

epileptic types; calibrations are not shown but might have been useful in conditioning inexperienced physicians to be more critical in comparing traces. Structural lesions are highlighted by good illustrations of computed tomographic scans and, in a few instances, MRI scans. The sections dealing with metabolic diseases and with neuromuscular diseases appropriately focus on clinical rather than laboratory aspects, though a few muscle biopsies are illustrated.

I found few items with which I disagree, though in the interest of brevity and clear factual statement without ambiguity, the depth of discussion is limited and controversial topics are avoided. Surgical aspects of paediatric neurology are also largely excluded. References are limited in number, but carefully selected and generally recent and useful for initiating a more detailed library review of a particular topic.

In general, this book is a good introduction to neurological disease in children and a convenient reference for non-neurological clinicians. I would recommend it to paediatric residents and paediatricians desiring to update their knowledge in neurology, and to adult and paediatric neurology residents in their initial contact with neurological disease in children.

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**CHARCOT THE CLINICIAN: THE TUESDAY LESSONS.** By Jean-Martin Charcot. Translated with commentary by Christopher Goetz. Published by Raven Press, 1987. 223 pages. \$67Cdn approx.

One hundred years ago Eiffel was constructing his tower, Korsakoff was describing his "psychosis", Horsley had just successfully removed the first spinal cord tumor in man, and the first volume of Gowers' manual had just appeared. In Paris, Charcot was at the height of his career and had made Paris a medical center for neurology where both North Americans and continental Europeans flocked. Despite the enormous influence that Charcot has had on subsequent generations of neurologists, he has remained a largely enigmatic figure known best to the English speaking world by Bailey's translation of Guillain's biography which is largely hagiographic and spare in critical analysis and insight. Those who have read commentary on Charcot's forays into hysteria and hypnosis have found that he has generally been badly served. Efforts of this kind are commonplace in the careers of truly original minds.

Charcot's Tuesday lessons have remained the most important piece of Charcotiana which have remained untranslated into English. For those who read French they help in putting the great neurologist into proper perspective. C.G. Goetz does his colleagues a most valuable service in translating these lessons into English during the 100th anniversary year of their transcription. Translators commonly suffer at the hands of critics. They are apt to be belittled for missing the nuances of language and can expect little credit for what are really someone else's words unless they can provide the added dimension which comes from critical in-depth analysis. Dr. Goetz succeeds most admirably both in constructing the vivid and fascinating context of late 19th century Paris and in executing the best exposition and analysis of Charcot that I have read. Neurologists with a bent for history will find this book difficult to put down, replete as it is with hypotheses if not answers to many questions they

have asked themselves over the years. The background and the biographical and bibliographic details are fascinating enough that the book is a treasure even if one ignores the actual case presentations. They are not to be ignored. To paraphrase Mark Twain's comment about his own father, the amusement of young physicians with the primitiveness of their predecessors gives way in later life to amazement at their cleverness. Similarly, some readers will undoubtedly be surprised to find many "modern" concepts in the words of Charcot in the Tuesday lessons. His discussion of Gilles de la Tourette syndrome left little to add and his perceptions of the importance of genetic factors in neurologic disease, although perhaps overstated, may yet be more correct than are generally thought. I find it difficult to find fault with this book excepting for some gratuitous comments on Charcot's attitude towards inherited neurological diseases in Jews. Goetz appears to have accepted the Bell side of the Bell/Magendie battle and gives 1892 as the date of the first printed edition of the lessons (my copy of Vol. 2 was published in 1889). Also Goetz has only selected 9 volume one cases for translation and there are many others untranslated in the two volume "Lecons du Mardi". These have become rather scarce items even if one could read them in the original text. As with Spillane's "Doctrine of the Nerves", this reviewer wishes he could have written "Charcot the Clinician". A translation of the remaining cases would not be unwelcome particularly from Dr. Goetz.

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**CONSCIOUSNESS, AWARENESS, AND PAIN IN GENERAL ANAESTHESIA.** Edited by M. Rosen and J.N. Lunn. Published by Butterworths, 1987 (Toronto). 195 pages. \$42Cdn approx.

This multiauthored book was stimulated by a multidisciplinary workshop that took place in Cardiff, Wales in June of 1986. Awareness during anaesthesia is frequently discussed by anaesthetists, but even the most recent general textbooks do not develop this topic. This compact book corrects this deficiency.

In 23 terse well-written chapters, methods of assessing consciousness, anaesthetic depth and awareness are discussed. The techniques described vary from the most clinical to the most technologically sophisticated including EEG, processed EEG, EMG and evoked responses amongst others. In addition, several chapters describe awareness under general anaesthesia from British and American medicolegal perspectives. To echo the importance of this topic, the book ends with a poignant appendix in which 27 patients describe their personal accounts of awareness.

The plethora of technologies available to detect consciousness shows that no "gold standard" exists; however, the individual chapters give an indication of the strengths and weaknesses of each modality.

In summary, this book belongs in the libraries of all anaesthesia departments. As a reference, it will be useful to professionals involved in electrophysiology, psychology and law. The appendix should be read by all practising anaesthesia.

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