

Book Review

The Critical Flicker Frequency Series Effect, by K. Ákos and M. Ákos, Akadémiai Kiadó (Publishing House of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences) Budapest, 1966, 245 pp., 27 Figs., 46 Plates, Price: \$ 7.50.

The authors have measured flicker fusion binocularly for a small luminous object of constant but unknown brightness, seen against a background provided by a 'funnel, lined with a material of dull black colour'. One session consisted of 50 successive measurements, recorded without a period of pre-adaptation to the illumination of the room (stated to be around 13 lux). Two sessions, one continuous, the other with 30 sec intermissions between the readings constituted one experiment and at least three such daily experiments for at least three days were performed with each of 67 subjects. The fusion values obtained show that the stimulus was well above cone threshold.

The purpose of the work is clinical in the sense that the authors try to evaluate stress basing this on a statistical analysis of the data in terms of a number of factors. The large majority of their patients suffered from psoriasis. The hope entertained appears to be that their approach should crystallize into a generally applied method of clinical investigation of delicately poised brain functions of which flicker-fusion serves as an accessible instance. Writing as one who in the early thirties tried to introduce measurement of subjective flicker-fusion as a routine method in ophthalmology and failed in this attempt, the reviewer tends to be sceptical on this point. The book is not of interest from the point of view of vision as such.

RAGNAR GRANIT

Brain Research, 2 (1966) 407

Announcement

The *International Society for Neurovegetative Research* (International Society for Research of the autonomic nervous system) will organize its next international symposium on July 26, 27 and 28, 1967 at Amsterdam in the building of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences. Central subject: 'Neurohormones, neurohumors; neurohormonal and neurohumoral regulations'. Introductory surveys on invitation. The number of free papers will be restricted.

All information will be given by Prof. Dr. J. Ariëns Kappers, president of the Society, Netherlands Central Institute for Brain Research, IJdijk 28, Amsterdam-O. (The Netherlands).

Brain Research, 2 (1966) 407