

chapter deals with diseases affecting myelination in domestic animals. This is an excellent account of conditions occurring in a variety of domestic animals which could be

used as models for the experimental investigation of similar disorders occurring in man.

Each chapter has a full list of references which are sufficiently up to date. This book

should be on the shelves of all those interested in the nervous system.

A. L. LATNER.

Cerebral Tumours

Parasagittal and Falx Meningiomas. P. C. Gautier-Smith, F.R.C.P. (Pp. 350; £1.50) Butterworths. 1970.

Large series of patients with cerebral tumours operated upon by an individual surgeon are becoming a thing of the past as the number of neurosurgeons increases and neurosurgery is no longer an esoteric specialty but an essential service. It will soon be impossible to assemble such groups of cases without combining experience from several centres and thereby introducing difficulties of documentation and comparison.

Dr. Gautier-Smith has assembled and re-

viewed 213 parasagittal and falx meningiomas. The patients were all treated by comparable techniques and were under the clinical supervision of Sir Wylie McKissock, who performed the majority of the operations himself. The present group covers a period of 30 years, ending in 1966. There were 154 parasagittal tumours and 59 arising from the falx, forming 20% of the total number of meningiomas seen in the same time.

The first section of the book examines the parasagittal meningiomas, and the second those attached to the falx. The cases are grouped by their location in the anterior, middle, and posterior thirds of the sagittal

plane. They are reviewed under the headings of symptoms, signs, investigations, and surgical and postoperative considerations. The third and final section gives brief but detailed summaries of the case histories, and there are a number of selected references. Advances in neuroradiology have provided much information that could not be available to earlier authors, and for the same reason the analysis of gamma scans performed on 12 patients points the way for the future. The study is essentially clinical and includes no detailed pathology.

PETER H. SCHURR

Ophthalmic Operations

An Atlas of Ophthalmic Surgery. 2nd edn. John Harry King, M.D., and Joseph A. C. Wadsworth, M.D. (Pp. 631; £20) Blackwell Scientific. 1970.

The second edition of this book, which first appeared in 1961, has a new co-author, Dr. Joseph A. C. Wadsworth, of Durham, N. Carolina, in place of the late Conrad Berens. Much of the text has been brought up to date in the light of modern developments in cryotherapy and phototherapy, and in particular the section on the treatment of retinal detachment has been revised and

augmented. Improvements have been made too in the description of corneal grafting technique, which has now reached a high degree of development.

In a work with such a wide field as ophthalmic surgery the authors have to decide what to include and what to leave out and are inevitably exposed to criticism. To some it may seem strange that six eponymous methods of performing intramarginal tarsorrhaphy and ten simple pterygium procedures are thought worthy of description and illustration, while there is no mention of intraocular implants—including keratoprostheses—where corneal transplantation is doomed to failure, or such

valuable procedures as the use of the temporalis muscle to relieve exposure keratitis, where simple tarsorrhaphy would not be efficient. There is surprisingly little reference to the increasing use of operation microscopes, especially in corneal surgery.

Books on surgical technique must be mainly picture books supported by an adequate text. The drawings are excellent—simple and explicit. This is a useful book for the practical ophthalmologist or senior student, but for experienced surgeons must be supported by reference to original articles and other publications.

HAROLD RIDLEY

Medical Education

The History of Medical Education. An International Symposium held February 1968. Ed. C. D. O'Malley. (Pp. 548; £9.50) University of California Press. 1970.

This is the first general work on the history of medical education since Theodore Puschmann published his important account in 1889. Many specialized studies have appeared in the intervening years, but the symposium which was held in Los Angeles in 1968 succeeded in bringing to light much new information as well as in effectively bridging the 80-year gap. The subject is vast because the history of medical education spans medical history and indeed con-

stitutes a significant part of it. It is, too, of increasing importance.

Most of the 19 contributors, all well-known authorities, have confined their attentions to particular countries or groups of countries, but some of them are concerned with particular epochs or civilizations—for example, classical antiquity, the Middle Ages, medieval Islam, or ancient India. While the essays vary in style, in approach, and in length, they share in common a thoroughness and scholarship which is altogether admirable. The accompanying bibliographies are in themselves of great value to the student of medical history and so are the notes which some authors have appended to their chapters. The illustrations, not numerous but all interesting, are

bound together towards the middle of the volume. There is no account of any discussions which one presumes must have followed the presentation of such interesting topics at the symposium.

While it would be invidious, in the face of such excellence, to comment on the work of individual contributors, I should like to refer to the succinct and pleasing account of medical education during the Renaissance, because it was one of the principal interests of the late Dr. C. D. O'Malley. This fine volume, in fact, will be thought of as a fitting memorial to its industrious editor, whose untimely passing has robbed us of a scholar of distinction.

W. H. MCMENEMEY

SELECTED NEW TITLES

Physiology of the Retina and Visual Pathway. 2nd edn. G. S. Brindley, M.D., F.R.S. (Pp. 315; £4.50) Edward Arnold. 1970.

Lecture Notes on Pharmacology. 10th edn. J. H. Burn, M.D., F.R.S. (Pp. 158; £1.25) Blackwell. 1971.

Bunnell's Surgery of the Hand. 5th edn. Joseph H. Boynes, M.D. (Pp. 727; £17) Blackwell. 1971.

Psychotropic Drug Side Effects. Richard I. Shader, M.D., and Alberto DiMascio, Ph.D. (Pp. 290; £5.75) E. & S. Livingstone. 1970.

Gynecology. 8th edn. Edmund R. Novak, M.D., Georgeanna Seegar Jones, M.D., and Howard W. Jones, jun., M.D. (Pp. 746; £10.50) E. & S. Livingstone. 1970.

Rapid Diagnostic Methods in Medical Microbiology. Ed. Charles D. Graber, Ph.D. (Pp. 343; £5.25) E. & S. Livingstone. 1970.

Genetic Concepts and Neoplasia. Twenty-third Annual Symposium, Houston, Texas. (Pp. 620; £8) E. & S. Livingstone. 1970.

Atlas of Experimental Immunobiology and Immunopathology. Byron H. Waksman, M.D. (Pp. 92; \$20) Yale University Press. 1970.

Principles of Chest X-Ray Diagnosis. 3rd edn. George Simon, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.F.R. (Pp. 282; £8) Butterworths. 1971.

MEDICAL NEWS

Nurses at Farleigh Hospital

Printed as an appendix to the *Report of the Farleigh Hospital Committee of Inquiry* (see leading article, p. 119) is a petition from the nurses of the hospital to the Secretary of State. The text of the petition is as follows:

"We, the nurses of Farleigh Hospital, feel strongly that we are now in a position which leaves us defenceless against, and wide open to, unfair criticism from people who are inexperienced in the care of subnormal people, and who are also hypersensitive to exaggeration.

"The recent trials involving nine of our colleagues have shown us that we are extremely susceptible to legal action when restraining violent patients which very frequently becomes our unfortunate duty.

"We feel at the moment that the future of the subnormal branch of the nursing profession is, as far as this aspect of our work is concerned, extremely precarious. In fact, one wonders seriously if it is worth while remaining part of it, to become, perhaps, the next "scapegoat" of this sadly neglected profession.

"It is obvious that the type of patients referred to—the severely subnormal aggressive types, the psychotic subnormals, and the disturbed epileptics—will always be with us. It is equally obvious that there will be ancillary staff and junior untrained nursing staff, who are totally ignorant of the strength and propensities of these patients. Are we to remain at the mercy of such people who, quite innocently, though mistakenly, may think that a little too much force was used to restrain a violent patient?

"It has been suggested that, to be on the 'safe side,' nursing staff should not use restraint at all. One can easily imagine the results of such action. Furthermore, such action would no doubt be termed 'neglect' under Section 126 of the 1959 Mental Health Act.

"We recognise that we the nurses at Farleigh are not the only ones with this problem, for every hospital in the country catering for this type of patient is equally vulnerable.

"We respectfully and most urgently request your advice and guidance with special emphasis on:

- (1) Are we to restrain a patient who is self-mutilating?
- (2) Are we to restrain a patient making a violent attack on a weaker patient?
- (3) Are we allowed to protect ourselves when attacked by patients?

"If the answers to the above are in the affirmative then we should like to know:

- (1) The degree of force which may be used to restrain a patient or to protect oneself before it is interpreted as ill-treatment.
- (2) What safeguards can be given to protect our professional integrity against reports as outlined above and perhaps not made for a period of some years after the incident.

World Medical Assembly

It is hoped to make group travel arrangements for doctors and their wives from Britain to Canada to allow attendance at the World Medical Assembly in Ottawa from 12-18

September 1971, and thereafter to enable those travelling to make arrangements for a short holiday in Canada after the meeting.

The flight would be by B.O.A.C. from Manchester and Prestwick to Montreal. The return fare for those joining at Prestwick would be £97.10 with a supplement for those leaving from Manchester. To take advantage of the special fares a minimum number of 30 is required and all must travel on the same flights out and home.

Anyone interested is asked to write to Dr. S. J. Hadfield, Scottish Secretary, B.M.A. House, 7 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh, EH3 7QP.

New Life Peerage

Sir Solly Zuckerman, O.M., F.R.S., until very recently chief scientific adviser to the Government, was included in the list of new life peers announced last week. Born in South Africa in 1904, Sir Solly came to Britain in 1925, qualifying in medicine three years later. For many years he was Sands Cox professor of anatomy at Birmingham University.

Tropical Doctor

The second issue of *Tropical Doctor* (see B.M.J., 28 November, p. 510) is now available. Subjects covered include measles in the tropics, the management of diarrhoea in children, orthopaedic appliances for developing countries, cataract extraction, and severe anaemia in pregnancy. More than 2,500 copies of the first issue were mailed to hospitals in some 90 developing countries, but since then the postal strike in Britain has interfered with the journal's launching. *Tropical Doctor* appears quarterly and the annual subscription rate is £3 (\$8), post free anywhere, from the International Relations Office, Royal Society of Medicine, 2 Queen Anne Street, London W1M 0BR.

Grants for Clinical Students

The British Medical Students' Association is to ask the Department of Education and Science to reconsider the financial problems of clinical medical students. At its Annual General Meeting in Leeds earlier this month the association agreed to remind the Department that clinical students worked 48 weeks a year and unlike other students were therefore unable to take vacation jobs. During the extra 18 weeks students receive only £7 a week—often too little even to cover the cost of board and lodging. The B.M.S.A. is to ask that the figure be raised to £14 a week.

COMING EVENTS

Manchester Medical Society.—Copies of the programme, April and May, are obtainable from honorary secretary of the society, the Medical School, Manchester University, Manchester M13 9PL.

Royal College of Physicians of London.—Clinical pharmacology session, "Oxygen Therapy," by Dr. P. Hugh-Jones, 20 April, 2.30 p.m.

West Middlesex Hospital Medical Centre.—Ten postgraduate lectures on "Current Trends in Diagnosis and Management," Wednesdays, 5 p.m., 21 April-23 June. Details and copies of the programme from the secretary of the medical centre, West Middlesex Hospital, Isleworth, Middx. (Tel. 01-560 2121, extn. 294.)

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

For attending lectures marked * a fee is charged or a ticket is required. Applications should be made first to the institution concerned.

Monday, 19 April

DUNDEE UNIVERSITY.—5 p.m., Professor J. Loewenthal (Sydney): Transplantation of Kidneys—experience and results in Australasia.

INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Combined staff consultation clinical meeting.

INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND Gynaecology.—At Queen Charlotte's Hospital, 2 p.m., Mr. R. L. Gadd: Liquor Amnii; 3 p.m., discussion: Haemoglobinopathies in Obstetrics. (Admission by ticket only, obtainable from Secretary, Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Chelsea Hospital for Women, London, S.W.)

Tuesday, 20 April

INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH.—5.30 p.m., Dr. F. S. Rosen (Harvard): Complement Defects.

INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND Gynaecology.—At Chelsea Hospital for Women, 11.15 a.m., discussion: Myomectomy; 3 p.m., Dr. M. K. Lucas: Laboratory Aspects of Cytogenetics. (Admission by ticket only, obtainable from Secretary, Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Chelsea Hospital for Women, London, S.W.)

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE.—5 p.m., Mr. N. Capener: Traumatic Disorders of the Hip Complex.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS: SOUTH LONDON FACULTY.—At South-East London G.P. Centre, St. Mary's Road, S.E.15, 8.15 p.m., Dr. H. B. Wright: Areas of Deficient Knowledge in Middle-age.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH.—5 p.m., Professor J. Loewenthal (Sydney): Transplantation of the Kidney—Australasian Results.

Wednesday, 21 April

INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. I. S. Kreeger: Attention Seekers—A Consideration of their Diagnosis and Management.

Thursday, 22 April

DUNDEE UNIVERSITY.—5 p.m., Professor K. T. Evans: Radiology of Gastric Hypersecretion.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5 p.m., Artis and Gale lecture by Mr P. C. Weaver: Cardiovascular Effects of Halothane.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—5.15 p.m., Mr. J. Bonnar: Placental Insufficiency and Fetal Growth Retardation.

Friday, 23 April

BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY.—At University College London, 4.30 p.m., Hopkin's memorial lecture by Dr. F. Sanger, F.R.S.: Nucleotide Sequences in Bacteriophage RNA.

INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Mr. J. A. M. Martin: Assessment of the Late-talking Child.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE REGIONAL NEUROLOGICAL CENTRE.—At Newcastle General Hospital, 5.30 p.m., Dr. C. T. G. Fleat, Dr. J. Greener: Skeletal Muscle—Contributions to Homeostasis and Distortions in Disease.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

LONDON

M.D.—A. J. U. Anderson, D. G. Colin-Jones, B. Wan-Bun Chan, M. T. Cwynarski, A. M. P. Kellam, M. P. Vessey.

D.Sc.—G. G. Meynell

MANCHESTER

Appointments.—Dr. F. N. Bamford (senior lecturer in community paediatrics, department of child health); Dr. I. M. S. Wilkinson (lecturer in clinical neurology).

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST

Appointment.—Mr. T. G. Parks (senior lecturer in clinical science, department of surgery).

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON
At a meeting of the College held on 5 April, Lord Rosenheim was re-elected president for the ensuing year.

Notice to Authors

When original articles and letters for publication are not submitted exclusively to the *British Medical Journal* this must be stated.

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