology and on Comparative Neuropathology of the World Federation of Neurology have seen this challenge and sponsored *Acta Neuropathologica*: it will be published at indefinite intervals by Springer-Verlag of Berlin-Wilmersdorf. The members of the editorial board have been selected from many countries and the managing editor is Professor F. Seitelberger. In their preface the editors feel that without the help of the newer techniques of experimental biology, histochemistry, and electron microscopy the cause of neuropathology of the classical morphological pattern is likely to be defeated. It is to provide an international forum common to all these disciplines that the editors have attuned their minds: to this end articles will be accepted for publication in English, French, or German.

The first number, dated October 1961, sets a high standard: it contains five main articles and one short case report.

ELECTRICAL STIMULATION OF THE BRAIN. Edited by Daniel E. Sheer. (Pp. xiv + 641; illustrated. \$17.50.) Austin, Texas: University of Texas Press. 1961.

New methods of using indwelling electrodes to study brain mechanisms have in the last 10 years opened up fresh and profitable fields of research. Of exceptional interest are the studies concerned with the cerebral mechanisms which influence behaviour and learning. Over 50 contributors have helped to make this book a valuable record of research. It is perhaps regrettable that summaries have only been written at the end of a few of the 40 chapters. In general, however, this is an excellent and authoritative presentation.

MYASTHENIA GRAVIS. The second international symposium proceedings. Edited by Henry R. Viets. (Pp. xxiii + 707; illustrated. £11 12s.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas; Oxford: Blackwell. 1961.

Forty papers by 66 contributors make detailed comment on this book impossible. They cover a wide range and are

grouped in sections dealing with the normal and myasthenic neuromuscular junctions, possible mechanisms, clinical problems, factors contributing to exacerbations, pathology, medical therapy and thymectomy, carotid sinus denervation and crisis.

Some of the most interesting material relates to conditions resembling myasthenia. The papers by Lambert and his associates on the clinical and electrical findings in the myasthenic syndrome associated with bronchial neoplasm, and by Schwab and Viets on clinical testing in fatigue syndromes with similarities to myasthenia gravis may be mentioned as examples.

The bibliography is extremely full, and the publication is a most useful review of current knowledge of the clinical and pathological features of the condition.

THE PROGNOSIS AFTER STERILIZATION ON SOCIAL-PSYCHIATRIC GROUNDS. (*Acta psychiat. scand.*, Suppl. 161, Vol. 37). Copenhagen: Ejnar Munksgaard. 1961. By M. Ekblad. (Pp. 162; 24 tables).

The Swedish Sterilization Act of 1941 allows sterilization on eugenic, social, or medical grounds. This book is concerned with a follow-up study of 225 women resident in Stockholm who in the year 1951 applied for sterilization.

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#### SCANDINAVIAN SOCIETY OF NEUROSURGERY

The 16th annual meeting of the Scandinavian Society of Neurosurgery will take place at the Amtssygehuset, Odense, Denmark, on Monday, 27 August, and Tuesday, 28 August 1962.

Participation and hotel reservations must be arranged through Dr. C. F. Bisgaard, M.D., Neurosurgical Department, Amtssygehuset, Odense, Denmark.

#### THE FULTON SOCIETY

During the International Congress of Neurology at Rome, a meeting of the Fulton Society was held and it was decided to have a symposium every two years on the topics to which Dr. Fulton made contributions. The first one will be held in 1963 at the same time and place as the American Neurological Association meeting is held. The subject will be 'Motor and premotor areas'. Further information from Dr. Victor Soriano, Calle Buenos Aires 363, Montevideo, Uruguay.