

tive matematico-statistiche. L'aprioristica esclusione di tali impostazioni, sottesa sempre da risvolti ideologici di per sé mai condannabili, non può giovare alla comprensione del malato e alla soluzione di problemi preventivi terapeutici e riabilitativi. E l'eventuale accusa di eclettismo va rigettata, poiché rimane sempre l'esigenza, d'accordo con lo stesso Slater, di mettersi da una parte o dall'altra dello stecato.

Roberto Tatarelli

AMINOACIDOPATHIES, IMMUNOGLOBINOPATHIES,
NEURO-GENETICS AND NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY

Edited by J. François (Ghent). Proceedings of the 3rd International Congress of Neuro-Genetics and Neuro-Ophthalmology (Brussels 25-29 August 1970). Volume 6 in the series, Monographs in Human Genetics, edited by L. Beckmann and M. Hauge. S. Karger, Basel-München-Paris-London-New York-Sydney 1972. Bound volume; 17 × 23 cm; X + 218 pages; 26 figures and 49 tables. Author index and subject index. Price not indicated.

This is a particular volume in the series, Monographs in Human Genetics, that Drs. Beckmann and Hauge have been editing for over six years now, in that, rather than a monograph, it presents the proceedings of the 3rd International Congress of Neuro-Genetics and Neuro-Ophthalmology, held in Brussels in 1970 under the chairmanship of Professor François.

It was Dr. Ludo van Bogaert's idea to promote the constitution of specific working groups within the World Federation of Neurology. This initiative, started around 1959, proved very successful. And it was then Professor Franceschetti's and Dr. Amalric's idea to start a series of joint congresses of the two groups, neuro-ophthalmology and neuro-genetics. The first congress took place in Albi in 1965 and was very successful. Even much more so was the second congress, held in Montreal in 1967.

The number, interest, and quality of the papers presented in the present proceedings, divided into three sections, amino-acidopathies, immunoglobulinopathies, and neuro-genetics and neuro-ophthalmology, clearly show that this third congress has been largely successful too.

These are very good premises and auspices for those already involved in the organization of the Fourth International Congress of Neuro-Genetics and Neuro-Ophthalmology, (scheduled to be held in Rome in September 1973, and to cover the following main topics: (1) Tapetoretinal degenerations and CNS genetic diseases; (2) Genetic counseling and detection of carriers in neurology; (3) genetics of disorders of nerves and synapses; and (4) Chronogenetics.

THE GENETICS OF HUMAN POPULATIONS

By L.L. Cavalli-Sforza (Pavia, Italy, and Stanford, California) and W.F. Bodmer (Oxford, G.B.). W.H. Freeman and Company, San Francisco 1971. Bound volume; 17 × 24 cm; XVI + 966 pages; 157 tables and 158 illustrations. General references, list of literature cited; author index and subject index. Price: £ 10 (approximately, US \$ 25.00).

This monumental textbook is an attempt to provide "a comprehensive treatment of the genetics of human populations that emphasizes the interpretation of available data in relation to the available theoretical models." Moreover, this is done taking in due consideration the importance that a basic understanding of human population genetics may have in a wide variety of disciplines, such as demography, sociology, psychology, related to both biology and social sciences.

Chapters 1 through 5 deal with general aspects of population genetics: (1) The basic concepts of genetics; (2) Mendelian populations; (3) Deleterious mutations and the estimation of mutation rates; (4) Trans-