

Books Received

APPLICATIONS OF NEURAL NETWORKS TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS 3. 1997. Edited by Joshua Alspector, Rodney Goodman, Timothy X. Brown. Published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. 292 pages. \$C104.00 approx.

BRAIN CONTROL OF BEHAVIOUR. 1997. By Paolo Pinelli. Published by Karger. 344 pages. \$C389.00 approx.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THERAPY. 1997. Edited by Karen L. Roos. Published by Marcel Dekker, Inc. 770 pages. \$C254.00 approx.

NEONATAL CEREBRAL ULTRASOUND. 1996. By Janet M. Rennie. Published by Cambridge University Press. 242 pages. \$C117.00 approx.

SEIZURES AND EPILEPSY IN CHILDHOOD. A GUIDE FOR PARENTS - SECOND EDITION. 1997. By John M. Freeman, Eileen P.G. Vining and Diana J. Pillas. Published by The Johns Hopkins University Press. 320 pages. \$C22.00 approx.

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE NEUROREHABILITATION. 1997. Edited by Mindy Aisen. Published by Humana Press. 244 pages. \$C129.00 approx.

STRESS - VOLUME 1 AND 2. MOLECULAR GENETIC AND NEUROBIOLOGICAL ADVANCES. 1996. Edited by Richard McCarty, Greti Aguilera, Esther L. Sabban and Richard Kvetnansky. Published by Harwood Academic Publishers. 1002 pages. \$C325.00 approx.

THE NEUROPSYCHOLOGY OF DREAMS. 1997. By Mark Solms. Published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. 292 pages. \$C78.00 approx.

THE TEMPORAL LOBE AND LIMBIC SYSTEM. 1997. By Pierre Gloor. Published by Oxford University Press Canada. 865 pages. \$C194.00 approx.

Book Reviews

FRACTURED MINDS: A CASE-STUDY APPROACH TO CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY. 1996. By Jenni A. Ogden. Published by Oxford University Press Canada. 290 pages. \$C40.00

This book describes the work of psychologists in the field of neuropsychology and their contribution to the assessment of the brain-damaged patient, to neurologic and neurosurgical diagnosis, to rehabilitation and to research. The author is a senior lecturer in clinical psychology at the University of Auckland in New Zealand and is associated with the Departments of Neurology and Neurosurgery there. The methods of assessment of cognitive function are described as they include the clinical interview, the choice of test procedures and their application to the full range of cognitive (intellectual) functions. Happily, and contrary to the practice of many neuropsychologists in Canada if not North America, the author is fully aware of the limitation of the tests, the problem of inadequate normal values, the absence of corrective measures for various psychological states, and the importance of interpreting the test results within a broader clinical context. The role of the neuropsychologist is correctly defined as a contributor to the process of diagnosis, and working as part of a multidisciplinary team which includes neurologists, neurosurgeons, psychiatrists, rather than as a sole practitioner who will go on to provide seemingly final and authoritative opinions on the existence of brain injury and other neurologic disorders.

The main portion of the book consists of clinical case studies with detailed descriptions of the neuropsychological test results. These include examples of global amnesia, aphasia, hemineglect, autotopagnosia, object and face agnosia, frontal lobe dysfunction, dementia, and the disabilities which follow subarachnoid hemorrhage, organic solvent exposure, corpus callosum section, and hemispherectomy. The clinical accounts are given in an interesting and lucid manner. The difficulties with

everyday life and behaviour are described and the neuropsychological defects are discussed with reference to current publications and concepts. A patient with a "minor closed head injury" is also included, with a history of brief concussion, a post-traumatic amnesia of several hours followed by typical post-concussion symptoms, and with demonstrable impairment of memory, sustained attention and new learning, with associated emotional difficulties, all of which subsided after a few months. This case example is in refreshing contrast to the diagnosis of mild head injury so readily promoted by many Canadian neuropsychologists and psychiatrists and other non-neurologic practitioners in patients who have never even struck their heads.

The text is highly recommended to medical students, students of psychology, to graduate physicians as well as to practicing neurologists, neurosurgeons and other health care professionals who are involved with neurologic disorders.

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DISORDERS OF THE VESTIBULAR SYSTEM. 1996. Edited by Robert W. Baloh, G. Michael Halmagyi. Published by Oxford University Press Canada. 687 pages. \$C194.00

This comprehensive hand-book on Disorders of the Vestibular System arrives at a time when there has literally been an exponential increase in interest in vestibular disorders in the field of medicine. The Editors have carefully selected many contributors to this volume who have expertise in the various areas that are discussed in detail in the four parts that make up this comprehensive and up to date text.

While multi-author texts can often be disjointed and difficult to read this text was a pleasure to read. Each chapter provides a wealth of information regarding the topic discussed. The first