

rologists and other specialists who frequently encounter the problem of epilepsy.

This is a multi-authored text which has been well laid out without significant overlap or repetition. The authors are clinicians practising in large tertiary care centres in the United States. The book is divided into three sections. In the first section there are four chapters dealing with treatment implications derived from the classification of seizures, the use and misuse of routine EEG, prolonged monitoring and neuroimaging. The chapter on routine EEG is particularly good. The one on neuroimaging, however, is somewhat unbalanced with a greater emphasis on PET than MRI which may well reflect the authors' area of expertise but does not reflect the general availability of these two procedures. In addition there appears to be a major oversight in that there is no mention of SPECT.

The second section deals with clinical aspects of epilepsy relating to children, adults and the elderly. Two chapters concern the adult with epilepsy, one dealing with anticonvulsant selection and the other with special treatment problems. For some reason these two chapters have been separated by the one dealing with epilepsy in the elderly. The chapter dealing with anticonvulsant selection is very good, particularly the areas concerning drug levels, generics and the special problems associated with pregnancy and breast feeding. Some mention of new drugs, however, would have been a helpful addition and I was somewhat surprised that the author did not more widely advocate the use of once-daily phenytoin. The chapter on special treatment problems is very useful in dealing with the problems of when to start and stop anticonvulsants and the use of anticonvulsants prophylactically after head injury and neurosurgical procedures. This section ends with a chapter on epilepsy surgery which unfortunately is rather disappointing as it is somewhat biased and not particularly up to date (the most recent reference was 1986).

The final section has three very useful chapters dealing with subjects which are often overlooked. The first deals with the psychological problems associated with epilepsy, the second with psychiatric problems of epilepsy and the third with epilepsy and aggression. The last pays particular attention to the use of epilepsy as a legal defence. The book concludes with a good concise overview of the basic mechanisms of epilepsy.

I think that this book has much to recommend it and that it would be a valuable addition to departmental neuroscience libraries as well as to personal libraries of those with a special interest in epilepsy.

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TREMOR. 1990. By Roger J. Elble and W.C. Koller. Published by Johns Hopkins University Press. 204 pages. \$60 Cdn. approx.

The primary purpose of this monograph as indicated by the authors in the preface is "to provide a comprehensive, integrated review of the most common forms of tremor that are encountered in clinical and laboratory settings". They have accomplished their goal quite successfully. The book is made up of 9 chapters. In the first, the authors consider the definition and

classification of tremor. They emphasize the difficulties with currently used clinical and the laboratory classification schemes. The concept that tremor is a dynamic expression of altered motor control is emphasized here and throughout the text. Because oscillations are a common mode of normal biologic function it is emphasized that some forms of tremor may represent an abnormal expression of previously purposeful neural oscillation rather than *de novo* instability. Chapter 2 reviews many methods of recording and analyzing tremor. This chapter provides information on selecting systems for quantitatively recording tremor as well as information on methods employed in tremor research. This chapter provides some very useful information for those scientists considering work in this field.

Pathological tremors can only be studied and interpreted with a full understanding of normal physiologic rhythmic oscillations. The physiology of normal tremor is discussed in detail in Chapter 3. The potential sources for the two major components of this tremor (mechanical-reflex tremor and the 8-12-Hz tremor) are outlined.

The remaining Chapters 4 through 9 discuss various forms of pathological tremor. Chapter 4 considers the pathophysiology of essential tremor and also includes a review of several animal models of postural tremor and neuronal oscillation. Chapter 5 reviews the pharmacological and surgical treatments of essential tremor. Chapter 6 provides a nice review of the clinical characteristics, pathophysiology and management of various forms of cerebellar tremor. Parkinsonian tremor is reviewed in the following chapter. A brief discussion of tremor induced by drugs such as antipsychotics, beta-adrenergic agonists, lithium, valproic acid, tricyclic antidepressants, ethanol, caffeine and theophylline and other agents is provided in Chapter 8. The final chapter briefly considers a number of "usual" forms of tremor, including midbrain tremor, tremor associated peripheral neuropathy, task-specific tremors (with an emphasis on primary writing tremor), post-traumatic tremor and psychogenic tremor.

The authors emphasize that the book was not designed as an encyclopedia of tremor. Indeed certain topics such as the tremors of Wilson's disease and other rhythmical movements including segmental myoclonus are not considered. However, these two extremely prolific experts in the field of tremor have accomplished their goal of "not simply summarizing existing facts but rather stimulating new ideas in the reader." There is something here for all students of neuromuscular control whether they are working at the clinical or basic science level.

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POST-POLIO SYNDROME. 1991. T.L. Munsat. Published by Butterworth-Heinemann. 126 pages. \$50 Cdn. approx.

This multi-authored book purports to review the current state of knowledge of and treatment for the Post-Polio Syndrome (PPS). It must be asked, however, if this task really requires a whole book, even such a slim one, given the limited information presented here.

In ten chapters, the authors cover the history of polio and its epidemics, the biology of polio virus, the criteria for the diagnosis of PPS, the electrophysiological and muscle biopsy findings

in PPS and rehabilitation and support groups for those with PPS. Mulder provides a good historical introduction pointing out that late deterioration in polio patients was observed many years ago. Two different sets of diagnostic criteria are presented in consecutive chapters. Results of physiological and muscle biopsy results are given in three different chapters. This is somewhat redundant. All report evidence of chronic denervation with reinnervation producing an increased innervation density of remaining motor units. The evidence suggests that these enlarged units are unstable with continuing evidence of denervation in post-polio patients, in both those with and without late clinical deterioration. Chapters on strength testing, rehabilitation and support groups offer little that is new.

The information in this book is available elsewhere and could be provided in a comprehensive review article. It is unlikely to find a home in many neurologists' libraries.

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TEXTBOOK OF NEUROPATHOLOGY. 1991. Second Edition. Edited by Richard L. Davis and David M. Robertson. Published by Williams and Wilkins. 1155 pages. \$197 plus GST.

The new, second edition of this textbook is something of a bargain, costing only \$16.00 more than the first edition published in 1985, having 255 more pages, and now including a couple of new chapters, one on the "Ependyma and Choroid Plexus" and another on "Peripheral Nerve". As well there are some extensively rewritten chapters, some revised chapters and some apparently unchanged chapters. Many of the authors from the first edition have been retained but a few are absent, and there are some new names.

The 18 chapters are written by 24 authors, 8 from Canadian centers and 16 from U.S. centers.

What can I say about this book, much of which has been written by my friends, or perhaps I should say former friends? As with any multi-author text, much of it is really excellent to the point of being indispensable, whereas other portions of it are somewhat less impressive, particularly in light of the still very stiff competition from Greenfield's *Neuropathology*, the last (4th) edition available to me having been published in 1984. Much of Greenfield is still easier to read and has better illustrations but, of course, is not as up to date.

The first edition of Davis and Robertson was a great disappointment to me because I was fully expecting to find a nice dissertation on brain tumors by the first editor, given his very clear and lucid account of astrocytomas in the now quite ancient "Pathology of the Nervous System" edited by Minckler and published in 1971. However, the editors were careful to explain why brain tumors were not included in that volume and their decision to include or exclude certain material has to be respected I suppose. However, I remain frequently frustrated when an otherwise excellent account of some illness stops short of pursuing the neoplastic aspects of that illness such as, for example, complications of AIDS.

In some ways, the new chapter on "Ependyma and Choroid Plexus" duplicates some of the material in another chapter on "Choroid Plexus, CSF, Hydrocephalus, Cerebral Edema and

Herniation". Needless to say, in neither of these chapters is there any mention of ependymomas or choroid plexus papillomas.

The chapter on the "Meninges and their Reaction to Injury" appears to be totally rewritten though has some of the same illustrations as those in the first edition. It would be improved, I think, by some more pictures of pathology, and also, in my humble opinion, by some comments on tumors of the meninges.

The chapter on "Congenital Malformations of the Nervous System" remains excellent and, in my opinion, indispensable. I think that it would be improved by more photomicrographs, as, e.g. the microscopic appearances of the tuber in tuberous sclerosis.

The chapter on "Perinatal Neuropathology", I found, was very tough sledding but will reward those who have the concentration and determination to wade through it.

The chapter on "Oligodendrocytes" and the subsequent one on "Demyelinating Diseases" are superb, both in style and content, but I believe, Cedric, that figures 12.60 and 12.61 are upside down and I feel obliged to point out that the late Professor R.N. DeJong spelled his name that way, not DeJong, as it is spelled in the text and in the references.

The chapter on "Neurons and Astrocytes" is beautifully written and illustrated but, once again, I can only bemoan the fact that it does not continue on into a dissertation on the tumors arising from these cells.

I personally found the chapters on "Circulatory Disorders and their Effects on the Brain", and on "Viral Infections of the Nervous System" to be extremely helpful in my day-to-day activities in the lab. It would have been even more helpful to me if the chapter on viral diseases included some electron micrographs to help identify viruses in tissue sections. The new chapter on "Peripheral Nerve" is also excellent. One hopes that the editors will relent, in future editions, and permit some information on muscle pathology also to be included.

In all I found this to be an excellent volume. Despite my apparent displeasure voiced above I wish to congratulate the authors and editors on a job well done. As alluded to numerous times above there are some ways which would make the book even more desirable to me and presumably also to the "general pathologists, neurosurgeons, and neurologists" who are targeted in the preface to the first edition as being people who would benefit from this volume.

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THE HANDBOOK OF SLEEP DISORDERS. 1990. Edited by Michael J. Thorpy. Published by Marcel Dekker Inc. 920 pages. \$182 Cdn. approx.

This authoritative multi-authored text describes in brief the major types of problems encountered in sleep disorder clinics and includes those frequently presenting to respirologists, neurologists and psychiatrists. The authors chosen for each section are individuals with research interests and expertise within these specific areas. Most of the sections covered reflect current research perspectives in sleep medicine. Each chapter also reflects a modern approach to treatment of the specific sleep disorders described. In this regard the book represents a very good