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## The June 1971 Issue

### THE JUNE 1971 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS

- Levodopa's awakening effect on patients with Parkinsonism GAYLE G. MARSH, CHARLES M. MARKHAM, and ROBERT ANSEL
- Comparison of benefit from L-dopa in Parkinsonism with increase of amine metabolites in the CSF R. B. GODWIN-AUSTEN, B. D. KANTAMANENI, and G. CURZON
- Uptake and release of <sup>14</sup>C-5-hydroxytryptamine by platelets in affective illness DAVID M. SHAW, DAVID A. MACSWEENEY, NORMAN WOOLCOCK, and A. B. BEVAN-JONES
- Effects of initial conditions on the Hoffman reflex GERALD L. GOTTLIEB and GYAN C. AGARWAL
- Hamstrings stretch reflex in human spasticity DAVID BURKE, J. D. GILLIES, and JAMES W. LANCE
- The corneomandibular reflex ROBERT M. GORDON and MORRIS B. BENDER
- Sensory conduction from digit to palm and from palm to wrist in the carpal tunnel syndrome FRITZ BUCHTHAL and ANNELISE ROSENFALCK
- Peripheral neuropathy after disulfiram administration CHRISTOPHER GARDNER-THORPE and SIDNEY BENJAMIN
- Clinical observations on sensory effects of trigeminal dorsal root section ADOLFO LEY AND JOSÉ MA. GUITART
- Closed head trauma and aphasia KENNETH M. HEILMAN, ARTHUR SAFRAN, and NORMAN GESCHWIND
- Late results of bulbar trigeminal tractotomy D. MOFFIE
- Visually evoked responses in multiple sclerosis E. T. RICHEY, K. A. KOOL, and W. W. TOURTELLOTTE
- Analysis of electrodermal evidence for a paramedullary afferent tract in patients with a transection of the thoracic spinal cord MARCUS J. FUHRER
- Some observations on the fluttering midline echo in echoencephalography D. N. WHITE and C. O. JENKINS
- Chemical epidural abscess: case report N. VIJAYAN and P. M. DREYFUS
- Acute controlled hypotension and EEG in patients with hypertension and cerebrovascular disease P. HARMSEN, J. KJÆRULFF, and E. SKINHØJ
- Spontaneous canine hydrocephalus: cerebrospinal fluid dynamics A. SAHAR, G. M. HOCHWALD, W. J. KAY, and J. RANSOHOFF
- Cerebral arachnoid cysts in children M. J. G. HARRISON
- Symptomatic cysts of the telencephalic choroid plexus CHARLES R. NEBLETT and JOSEPH W. ROBERTSON
- Recognition and naming of object-drawings by men with focal brain wounds FRED A. NEWCOMBE, R. C. OLDFIELD, G. G. RATCLIFF, and W. WINGFIELD
- Fatal encephalopathy complicating lymphoid interstitial pneumonia MICHAEL JEFFERSON, D. RIDDOCH, and W. THOMAS SMITH
- Histochemically demonstrable fibre abnormalities in normal skeletal muscle and in muscle from carriers of Duchenne muscular dystrophy C. J. MORRIS and J. A. RAYBOULD
- Sensitized lymphocytes in muscular dystrophy: evidence for a neural factor in pathogenesis E. A. CASPARY, S. CURRIE, and E. J. FIELD
- Pancreatic encephalopathy B. SHARF and E. BENTAL
- Note on the value of Frenzel's glasses for the recognition and qualitative evaluation of spontaneous nystagmus H. H. TSCHANG and M. SPENCER HARRISON
- Book reviews

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BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON, WC1H 9JR, price £1.50

Dr. Riggs did not live to see this valuable monograph published.

J. HUME ADAMS

**THE BIOCHEMICAL BASIS OF NEUROPHARMACOLOGY** By Jack R. Cooper, Floyd E. Bloom, and Robert H. Roth. (Pp. 217; illustrated; £3-00, paper back £1-90.) Oxford University Press: London. 1971.

To write a book on pharmacology based on the biochemical mode of action of the drugs is a brave enterprise. To do so for drugs whose action is on the central nervous system requires particular courage. This short volume is just such an enterprise, based on the course given to medical and graduate students at Yale University. Since our present knowledge of the physiology and biochemistry of the brain is pitifully inadequate to explain even the normal functions of this organ, it would be asking too much to expect it to be sufficient to explain fully the many subtle effects produced by drugs. For this reason, the book consists mainly of biochemistry and physiology, and relatively little neuropharmacology. Nevertheless, if only for its originality of approach, this book is to be welcomed. The information in it is up-to-date, clear and succinct, and the method of presentation—even if it cannot fully explain the actions of any drug—nevertheless provides many tantalizing glimpses of possible modes of action and many provocative cross-references between drugs whose actions are otherwise quite different. The book is open to some minor criticisms on layout and production—for example, the illustrations, especially the histological and electronmicroscopical reproductions, are rather poor and the legends not always fully informative—presumably this is in part explained by the low price. Overall, however, this is a useful and interesting account of those aspects of the physiology and biochemistry of the brain which are believed to be affected by drugs. The material is presented in a simple, easily understood fashion and does not make too heavy reading. It should be valuable for senior undergraduates and postgraduate students, not only in pharmacology but in physiology, biochemistry, and even for those physicians interested in the background of a group of drugs which are playing an ever-increasing role in clinical medicine.

J. S. GILLESPIE

**DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM** 11th ed. By Sir Francis Walshe. (Pp. xv + 381; illustrated; £3-00). Livingstone: Edinburgh. 1970.

This book, now in its 11th edition, requires no introduction from a reviewer as it has for long been the standard work for those wishing to acquire, within a brief space, knowledge of the art and science of clinical neurology, as opposed to mere factual information. An occasional appealing anachronism has been handed on through succeeding editions over 30 years, such as the prohibition of violent purgation in the treatment of strokes, and certain growing points in neurology receive rather less than justice, but the form and content remain as satisfying as ever. Dr. John Walshe has contributed two interesting chapters on the relations of liver and brain and on lead poisoning. It should perhaps be

added that the standard of proof reading has scarcely been worthy of this classic text.

W. B. MATTHEWS

**MYELINATION** By A. N. Davidson and A. Peters. (Pp. × iv + 238; illustrated; \$13.50.) Thomas: Springfield. Anatomist and biochemist have combined to provide a clearly and concisely written monograph that will be of value to anyone who has an interest in neurological disorders. The greater part of the book is taken up by the first two chapters which deal in considerable depth with the morphology, development, and biochemistry of the myelin sheath. The text is amply supported with diagrams and excellent electron micrographs. The three shorter chapters deal with abnormalities in the composition of myelin, myelin deficiencies related to inborn errors of human metabolism, and, a rather intriguing contribution, diseases affecting myelination in domestic animals. Each chapter is supported by a comprehensive list of references. The book not only contains a wealth of useful information, but is also most attractively produced. It is an important monograph that can be recommended without hesitation.

J. HUME ADAMS

**THE DE LANGE SYNDROME** By J. M. Berg, B. D. McCreary, M. A. C. Ridler, and G. F. Smith. (Pp. vii + 127; illustrated; £3-15.) Institute for Research into Mental Retardation Monograph No. 2. Pergamon Press: Oxford. 1970.

In 1933 Dr. Cornelia de Lange, who was professor of paediatrics in the University of Amsterdam, described a child with mental retardation associated with somatic signs. Although rare, it is being increasingly often diagnosed but, as is natural with a rare condition, it is uncertain which signs are consistent parts of a syndrome and which are coincidental. In this short monograph the authors report 18 personally observed patients and review the literature. They still feel unable to define the syndrome but certain features appear to be highly characteristic. These include mental and growth retardation, confluent eyebrows, microcephaly, brachycephaly, low-set ears, anteverted nostrils and a prominent philtrum. Abnormalities of the hands and feet and hirsutism add to a picture which immediately suggests the satyr of Greek mythology. The posture of the child on p. 26 is so classical that one can almost see the pan pipes—but a syrinx is one abnormality yet to be recorded. Pedigrees indicate a genetic factor, but no consistent chromosomal or biochemical abnormality has yet been identified. This careful review should help to define an interesting syndrome. It is well produced with clear tables and illustrations.

J. A. SIMPSON

#### NOTICE

**1ST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON INTRACRANIAL PRESSURE** 27, 28, 29 July 1972, Hannover. Topics: (1) methodology of ICP measurements, (2) physiological and pathophysiological aspects of ICP, (3) clinical and therapeutic aspects of ICP. Details from Dr. M. Brock, Neurochirurgische Klinik, Medizinische Hochschule, 3 Hannover-Kleefeld, Roderbruchstrasse 101, W. Germany.