

Editorial Committee

C D MARSDEN (*Editor*)
INGRID V ALLEN
BRYAN ASHWORTH
H S BACHELARD
J P BALLANTYNE
M R BOND
BETTY BROWNELL
G CURZON
J L GIBBONS
M J G HARRISON

J T HUGHES
E C HUTCHINSON
L S ILLIS
D P E KINGSLEY
C MAWDSLEY
J A MORGAN-HUGHES
J NEWSOM DAVIS
C PALLIS
G PAMPIGLIONE
J PAYAN

A RICHENS
T SHALICE
JOHN A SIMPSON
LINDSAY SYMON
E S WATKINS
C E C WELLS
EDITOR *British Medical Journal*
Technical Editor: KENNETH TILL

THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE welcomes original papers, which should be addressed to the Editor, Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Papers are accepted on the understanding that the subject matter has not been and will not be published in any other journal. Papers should deal with original matter and the discussion should be closely relevant to this. Manuscripts should be typewritten in double spacing on one side of the paper only. Three copies (including figures and tables) should be submitted of which only one need be a top copy. A summary of about 50 words should appear at the beginning of each paper. The name(s) of the hospital or laboratory should also appear. Full postal address for correspondence and reprints should be supplied. Receipt of manuscripts will be acknowledged.

The Editor will welcome Short Reports or Preliminary Communications limited to about 1000 words and with no more than one figure and one table. Also welcome are Letters to the Editor.

ETHICS Ethical considerations will be taken into account in the assessment of papers (see the Medical Research Council's publications on the ethics of human experimentation, and the World Medical Association's code of ethics, known as the Declaration of Helsinki (see *British Medical Journal* 1964; 2:177)).

ABBREVIATIONS Measurements should be expressed in SI units (see *Journal of Clinical Pathology* 1974; 27: 590-7; *British Medical Journal* 1974; 4:490; *International System of Units* 1972, National Bureau of Standards, Special Publication 330, United States Bureau of Printing: Washington). For recognised abbreviations see *Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry* 1975; 38:1-5; and *Units, Symbols and Abbreviations*, Third Edition 1977, edited by D N Baron, Royal Society of Medicine: London.

ILLUSTRATIONS *Photographs* Unmounted photographs on glossy paper should be provided together with magnification scales when appropriate. *Diagrams* will be reduced to 2½ inches (68 mm) wide, occasionally to 5½ inches (145 mm). Lettering should be in either Letraset or stencil and care should be taken that lettering and symbols are of comparable size. Illustrations should not be inserted in the text. They should be marked on the back with figure numbers, title of paper, and name of author. All photographs, graphs and diagrams should be referred to as figures and should be numbered consecutively in the text in Arabic numerals. The legends for illustrations should be typed on a separate sheet. *Tables* should be numbered consecutively in the text in Arabic numerals and each typed on a separate sheet. The format used in this issue of the Journal should be noted. Vertical lines will not be printed and usually there are only three horizontal lines in each table.

REFERENCES should be in the Vancouver style as in this issue. They should appear in the text by number only in the order in which they occur and should be listed on a separate sheet in the same order. Punctuation must be correct and journal titles should be in full or abbreviated in accordance with the *Index Medicus*. Thus:

Millikan CH, Eaton LH. Clinical evaluation of ACTH and cortisone in myasthenia gravis. *Neurology (Minneapolis)* 1951; 1:145-52.

Penn AS. Immunological features of myasthenia gravis. In: Aguayo AJ and Karpati G, eds. *Topics in Nerve and Muscle Research*. Amsterdam: *Excerpta Medica* 1975: 123-32.

Coers C, Woolf AL. *The innervation of muscle. A biopsy study*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1951: 16-24.

A reference to unpublished work should not appear in the list but work "in press" may be included provided the name of the journal appears. The author is responsible for the accuracy of references.

REPRINTS Twenty-five reprints will be supplied free of charge. Additional reprints are available at cost if they are ordered when the proof is returned.

CORRECTIONS other than printer's errors may be charged to the author.

COPYRIGHT ©1981 by JOURNAL OF NEUROLOGY, NEUROSURGERY, AND PSYCHIATRY. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical photocopying, recording, or otherwise—without the prior permission of the Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS Applications for advertisement space and rates should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, JOURNAL OF NEUROLOGY, NEUROSURGERY, AND PSYCHIATRY, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS The Journal is published monthly. The annual subscription rate is £34.00 in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland, and US \$83 in all countries overseas. Payments for overseas subscriptions should be made in US dollars, or in other currency based on the prevailing exchange rate to the US dollar of that currency payable to the British Medical Association and addressed to the Subscription Manager, Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Orders can also be placed locally through any leading subscription agent or bookseller. (For the convenience of readers in the USA subscription orders, with or without payment, can also be sent to: British Medical Journal, 1172 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass. 02134. All enquiries, however, must be addressed to the Publisher in London.)

Reduced Subscription Rates for Junior Hospital Doctors Residents and Interns...

Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry

is available to junior hospital doctors in all parts of the world for a maximum of four consecutive years at **REDUCED Annual Subscription Rates.** (Thereafter, or when reaching consultant status this special offer will no longer apply.) The following reduced rates are unchanged for the twelve issues published in 1981.

Inland £17.00
Overseas US \$40.00

(The full rates are: Inland £34.00; Overseas US\$83.00)

The opportunity to subscribe to this journal of international authority and repute at a substantially reduced subscription rate is one not to be missed by junior doctors seeking to specialise in neurology, neurosurgery or psychiatry.

Please complete the adjacent order form and send for your subscription NOW.

Further order forms can be supplied on request.

ORDER FORM

BMA Publications
BMA House, Tavistock Square
London WC1H 9JR, England

Please enter my subscription to
**JOURNAL OF NEUROLOGY,
NEUROSURGERY &
PSYCHIATRY**

United Kingdom and
Irish Republic £17.00

Overseas US\$40.00

My remittance for.....
is enclosed

(Please tick appropriate boxes)

NAME.....

.....

ADDRESS

.....

.....

To be completed by Consultant
*I hereby confirm that the above
mentioned doctor is a member
of the junior hospital staff/
resident/intern at*

.....

Signed.....

a functional disorder. Visual fields are tested with the patient lying supine and keeping one eye closed with gentle finger pressure whilst the open eye is fixed on a cross on the ceiling. If there is difficulty in the clinical diagnosis of delirium, it is suggested that useful confirmation can be given by a study of the nature of the images produced by light pressure over the eyes. The cremasteric reflex is said to be specifically useful to the psychiatrist only in cases of sexual dysfunction, a suggestion which might at least lead to an actual physical examination of the genitalia.

The book suffers from both a lack of precision and any kind of critical approach. As a bad example of the former, it is suggested that psychiatrists are not called upon to measure visual acuity precisely; and of the latter, that l-tryptophan may reverse psychiatric toxicity due to levodopa in the treatment of parkinsonism; a suggestion founded on a single unconfirmed study. Although the book attempts to be a simple and practical guide, more details of exact diagnosis and management need to be presented, as for example in the value of clinical and laboratory tests in distinguishing myasthenia gravis from neurasthenia. Although parts of this book are good psychiatry for neurologists, it does not form an acceptable basis for the study of neurology by psychiatrists. Spend twice as much and buy Lishman's organic psychiatry which covers much of the same ground but has infinitely greater value.

JD PARKES

Clinical Neuroepidemiology Edited by F Clifford Rose (pp 416; £25.00) Tunbridge Wells: Pitman Medical, 1980. The Mansell Bequest Symposia at the Medical Society of London have been organised by Clifford Rose, who now edits the proceedings of the event devoted to neuroepidemiology. The 400-odd pages contain many erudite essays, but the field is covered unevenly. A half of the book is devoted, about equally, to cerebrovascular disease and to multiple sclerosis. Acheson and Williams, in a provocative tone, draw attention to six crucial unanswered questions on

stroke. Schoenberg gives a brisk review of risk factors for stroke, and there are other chapters on stroke registers, which obviously are possible but very time consuming. I turned to a chapter on assessing the effort of stroke rehabilitation with expectation, but found only a repetition of how difficult it is to study these matters. Meade and Smith describe these problems in recruiting candidates for a simple assessment of out-patient intensive rehabilitation compared with conventional therapy in the setting of a busy well-organised district hospital. No less than 88% of those admitted with a stroke over a six year period were unsuitable for such a study. Within the framework of the NHS, such trials appear to demand multi-centre organisation but we have been remiss in not attending to such matters. The section on multiple sclerosis is dominated by Kurtzke's extensive review, work initiated by Geoffrey Dean mainly concerning the incidence of multiple sclerosis in immigrants to the United Kingdom and a number of studies in Northern Scotland and the adjacent islands. These fascinating data still point to the concept that this mysterious illness is acquired many years before its clinical onset, and that the cause will be found where the disease is common. Another large section of the book is devoted to paediatric neuroepidemiology with, amongst others, interesting contributions from Rutter and Chadwick on "minimal brain dysfunction", and Graham *et al* on language delay. The volume is introduced by general papers on statistical methods, mathematics and the principles of epidemiology; it finishes with a pot pourri of contributions on miscellaneous topics. These include Jennett on head injury, Waters on migraine, Marmot on the cohort hypothesis of Parkinson's disease, Foster on syringomyelia and Murland *et al* on head trauma, motor neurone disease and febrile fits. Any book of this nature inevitably describes work published in full elsewhere, and some reviews are curt while others are extensive. However, it may be useful to have this volume on the shelf as an introduction to the topic of neuroepidemiology.

CD MARSDEN

Electro-diagnosis in Clinical Neurology By MJ Aminoff (pp 577; £24.00) Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone, 1980.

This is an ambitious compendium of electroencephalography, electromyography and evoked potentials in neurological practice, 13 chapters being devoted to these. The other four chapters are on the history of clinical neurophysiology, electronystagmography, sleep disorders and brain death. The book is directed to informing neurologists of what is available in neurophysiology and neurophysiologists of clinical relevance of studies which are available. Each chapter is written by a different author. Most chapters contain details of recording techniques ranging from summaries to fuller accounts. While the work will certainly succeed in giving a broad view to a neurologist the quality of different parts is uneven and much should be read rather critically. Some of the bibliographies reveal a parochial approach, others are wider and more useful. The book will make a starting point for those who plan to set up services and departments and will give a trainee neurologist some idea of what can be done in clinical neurophysiology today.

RG WILLISON

Notices

The Epilepsy International Congress—1981. This will be held in Kyoto, Japan 17–21 September, 1981. Further information may be obtained from: The Secretariat, c/o International Conference Organizers, Inc, No 103 Crescent Plaza, 4–6 Minami-Aoyama 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 107 Japan.

The International Symposium on Cerebrovascular Diseases: new trends in surgical and medical aspects. This will be held in Gardone Riviera, 2–4 July, 1981. Further information may be obtained from: The Secretariat, Fondazione Giovanni Lorenzini, Via Monte Napoleone, 23–20121 Milan, Italy.