BOOK REVIEW

Title: 'PHYSIOLOGY'
Edited by: Robert M. Berne and Matthew N. Levy.
Publisher: Mosby & Co. 1983
Price: £33.60  1165 pages with Index and Line Drawings

The Berne and Levy book of Physiology is recommended as a well bound and well laid out textbook with good clear easy to read material. It may be a little deep for the first year physiotherapist, though it emphasises broad facts with sufficient detail to make it useful for students and postgraduates, if only they can find time to use it. It is one of the few physiology books which includes anatomy and histology in the relevant sections. There are a wealth of diagrams which are simple and easy to follow. There is a particularly good use of flow diagrams.

The book certainly contains information needed by specialist physiotherapists. The C.N.S. section shows some excellent experimental diagrams; the latest data on the organisation and formation of the cerebral hemispheres is clearly explained.

Included is a helpful chapter on neuronal plasticity, the first, it is thought, in a major textbook. The concept of plasticity has been developing over the past 10 years or so and opens new horizons for the treatment of neurological and muscular conditions. The chapter is a valid introduction to the subject for physiotherapists, especially those who treat neuromuscular pathology and trauma whether from the neurological, orthopaedic or sports medicine aspects.

Berne and Levy have also included other up to date information, for example, encephalins, pain gate control theory. The chapters on respiration are excellent with clear descriptions of the role of pulmonary neuro-receptors. The mechanics of respirations and pathogenesis of some common respiratory diseases are covered lucidly.

The section of endocrinology is very comprehensive and includes some very good descriptive diagrams on osteogenesis.

The chapter dealing with osmolarity is very understandable, there is a clear definition and the mathematics here, as elsewhere, are not too difficult to follow.

All in all this is an excellent new addition to the library which will rival Samson Wright, Guyton and Ganong.

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ADVANCE NOTICE

JOINT MEETING WITH AMERICAN MEDICAL JOGGERS ASSOCIATION
(May 10th, 11th and 12th, 1984)

A strong team of American Medical Joggers is coming over for the London Marathon (Sunday May 13th) and we are planning the following:

Joint Medical Meeting on Friday 11th p.m. and Saturday 12th a.m. at the Festival Hall. They are bringing some outstanding speakers who will include Kavanagh (Heart Attack Counter Attack:) Bassler ("No marathon runner has died of occlusive coronary disease"). The programme is still being discussed.

There will be a joint BASM AMJA dinner probably on the Friday evening.

There will be a Great Britain v. U.S.A. and Canada communal jog in Hyde Park probably on the Thursday evening (Thursday 10th). Last year NO British doctors ran with the Americans when they came over.

Please support this joint venture.

Further details will be available.

Send SAE to Dr. D. S. Tunstall Pedoe, 29 Meynell Crescent, London E9 7AS. Please mark your envelope AMJA.