

of patients with autosomal recessive disorders, (2) the calculation of carrier risks for X-linked disorders, and (3) a listing of X-linked neurological disorders. An additional appendix listing ethnic groups and disorders most often associated with them would have also been useful.

Each disorder is described briefly in terms of clinical signs and symptoms, genetics, and prenatal diagnosis. In several instances, a more critical assessment of the presented information would have been helpful. In addition, it would have been useful to discuss the accuracy of prenatal diagnosis for various disorders, rather than just stating that prenatal diagnosis is available. In addition, it should be mentioned whether prenatal diagnosis for a given condition is routinely offered at all major centres; or is only available in locations where specialized techniques are being investigated.

Detailed references are presented at the end of each chapter and these are separated according to topic. This is an excellent format as the reader can refer to a subject rather than an alphabetical listing of authors. Two criticisms regarding the references are that abstracts were not always identified as such and some of the references cited are not the major ones for the topic under discussion.

Each chapter has several excellent tables listing disorders, distinctive features, and mode(s) of inheritance. These are useful for quick reference.

A comment must be made about the author's terminology. It would be preferable to avoid terms such as "idiot" when referring to microcephalics and "mongol" in reference to individuals with Down syndrome or Trisomy 21.

No comment can be made on the price of this book as cost information was not available for this review.

In conclusion, this book provides a brief, although not very critical, overview of a wide range of topics. It is useful as a fast reference but, for most topics, additional literature should also be consulted if a reader wants to thoroughly cover a particular topic prior to seeing a patient. The excellent reference format will help a reader select appropriate extra reading.

*A.D. Sadovnick
Vancouver, British Columbia*

NEUROLOGY FOR THE HOUSE OFFICER. Third edition. By Howard L. Weiner, M.D. and Lawrence P. Levitt, M.D. Published by Williams & Wilkins. 204 pages. \$15.00 Cdn. approx.

Neurology for the House Officer, now published in its third edition, remains a very handy pocket sized guide for medical students. The first four chapters constitute a brief guide to anatomical localization of neurologic problems. This is followed by a series of chapters that document the common neurological problems seen in current hospital practice. There are then some chapters on the neurology of common medical problems, and the book finishes with some guidelines for neurodiagnostic procedures and neuroanatomy.

A significant omission remains the absence of any chapters dealing with infections of the central nervous system.

I would have no hesitation in recommending this book for medical students and first year medical interns who are unfamiliar with common neurological problems.

*G.M. Klein,
Calgary, Alberta*

Books Received

ADVANCES IN NEUROLOGY, VOLUME 43, MYOCLONUS. Edited by Stanley Fahn, C. David Marsden, Melvin Van Woert. 750 pages. \$172 Cdn. approx.

BEHAVIORAL NEUROLOGY: A PRACTICAL APPROACH. By Howard S. Kirshner. Published by Churchill-Livingstone (Academic Press) 230 pages.

BRAIN INSULTS IN INFANTS AND CHILDREN. Edited by Hector E. James, Nick G. Anas, Ronald M. Perkin. Published by Grune & Stratton (Academic Press). 291 pages. \$70.75 Cdn.

CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHIATRY. By Jeffrey L. Cummings. Published by Grune & Stratton (Academic Press) 264 pages. \$64.75 Cdn.

DIAGNOSTIC DECISIONS IN NEUROLOGY. By Klaus Poeck. Published by Springer-Verlag. 168 pages. \$23 Cdn. approx.

FUNDAMENTALS OF NEUROPHYSIOLOGY. Edited by R.F. Schmidt. Published by Springer-Verlag New York Inc. 346 pages. \$27 Cdn. approx.

LEFT SIDE, RIGHT SIDE: A REVIEW OF LATERALITY RESEARCH. By Alan Beaton. Published by Yale University Press. 364 pages. \$31 Cdn. approx.

MEMORY SYSTEMS OF THE BRAIN. 1985. Edited by Norman M. Weinberger, James L. McGaugh and Gary Lynch. Published by the Guilford Press. 514 pages. \$83 Cdn. approx.

MORPHOGENESIS OF THE BRAIN IN STAGED RHESUS MONKEY EMBRYOS. Series: Advances in Anatomy Embryology and Cell Biology 91. By Agnes A.M. Gribnau and Leonardus G.M. Geijsberts. Published by Springer-Verlag. 69 pages. \$27 Cdn. approx.

NEUROBIOLOGY OF ARACHNIDS. Edited by Friedrich G. Barth. Published by Springer-Verlag. 385 pages. \$96 Cdn. approx.