

## Books Received

**BAILLIERE'S CLINICAL NEUROLOGY. INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE AND RESEARCH CEREBRAL GLIOMAS.** 1996. Edited by W.K.A. Yung. Published by Harcourt Brace. 445 pages. \$C39.00 approx.

**BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY.** 1996. By Mark R. Rosenzweig, Arnold L. Leiman and S. Marc Breedlove. Published by Sinauer Associates Inc. 734 pages. \$C85.00 approx.

**CATASTROPHIC BRAIN INJURY.** 1996. Edited by Harvey S. Levin, Arthur L. Benton, J. Paul Muizelaar and Howard M. Eisenberg. Published by Oxford University Press Canada. 267 pages. \$C58.00 approx.

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

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

**HANDBOOK OF MUSCLE DISEASE.** 1996. Edited by Russell J.M. Lane. Published by Marcel Dekker Inc. 792 pages. \$C254.00 approx.

**MENINGITIS.** 1996. By Karen L. Roos. Published by Oxford University Press Canada. 208 pages. \$C51.00 approx.

**THE BIOCHEMICAL BASIS OF NEUROPHARMACOLOGY - SEVENTH EDITION.** 1996. Edited by Jack R. Cooper, Floyd E. Bloom and Robert H. Roth. Published by Oxford University Press Canada. 518 pages. \$C42.00 approx.

## Book Reviews

**AN INTRODUCTION TO NEUROENDOCRINOLOGY, FIRST EDITION.** 1994. By Richard E. Brown. Published by Cambridge University Press. 408 pages. \$C108.00 hardcover, \$C48.00 soft cover.

Professor Brown, of the Department of Psychology, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, states in the preface to his book that he set out to produce a textbook for students in Psychology, Biology, Nursing, Health Education, and other fields of Arts and Science and for more advanced students in physiology, anatomy and medicine. I think that he has succeeded in this aim very nicely indeed. The text is divided into fifteen chapters, some of which provide a high-level overview of the topic (e.g. chapter 2 – *The endocrine glands and their hormones*) while others provide a more detailed, in-depth approach (e.g. chapter 10 – *Receptors for peptide hormone, neuropeptides and neurotransmitters*). The chapters are arranged in such a fashion that they build, one on another, and lead the reader/student through the topics in a connected and logical fashion. I found the writing style easy to read and the numerous line diagrams were clear and helped illustrate and expand on the textual material. Each chapter ends with a series of *Further Readings* that highlights both recent papers and classics from the neuroendocrine literature. Following each chapter there is also a series of *Review Questions* and *Essay Questions* that would be particularly useful to anyone using this text for a course. For the student, these questions provide a useful aid to self-assessment. The *References* that end each chapter are reasonable, comprehensive, and up-to-date.

For someone approaching the topic of Neuroendocrinology from a behavioral standpoint, I was mildly surprised that Professor Brown had not dealt with the work of Levy and others that suggests that sexual orientation may be related to size differences in certain hypothalamic nuclei. I also found that the index was not as comprehensive as it might have been. For instance, to find *sexual behaviour* you have to look under

*behaviour* and then look up each of the topics listed under that. Finally, I was unclear as to why the overview of the book had been left to the final chapter.

These minor criticisms aside, I found this to be a very useful book. It brings together a wealth of neuroendocrine information and is the most comprehensive and up-to-date source for this, of which I am aware. The book contains far more information in it than would be needed by the practising neurologist, neurosurgeon, or endocrinologist. It should however be available as a reference in departmental libraries. Residents in Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Endocrinology will find this text very useful for reviewing the basic science of receptors and neurotransmitters/neuropeptides. Once again, it should be available in department libraries for this purpose. For anyone having to run a course on Neuroendocrinology at the undergraduate or graduate level, this would make a very suitable and welcome teaching aid.

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**NEGATIVE MOTOR PHENOMENA. ADVANCES IN NEUROLOGY - VOLUME 67.** 1995. Edited by Stanley Fahn, Mark Hallett, Hans O. Luders and C. David Marsden. Published by Lippincott-Raven. 416 pages. \$C156.00.

This volume is a comprehensive text and reference on negative motor phenomena. It is a byproduct of an international workshop held in April 1994. From Canada, presentations are made by Dr. Fred Andermann, Dr. Peter Ashby and Dr. Warren Blume. Negative Motor Phenomena refers to the involuntary lapses in motor muscle tone or postural control. It can also be defined clinically by an absence of initiation of action, or interruption of an ongoing voluntary motor act or a lapse in normal muscle tone during a sustained posture. Electrically there are periods of electrical silence on EMG at a time when normal muscle contraction should have been present, as in the maintenance of a posture against gravity. The three major