

Book Reviews

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The Citadel of the Senses, by Macdonald Critchley, New York, Raven Press, 1985, 375 pp, \$29.50.

In October 1985, I lunched with Macdonald Critchley, Commander of the British Empire, neurologist, and *raconteur extraordinaire*, in the company of his wife, Eileen, for whom *The Citadel of the Senses* was written. We were accompanied by several British neurologists. Lunch was served in the dining hall of The London Hospital Medical School in Whitechapel. The food was (barely) passable British school fare, but the conversation was superb, being made that way by Critchley's verbal eruptions into essay, anecdote, and vignette. All of the conversation was enlivening, like the essays and conversations which constitute this little gem of a book. The author is well into his 80s—his “anecdotage” (as he terms senescence in this work, defining it as a state not to be confused with senility). Critchley seems sagacious and reserved without sounding so and with being so in his writings. In conversation with him, his eyes are watery, his visage distant but not sad, as he speaks of the heyday of neurology in London in the time between the great world wars. He writes about this in *The Citadel of the Senses* as he discusses the “Hexagon Club,” an exclusive and semisecretive dining society composed of himself, Sir Hugh Carins, Sir Russell Brain, George Riddoch, and Sir Charles Symonds, who were occasionally joined in their repasts by interlopers such as Harvey Cushing, Otfried Föerster, and Francois L'hermitte. Critchley takes the reader not only to dine, but into the conversation and thought of all of them.

Macdonald Critchley lived in London his whole adult life, but was born in Somersetshire at Weston-super-Mare. He lives in the West Country again, at Nether Stowey, in Somerset. He loves the English country and revels in its people. The bucolic side of Critchley is emphasized in this collection of essays in his treatment of Hughlings Jackson; Dr. Samuel Johnson; and John Addington Symonds, *primus et secundus*.

An essay written about his first clinical “chief,” Dr. Newman Neild of Manchester, is especially touching. Critchley states that “he [Neild] was very much the cat that walked alone,” but he views Neild with 10 lovely paragraphs describing touching human characteristics, foibles, and anecdotes. The essay contains

a cartoon of the “clean-shaven and gnome-like” Neild. This essay and many others are written warmly and amusingly, but not uncritically. Macdonald Critchley, the commentator, is not without a certain venom at times, terming Oscar Wilde a “hysterical psychopath,” ignoring the fact that the words of the English language never before or since attained such splendor as when uttered by that sad Irishman. In *The Citadel of the Senses*, Critchley discusses some of his favorite subjects: the life and lunchtimes of Joseph François Babinski, the human nose, famous luetics, tattooed people, laughter and smiling, Siamese twins, polylingualism as a source of lack of mental clarity, the inscrutability of pain, and the nature of music. It is reading to be savored.

Macdonald Critchley's books quickly go out of print, being snapped up by aficionados willing to pay (or do) anything to get their hands and eyes on these tomes. I am such a cultist. I put Critchley right up there with Wilde, Thurber, and Vonnegut. My advice is to buy 10 copies of *The Citadel of the Senses*, keep one at your bedstand to be taken nightly with a dose of brandy, and give the others to your nine best friends. Critchley is a one-man renaissance. And if you ever come across a copy of his *Black Hole of Calcutta*, call collect and let me know how I can get it.

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Cleft Palate Speech, by Betty Jane McWilliams, Hughlett L. Morris, and Ralph J. Shelton, Philadelphia, BC Decker, 1984, 357 pp, \$36.00.

Despite the enormity of the topic, the authors of this book have clearly and thoroughly provided extensive information about all aspects of the problem and management of cleft palate speech. The text is extremely well organized. Initially, the nature of difficulties, related disorders, and involvement by personnel from other disciplines is presented. Further chapters pertain to assessment of the velopharyngeal mechanism and the nature of its function. Lastly, diagnosis

and treatment of related communication deficits, as well as language, voice, and articulation, are discussed. A number of excellent illustrations serves to enhance understanding of complex anatomy and related surgical and dental procedures. The role of the speech/language pathologist (S/LP) as counselor is also emphasized. The data relating to overall patient development and general communicative functioning are also of particular benefit.

Treating the patient with a cleft palate is a service which demands interaction by a variety of medical and educational specialists, including S/LPs, dentists, prosthodontists, psychologists, plastic surgeons, otolaryngologists, audiologists, and social workers. The authors of *Cleft Palate Speech* highlight the need for a team approach. Since the S/LP is often the case manager of cleft palate patients and many times must field questions from families about care primarily provided by those in other disciplines, he or she should be informed enough to make referrals as needed. Chapters 4-6 and 10 help the S/LP in this endeavor by giving information dealing with services which can be offered by other professionals, particularly plastic surgeons, otolaryngologists, and prosthodontists.

Working with patients who display disorders related to a cleft lip and palate, however, is an experience that only a limited number of S/LPs encounter. Therefore, *Cleft Palate Speech* should also be beneficial for S/LPs who do not work with these patients frequently, but are interested in the topic for review, update, and continuing education purposes. In addition, *Cleft Palate Speech* would be an excellent text for graduate training. This book may be the second-best option to hands-on experience, short of functioning in an area where there is access to extensive cleft palate care.

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Surgical Anatomy of the Heart, by Benson R. Wilcox and Robert H. Anderson, New York, Raven Press, 1985, 141 pp, \$55.00.

This extensively illustrated work is written by a congenital heart surgeon (Dr. Wilcox) and a pathologist (Dr. Anderson). The format is very effective. The photographs are extremely clear and illustrate surgical views as well as postmortem specimens. Along with each photograph is a line drawing in black and white where the salient anatomic features of the photograph are illustrated and carefully identified. This format makes the photographic anatomy extremely clear. The text is supplemental. However, *Surgical Anatomy of the Heart* would be quite a bit more useful if the clear illustrations of anatomic abnormalities were ac-

companied by similar illustrations detailing techniques of repair.

Although the segment entitled "Normal Anatomy" could be useful for planning some operations for acquired heart disease, the primary subject of the book is congenital heart disease. Even the segment dealing with coronary anatomy focuses on congenital abnormalities. Thus, the book is most useful for cardiac surgeons, practicing or in training, with an interest in congenital disease. *Surgical Anatomy of the Heart* can serve as a useful occasional reference for cardiologists, but will not be commonly used by non-surgeons.

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Orthopaedic Care of the Geriatric Patient, ed. by Thomas P. Sculco, St. Louis, CV Mosby, 1985, 408 pp, price not given.

The goal of this volume is to demonstrate how the aging process can be accompanied by changes specifically related to the musculoskeletal system and how these changes substantially affect the functional independence of the individual. As is correctly pointed out, this can often lead to great personal and socioeconomic costs. Dr. Sculco wishes to focus the reader's attention on the importance of a comprehensive treatment approach in the maintenance of functional independence and well being for aging patients.

The book is organized into four major sections. The first section deals with the general framework of the aging process into which the care of musculoskeletal maladies is to be placed. Aspects of rheumatologic, neurologic, and anesthetic management, as well as an emphasis on the role of psychological and social environmental effects due to musculoskeletal disease, are ably addressed. The second section of the book describes orthopedic diseases commonly affecting the elderly. The common diagnostic and therapeutic approaches used by the authors to manage musculoskeletal disorders reflect a high level of expertise. The chapters dealing with cervical spine disease, shoulder disease, and hip problems are particularly well done. The third section describes other diseases that have involved work from many disciplines and often are more specifically a problem for the aged. These chapters are clearly written and concise. The fourth section is about the role of support personnel in the successful management of musculoskeletal disorders. As the aged patient population becomes increasingly more functionally limited, the need for appropriate intervention to lessen the impact of such limitations (such as through external supports and orthotic devices) becomes more critical.