

## Book Reviews

### Humangenetik: Krankheiten des Nervensystems

Ein kurzes Handbuch in fünf Bänden: Band V/1.

(*Human Genetics: Diseases of the Nervous System*)

A short Handbook in five volumes: Volume V/1.

Edited by P. E. Becker. Contributions by P. E. Becker and G. Koch. Georg Thieme Verlag. Stuttgart, 1966. xii+557 pages; 177 black-and-white illustrations. Bound volume with jacket; 17×25 cm. Selling price: DM 174 (approx. \$ 45); Subscription price: DM 139.20 (approx. \$ 35). Cannot be sold without Volume V/2 (cf following review).

Started around 1964, this « short » Handbook of Human Genetics has so far given a total of over 3000 printed pages with some 1300 illustrations, distributed in Volumes II (Skeletal System), III/1 (Metabolism, Allergic and Infectious Diseases, Cancer, Myopathies and Urogenital System), IV (Sense Organs), and the here reviewed V/1 (Nervous System) and V/2 (Psychiatry), while Volumes I and III/2 are yet to be published.

This First Part of Volume V consists in the following contributions on Nervous Diseases:

G. Koch: Diffuse Scleroses; Phacomatoses; Syringomyelia; Diseases mainly involving the Extrapyrarnidal System — P. E. Becker: Diseases mainly involving the Cerebellospinal System (hereditary ataxias); Diseases mainly involving Pyramidal Tract, Anterior Column and Bulbar Motor Centers (spastic spinal paralyse, spinal muscular atrophies, progressive bulbar paralyse and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis); Diseases mainly involving Peripheral Nerves and Spinal Roots — G. Koch: Nervous Diseases of Exogenous or Nuclear Origin.

A Subject Index completes the volume. It may be noted that myopathies have been included in the already published Vol. III/1, rather than in the present volume. Also, epilepsy and

migraine have been dealt with in the second part of this volume, devoted to psychiatric disorders.

Two main difficulties, the German language and the high price, will probably interfere with a worldwide distribution of this important work.

### Humangenetik: Psychiatrische Krankheiten

Ein kurzes Handbuch in fünf Bänden: Band V/2.

(*Human Genetics: Psychiatric Diseases*)

A short Handbook in five volumes: Volume V/2.

Edited by P. E. Becker. Contributions by H. Bickel, H. Cleve, G. Koch, W. Lenz, E. Strömngren, E. Zerbin-Rüdin. Georg Thieme Verlag. Stuttgart, 1967. xv+613 pages; 60 tables; 105 both colored and black-and-white illustrations. Bound volume with jacket; 17×25 cm. Selling price: DM 190 (approx. \$ 48); Subscription price: DM 152 (approx. \$ 38). Cannot be sold without Volume V/1 (cf preceding review).

Volume V of Becker's Handbook of Human Genetics has been devoted to Hereditary Nervous and Mental Diseases and divided in two parts: Part 1, dealing with Nervous Diseases, which has already been examined in the preceding review, and Part 2, dealing with Psychiatric Diseases, and consisting in the following chapters:

G. Koch: Epilepsies — E. Zerbin-Rüdin: Degenerative Processes of the Brain; Idiopathic Mental Deficiency — H. Bickel and H. Cleve: Metabolic Forms of Mental Deficiency — W. Lenz: Anomalies of the Autosomes with respect to Mental Deficiency — G. Koch: Special Forms of Mental Deficiency (hereditary syndromes with mental deficiency) — E. Zerbin-Rüdin: Endogenous Psychoses (schizophrenias and manic depressive psychoses) — E. Strömngren: Neuroses and Psychopathies.

A Subject Index completes the volume. The