

on drugs and anaesthetic agents contains papers dealing with osmolality in CSF and the control of ICP by use of hyperosmolar agents, as well as discussions on the important problem of influence of anaesthetic drugs on ICP. The last clinical session discusses various clinical problems including CSF monoamine metabolites, valvular action of Arnold-Chiari malformation, variations of ICP during neurosurgical procedures, complications during ICP monitoring, and the value of ICP monitoring for clinical diagnosis. Special chapters at the end of the book are short and concise reviews on the pathophysiology of increased ICP (T. W. Langfitt), techniques for measuring ICP (B. Jennett), and clinical indications for measurement of ICP (N. Lundborg), which reflect the current attitudes to these topics. The volume is closed by a short glossary on the terms most commonly used in the field of ICP, and a subject index.

This collection of concise contributions on various problems of ICP presented by distinguished workers from various countries gives an excellent review on current research in this important field of modern neurobiology. Thanks are due to the editors and the advisory board as well as to Springer-Verlag for rapid publication and excellent preparation of this volume which is highly recommended to everyone interested in the field of intracranial pressure.

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Neurosciences research symposium summaries. Vol. 6. — F. O. Schmitt, G. Adelman, T. Melnechuk and F. G. Worden (Editors). (MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1972, 712 p., \$12.50).

This volume published in 1972 is a compilation of five conferences held in 1968 through 1970 and published as separate issues of Vol. 9 of the *Neurosciences Research Program Bulletin* in 1971. Hence, if one is an individual subscriber to the *Bulletin*, purchasing the Neurosciences Research Symposium Summaries would be redundant. As in the past, the individual reports of the NRP work sessions are superb. The first is on the Central Control of Movement, edited by Drs. Evarts, Bizzi, Burke, DeLong and Thach. The second report is on Brain Monoamines and Endocrine Function, edited by Wurtman. The third is on Carriers and Specificity in Membranes, edited by Eigen and DeMaeyer. The fourth report deals with Myelin, edited by Mokrash, Bear and Schmitt and the fifth on the subject Are Apes Capable of Language?, edited by Ploog and Melnechuk.

The reports of these work sessions are a pleasure to read. They are written in a lucid style that summarizes current thinking. Work session participants are usually the outstanding investigators in the topic field. Hence, one can appreciate the updating in knowledge in the various fields. Electroencephalographers will find the summaries excellent sources of information. However, the topics are not very pertinent to the interests of electroencephalographers except for general neuroscience information. Electromyographers should certainly be interested in the discussions on central nervous system control of movement. I personally found the

report on brain monoamines and endocrine function especially valuable and recommend it highly to those interested in the subject. Evidence is provided that brain monoamines clearly participate in controlling the secretion of hypophysiotropic hormones in the median eminence of the hypothalamus. Especially important is the role of dopamine and norepinephrine in enhancing GRF secretion, norepinephrine causing ovulation through stimulation of LRF, dopamine stimulating LRF release and norepinephrine inhibiting ACTH secretion. Brain serotonin also exerts important actions but their mechanisms are less well understood. The latter is of interest in regard to drugs which alter brain serotonin that have been written up in the lay press as potential aphrodisiacs. Steroid hormones cause marked changes in brain monoamine synthesis and turnover indicating a very complex anatomical, neurotransmitter and neurophysiological interaction.

Congratulations are in order to the editors of this anthology from the Neurosciences Research Program Bulletin under the overall editorship of Schmitt, Adelman, Melnechuk and Worden. This neurosciences research program is contributing a vital service to handling the information explosion in neurosciences. May they continue to do an outstanding job.

I would recommend that this volume be available in libraries and would suggest that those interested in specific work session reports purchase the individual Bulletins rather than the entire volume. This may not be possible. The editors might consider anthologies covering related topics rather than the widespread fields covered in the present volume. It certainly would be easier on the individual purchasers to buy such a book rather than the present one.

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The double brain. — S. Dimond. (Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, Md., 1972, 229 p., \$14.00).

“Not long ago, few doubted the brain to be double in function as well as physically bilateral; but now that it is certain, from the researches of Dax, Broca and others, that damage to but one lateral half can make a man entirely speechless, the former view is disputed”.

John Hughlings Jackson

Dimond addresses himself to the demonstration of the known specific properties of brain function which are resident in each cerebral hemisphere and attempts, to some extent, to show how the “double brain” acts in complementary and supplementary ways for normal propositional behavior.

The overwhelmingly important role of pathology in the elucidation of the inhomogeneities of bilateral brain dysfunction, *i.e.*, the breakdown in equipotential parallel function, is exemplified by the data derived from experimental hemisphere disconnection in animals (Chapter 3), therapeutic and pathological hemisphere disconnections in man (Chapter 4), hemispherectomy (Chapter 5) as well as the final two chapters (8 and 9) on language and hemisphere relationships respectively.