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Book reviews

The Psychology of Schizophrenia. By John Cutting. (Pp 457; £40.00.) Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone, 1985.

"When I first read Eugen Bleuler's account of schizophrenia I was enthralled". This splendid opening sentence sets the tone for what is essentially an account of John Cutting's personal odyssey through the literature on the psychology and the pathogenesis of schizophrenia. He covers a great deal of ground and cites some 1300 references, many of them *verbatim* and a high proportion from before 1950. He also writes very clearly, with frequent summary restatements of his argument and numerous cross references. Essentially his thesis is this: that Jaspers and the phenomenologists described the subjective phenomena of schizophrenia comprehensively and brilliantly, and were convinced that they were "understandable", only to be explained as a secondary consequence of brain disease. Unfortunately, the phenomena in question (delusional perception, delusions of control, incongruity and flattening of affect and so on) were wholly different from those associated with all the forms of brain disease known at that time (general paralysis, Korsakoff's psychosis, senile dementia and delirium). There was therefore an impasse; and this led to a long series of attempts, some crude and ingenuous, others elaborate and ingenious, but all ultimately futile, to account for schizophrenia in existential, psychodynamic or social terms. Only now that the subtle psychological deficits associated with section of the corpus callosum or of selective damage to one or other cerebral hemisphere are being revealed do we begin to possess a convincing brain disease model for schizophrenia. Whatever the cause or causes of this disorder, Cutting argues, they must be capable of producing localised brain damage, and he commits himself to the idea that selective damage to the right hemisphere is probably of central importance.

It is an interesting and intelligent book. It contains the best and the most comprehensive English language account of the attempts of pre-war European psychiatry to comprehend schizophrenia, and the central thesis is well argued. But it has two important shortcomings. Like most of the rest of us Dr Cutting does not speak German and so can only read texts that have been translated. There is therefore no mention of Janzarik's concept of "dynamic

insufficiency", only a brief passing comment on Huber's "uncharacteristic" or "basic" symptoms, and the prognosis of schizophrenia is discussed without reference to Ciompi and Muller's 37 year follow up of nearly 300 patients. Nor can his right hemisphere hypothesis be regarded as much more than a hunch. As yet, he can produce no convincing neuropathological or neuroradiological evidence in support, and a good case could probably be made for the left hemisphere, the temporal lobes or even the diencephalon.

RE KENDEL

Neuroscience. Edited by Philip H Abelson, Eleanore Butz and Solomon H Snyder. (Pp 460; \$29.95 h/back; \$14.95 p/back.) Washington DC: AAAS (American Association for the Advancement of Science), 1985.

Duplicate publication is widely regarded as sinful, and here we have a flagrant example. This volume reproduces 27 articles on neurobiological topics that have recently appeared in *Science*. Nevertheless it is warmly welcome. Of course most keen students have access to library copies of *Science* and many serious neuroscientists are members of AAAS and receive their own copy. The advantages of this publication are two-fold. Firstly is the format. It is pleasant to copy and to read, and is substantially cheaper than xerox copies. Secondly, it provides editorial supervision that guides the reader into topics that may be unfamiliar.

What are these editorial choices? Principally the emphasis is on molecular biology. Not only is one of the four sections headed "Molecular Biology" but in the other ("Neuroplasticity" "Synaptic Transmission", and "Behavior") there is a very strong emphasis on molecular aspects.

Thus two chapters propose molecular mechanisms for learning, one involving cyclic AMP and protein kinases (Kandel and Schwartz) and one involving calcium activated proteinases and glutamate receptors (Lynch and Baudry). Clinicians who feel disappointed when higher cerebral functions are described in terms of synaptic changes observed in aplysia will be comforted by Roger Sperry's 1982 Nobel oration on cerebral hemisphere disconnection, and will also appreciate the chapters on Alzheimer's disease (by Coyle, Price and Delong) and of DNA markers for nervous system disorders (by Gusella and colleagues).

In terms of its key objective which is presumably to provide the young neuroscientist

with an overview of the most recent key developments the volume is largely successful. The only real deficiency is that the dramatic impact of newer neuroanatomical techniques on neurobiology is not sufficiently reflected.

BS MELDRUM

Intracranial Aneurysms. Edited by John L. Fox. (Vol 1: Pp 644; \$151.40; Vol 2: Pp 537; \$163.00; Vol 3: Pp 360; \$124.20.) (Subscription price with purchase of all 3 volumes approx \$108.70.) Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag, 1983.

Lionel Fox's *Intracranial Aneurysms* in three volumes is a most comprehensive survey of the subject. The author describes these volumes as "surveying the state of the art and adding new dimension to the subject". In this area he includes a statistical analysis of related variables, an update on the phenomenon of vasospasm, discussion of aetiology and pathogenesis etc. In volume I there is a thorough and detailed study of the history and incidence of intracranial aneurysms with an extensive statistical analysis of variables such as age, interval, sex, site of aneurysm etc. This thoroughness of analysis is apparent throughout as the author presents the background to a large and expanding area of neurosurgery. Herein lies some of the difficulties of presenting an update on a subject that is constantly acquiring new dimensions. The author acknowledges this particular problem in his review. The complication of subarachnoid haemorrhage is considered with a fairly extensive review of cerebrovascular spasm. Certainly readers interested in this aspect of the subject have been presented with a most comprehensive bibliography. The controversy of whether intracranial aneurysms are congenital or degenerative in origin is discussed in considerable detail. It would seem that this is an area needing more research with additional emphasis on possible preventive measures. Associated conditions such as arteriovenous malformations, tumours, trauma and variation in cerebrovascular anomalies are discussed. There is a large section on the radiology of intracranial aneurysm and here, as in other sections of these books, I was struck by the excellent photography, good art work and clear labelling. Volume II is mainly concerned with pre-operative preparation and operative techniques. The author uses his extensive experience in dealing with a variety of aneurysms as the main springboard for his description of operative techniques and so is able to give a number of important

practical points. Various approaches to different types of aneurysms are discussed some in great detail while others such as ophthalmic and anterior cerebral aneurysms receive less attention. The pre-and post-operative management reflect the practice in North America and not that in the United Kingdom. Volume III carries the appendices with extensive data on the world literature and a comprehensive bibliography on aneurysms and associated conditions.

Professor Fox with help from four co-authors has produced a very extensive study on intracranial aneurysms, and has certainly surveyed the state of the art documenting in detail the progress in this most fascinating of subjects. He has also correctly observed that while surgical techniques have resulted in a significant reduction in the mortality and morbidity of patients undergoing aneurysm surgery the management morbidity and mortality of this condition remains unacceptably high. This is an excellent work and I would certainly strongly recommend it as being an essential requirement in any neuroscience library.

G NEIL-DWYER

Correlative Neuroradiology. 2nd Ed. By Ronald G Quising and Preston R Lotz. (Pp 422; £78.65.) Bognor: John Wiley & Sons, 1985.

The authors state in the preface to this book that they aim to provide a basis necessary to correctly recognise critical details of brain anatomy and to provide a method of correlation between modern computed tomography, both with and without intrathecal contrast agents, MRI and angiography.

The book starts with a relatively brief but useful chapter explaining the basic principles and methodology of these imaging techniques, and proceeds to correlate these various techniques on a regional and topographical basis. The text outlines in detail important normal regional radiological anatomy, discusses how pathology can be localised using this knowledge and employs numerous normal cases and well chosen cases of intracranial pathology to illustrate.

One of the major strengths of the book is its coverage of cerebral angiography and its correlation with normal and pathological anatomy as demonstrated by good quality computed tomography. Whilst this emphasis on cerebral angiography might be considered by some to be anachronistic I believe that the markedly diminished use of angiography as a means of localisation of pathology only enhances the value of a text book

such as this, where the subject is dealt with clearly and comprehensively in a manner suitable to those people who are more used to radiological anatomy as imaged by computed tomography.

Two new features of this edition which are particularly worthwhile. One is a comprehensive tabular appendix reviewing the radiographic features of most entities of neuropathology which includes some very helpful clinical features. The second is very extensive bibliographies related to topographical localisation and neuroradiological features of intracranial pathology.

One slight disappointment is the quality of a number of the MR images, especially when compared with the excellence of the images produced by the other modalities.

I believe strongly that the authors have achieved their aims and I would highly recommend this book to neuroscientists interested in radiological anatomy and radiological characterisation of disease. I think it will be particularly useful to neuro-radiologists in training. However I feel that the book has a lot to offer to all levels of expertise.

T COX

Clinicopathological Aspects of Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease. Edited by T Mizutani and H Shiraki. (Pp 325; \$90.00.) Amsterdam: Elsevier Science Publishers, 1985.

This handsomely produced volume is an account of the Japanese contributions to knowledge of many aspects of Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease. These include the epidemiological studies of Kondo and Akai and the important transmission of the disease in rodents by Tateishi. The former emphasise the rarity of familial Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease, only three examples being identified in the national survey, none of the pedigrees suggesting dominant inheritance. The national prevalence is not given but the commonly cited but erroneous figure of 1 per million world wide appears in discussion.

The main theme, however, is an extensive chapter by the editors on clinicopathological correlations. Neuropathology and histology are minutely described and, as expected, splendidly illustrated. Clinical description is less satisfactory and the authors' evident enthusiasm for subdividing the disease, although well argued, is not wholly convincing. The most interesting aspects are the panencephalopathic form, with extensive