

These articles in the basic science section are concise, well written, and obviously reflect high level research efforts.

The clinical section is more variable. Andre Olivier of McGill thoroughly describes the current N.M.I. evaluation and results of patients undergoing temporal lobectomy for uncontrolled complex partial seizures. Perucca and Crema give a first class review of therapeutic monitoring of serum antiepileptic drug levels, a review which any neurologist seeing epileptic patients would find valuable. From contributions of this calibre, this section of the book descends to "Developments of Pharmacotherapy of Epilepsy" by Meinardi, Binnie, Goedhart, and Meijer of Heemstede, Holland who present a wandering disorganized account of the subject.

This is an excellent volume for clinical neurologists-epileptologists who have an interest in the basic science of epilepsy and certainly for those in the basic sciences who wish to keep abreast of developments in their fields relative to epilepsy. The neurologist who sees some epileptic patients will find certain of the clinical contributions of value.

Given the difficulty of bringing out a high quality multi-authored review in a brief period of time, the editors should be commended on this most valuable contribution.

*W.T. Blume,
London, Ontario*

EPILEPSY: DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT. First Edition. Edited by Thomas R. Browne, M.D. and Robert G. Feldman, M.D. Published by Little, Brown and Company, Boston. 376 pages. \$24.

In the preparation of this text, the editors have attempted to include the abundance of new information available over the past decade on the diagnosis and management of epilepsy. They have been entirely successful in meeting this objective and in producing a very readable, well-referenced and comprehensive textbook on epilepsy. Each major seizure type is accorded an individual chapter with definitions and accounts of pathophysiology, clinical and electroencephalographic features, differential diagnosis, management and prognosis. The comprehensive discussions of management include pharmacological principles, use of blood levels, nursing considerations, behavioral methods of seizure control and the effects of epilepsy and anticonvulsants on sexual function and pregnancy. A chapter on surgical management accurately and succinctly summarizes current thinking.

The pharmacology of current anticonvulsants is comprehensively reviewed with a chapter devoted to each drug group nicely organized with numerous headings.

An account of resources available to American epileptic patients will have little application for Canadian readers. The chapter on infantile spasm contains several tabulations which could have been summarized.

Excellent current references are provided with each chapter affording the reader an opportunity to expand information on virtually any aspect of the text.

*Donald R. McLean,
Edmonton, Alberta*

THE ASSESSMENT OF APHASIA & RELATED DISORDERS. Second Edition. Edited by H. Goodglass and E. Kaplan. Published by Lea & Febiger. 102 pages. Additional materials: A Boston Diagnostic Aphasia Examination booklet, copy bound in the book (32 pages); test stimulus cards (16); the Boston Naming Test (64 pages); Boston Naming Test scoring booklet (8 pages). \$34.50 Canadian.

The new edition of the Assessment of Aphasia and Related Disorders is a substantially revised edition of the 1972 test which has achieved the considerable popularity as the most comprehensive and sophisticated aphasia test to date.

Changes in the actual test procedure include more frequent allowances for discontinuing subtests after repeated failures. The mechanics of writing has been redefined as a new five-point scale. It is now based on the patient's entire written output. The rating scale on the narrative writing has been redesigned to give credit for the information conveyed. Other changes in the test included the visual confrontation naming of body parts being increased and the old body part naming subtest being deleted. The paraphasic errors have been relabelled and more detailed, clinical description is given. There are changes in the Supplementary Language tests, as well as the Supplementary Nonlanguage tests, which reflect some of the work done in the Boston Aphasia Research Center.

The revised score summary sheet was based on a new normative sample of 242 aphasics tested between 1976 and 1982. In edition, the Z-scores were abandoned in favour of percentiles, which alters the classification somewhat. In the final chapter on major aphasic syndromes, sections on global aphasias, mixed nonfluent aphasia and subcortical aphasias are also included. The manual contains interesting information about the test construction and a theoretical framework for aphasia as well.

The Boston Naming Test is a useful addition to the Boston Diagnostic Aphasia Examination, although it has not been standardized to the same extent.

The Boston Aphasia Examination has become an extensively used, well standardized leading aphasia test in North America. There is a considerable body of research carried out using this test. It is lengthy and complicated, and not likely used for screening purposes. This book and the test are recommended to speech pathologists and neurologists with an interest in aphasia. The price is very reasonable.

*A. Kertesz,
London, Ontario*

EVOLUTION OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM. Second Edition. By Harvey S. Sarnat and Martin G. Netsky. Published by Oxford University Press, New York, 1981. 504 pages. \$36 apx. Cdn.

This volume is a highly interesting, up-to-date survey of comparative neuroanatomy and evolutionary trends extending from protochordates via placoderms, amphibians and reptiles to mammals including *Homo sapiens*. Although the basic concept is that of classical neuroanatomy, the authors have succeeded well in animating the reading by making functional correlations between homologous systems throughout phylogeny. The chapters are also divided into functional systems making it easy