BOOK REVIEW


This book has been written primarily for the clinician and more specifically for postgraduate students studying for the Diploma in Psychological Medicine. It is mainly non-technical in its approach dealing only briefly with recording techniques. The normal and abnormal findings are supported by many typical records of eight-channel tracings and there are numerous references to the more detailed literature to allow follow-up of specific points of interest.

Anaesthetists will be disappointed to find only two references dealing specifically with the use of electroencephalography in anaesthesia. Its value in monitoring variations in levels of anaesthesia refers to a paper published twelve years ago. Also mentioned is the use of electroencephalography to indicate whether the blood supply of the brain is adequate during operations where whole body perfusion is being performed with extracorporeal circulation.

The principal value of this book is that it presents a brief but comprehensive survey of the clinical conditions in which electroencephalography is likely to prove of use in diagnosis. These indications are presented fairly and without undue enthusiasm. This book can be recommended to the anaesthetist who wishes to explore the value of electroencephalography before and after surgery, but other specialized books deal more specifically with anaesthetic agents and electroencephalography.

I. C. Geddes