

There are 14 sections with selected articles from the world's medical literature relating to important findings and innovations published during 1984, the year preceding the *1985 Year Book*. The sections cover every important aspect of ophthalmology from eyelids to basic sciences. The lay out is excellent and the abbreviated original articles mostly read well and provide a stimulus to refer to original articles. Not surprisingly the greatest number of articles referred to are in the sections on retina and glaucoma and the fewest under vitreous. Refractive surgery covers some well balanced articles, and the editor has done well in general to produce an even emphasis throughout the *Year Book*.

It is only after a series of stretching decisions that an editor is led to select articles for inclusion in a review of the world's ophthalmological literature as in the *Year Book*. The *1985 Year Book* is an even and very readable selection of the more innovative articles and is highly recommended for all ophthalmologists. It is a pleasure to have articles selected to provide a balanced review and to guide the readership to other source articles.

JAMES L KENNERLEY BANKES

Evoked Potentials. Eds. Roger Q Cracco and Ivan Bodis-Wollner. Pp. 551. £70.00. John Wiley, Sussex. 1986.

This is the third volume in the series 'Frontiers of Clinical Neuroscience'. The book comprises 49 chapters on different subjects relating to the study of evoked electrical responses recorded from the brain and spinal cord. In effect the chapters are separate papers and stand by themselves. Roger Cracco and Ivan Bodis-Wollner have drawn together many distinguished contributors, making the whole a useful review for students, clinicians, and research workers. The book is divided into eight sections dealing with basic science aspects, animal models, diagnostic uses as well as paediatric, and surgical and psychiatric applications. All types of evoked responses are considered, and the Ophthalmologist will find about 15 relevant chapters. Applications of the VEP in children are of special interest in section VII and there are two chapters on the pattern ERG earlier in the book. There is also an up-to-date review of the VEP in human albinism.

The balance of the book reflects the current state of research in the subject and the recent increase in interest in auditory, vestibular, and somatosensory responses. It certainly should be purchased by departmental libraries and those with a special interest in the subject. N R GALLOWAY

Diagnosis and Management of Ocular Motility Disorders. By JOYCE MEIN AND BRIAN HARCOURT. Pp. 367. £45.00. Blackwell, Oxford. 1986.

The authors of this book are an orthoptist and ophthalmologist, both of the greatest distinction. It fulfils a need that has long existed for a sensible, well balanced, and down to earth text which addresses the complex field of orthoptics and ocular motility. It is equally suitable as a guide to orthoptists, who will learn much from the sections on management of motility problems, and as a clear account for ophthalmologists as to exactly what all those incomprehensible things on the orthoptic report actually mean.

The book is divided into three sections. Part I concerns history taking and patient examination, including modern tests for visual function. There are also chapters on refraction, detection and measurement of the deviation, and assessment of binocular function. Section II covers principles of non-surgical and surgical management, with clear accounts of spectacles, exercises, and eyedrops, followed by a comprehensive account of the most valuable surgical procedures, with notes on complications and re-operations. The excellent illustrations in this section are the work of Bruce Noble, also a consultant ophthalmologist at Leeds.

Section III addresses the management of specific conditions in the field of ocular motility disorders, with sections on amblyopia, concomitant strabismus, microtropia, disorders of accommodation/convergence, paralytic and restrictive strabismus, supranuclear, and internuclear disorders, and nystagmus.

Overall the book fulfils its intentions admirably, is well balanced and highly readable, and has an excellent index. There is also a very useful 10-page bibliography. All reviewers have their quibbles, however, though mine are few. I feel unhappy about the use of the term 'paralytic' as a synonym for 'incomitant' in chapters 18 and 19. The procedure of anterior and temporal transposition of the anterior half of the superior oblique muscle (illustrated on page 169) is once more called the 'Harada-Ito procedure' rather than the Fells's modification of that operation. The section on botulinum toxin injection for squint is perhaps a little lukewarm, and the dosage of toxin advocated seems rather on the high side. In every other respect I can warmly recommend this book. It should be in every resident and orthoptic library and should remain popular for many years to come. J P LEE

Techniques in Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery. Edited by Ralph E. Wesley. Pp. 482. £46.00. John Wiley: Chichester. 1986.

This book could well be titled 'An anthology of ophthalmic plastic surgical techniques', because it is a collection of various surgeons' favourite contributions to the subject. It is divided into sections covering the whole field of ophthalmic plastic surgery, including general techniques, entropion, ectropion, ptosis, lid retraction, facial nerve disorders, reconstruction, cosmetic surgery, orbital and socket surgery. Nothing is too minor for inclusion, and there are for instance two chapters on meibomian cyst excisions. But there are also some major and innovative chapters such as those on calvarial bone grafting with a vascularised pedicle and different types of forehead and brow lift.

The 101 contributors are largely drawn from, and constitute about a third of the total membership of, the members of the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. This society has moderately stringent criteria for membership, and the techniques described can therefore reasonably be expected to work well in practice. One contributor who is not a member of this society is the art editor, who is to be congratulated on co-ordinating such excellent diagrams. It is interesting to speculate that her chapter came from drawing the diagrams for one of the other contributors and wondering why he did not do the

surgery in a better way, such as she subsequently describes. Such is the way new techniques and modifications are continuously evolving and how much of this book has come to be produced.

The editor must be complimented on the magnificent way in which he has controlled the verbosity of most of the contributors. Only the essential facts required to describe techniques have been permitted, and clarity has been achieved with copious diagrams. Where different surgeons favour different techniques for achieving similar goals both techniques are included, such as mucous membrane grafting and vein grafting around Jones tubes for maintaining a conduit, and ear cartilage and sclera for preventing entropion after Cutler-Beard reconstructions. Rarely is anything included which some might feel is positively contraindicated, but the removal of an ellipse of skin for the correction of entropion and the excision of tarsus and posterior lamella of an eyelid to correct ptosis in patients with conjunctival scarring, which makes eversion of an eyelid difficult, are both techniques which must be treated with extreme caution by surgeons not very well versed in eyelid surgical techniques.

For anybody practising ophthalmic plastic surgery in either a major or minor way this book has plenty of surgical 'pearls' to offer, and I have seldom enjoyed reading a book more. It is not, however, and is not intended to be, a comprehensive textbook, and no attempt is made to describe a logical series of operations to cover the spectrum of ophthalmic plastic surgery, nor does the editor comment on or criticise the individual contributions. If the reader has a basic knowledge of ophthalmic plastic surgery, however, he will find this book very enjoyable, instructive, easy to assimilate, and in short warmly to be recommended.

RICHARD COLLIN

Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. By MARTIN HATT. Pp. 166. DM 128.00. Georg Thieme Verlag: Stuttgart. 1986.

This is an excellent short textbook of ophthalmic plastic surgery encompassing surgery of the eyelids, lacrimal apparatus, and orbit. The author states in the preface that he has selected procedures which are logical based on the aetiological pathophysiology and which have proved their value in a large number of cases. He also states that he does not attempt an all encompassing review of ophthalmic and surgical literature, and yet I have seldom read a textbook on this subject which is more extensively referenced. Although the author gives a clear opinion of his choice of operation, the reader is given every opportunity to study alternative thoughts and ideas by the very extensive, accurate, and current references which are referred to throughout the text and make this a work of considerable scholarship despite the book's deceptively small size. It certainly gives the reader an excellent base from which both to practise and to search for new treatment methods, which the author states is one of his hopes. Professor Blodi points out in the foreword that the primary function of the adnexa is the protection of the eyeball and the preservation of vision and that only the ophthalmologist is trained to keep these principles in mind. I agree wholeheartedly with this, and, contrary to the author's statement that 'only experts in the

field of ophthalmic plastic surgery should be involved in these procedures', I feel that this book constitutes a very sound base for the general ophthalmologist to practise and improve his surgery.

There are chapters on surgical anatomy, surgical principles, anaesthesia, entropion, ectropion, ptosis, lacrimal drainage, the conjunctiva, excision of lid tumours, eyelid reconstruction, the orbit, cosmetic lid surgery, and trauma. All are extensively illustrated with excellent diagrams and clinical photographs showing pre- and postoperative patients, but there are no photographs of the operations themselves. The author very much believes in the reconstruction of three eyelid layers, the skin, middle layer of orbicularis muscle, and the deep layer of tarsoconjunctiva. There are particularly good sections on haemostasis, the differences between local anaesthetics, lacrimal surgery including canalicular repair, the pathological examination of excised lid tumours, and socket reconstruction, in which the author includes his own very practical techniques for reconstructing the conjunctival fornices with a MIRA silicone hemisphere. He holds this in situ with tarsorrhaphies rather than the more usual techniques of fixation to periosteum or bone. The section on upper lid entropion is sketchy, reflecting probably the lack of Swiss patients with this problem. Certain procedures are omitted, such as the posterior approach to ptosis correction and the repair of medial canthal tendon injuries, and other procedures are not covered as fully as might be anticipated. There is a lack of didactic guidelines for the inexperienced on how much levator muscle to resect in ptosis surgery or how much to recess the lid retractors in the correction of lid retraction, though the techniques themselves are adequately described. The indications for specific operations such as are involved in eyelid reconstruction are described but not very precisely for the novice. Techniques of orbitotomies are described briefly, but it is difficult to get much benefit from a short section on orbital surgery without embarking on a much larger discussion of the diagnosis and management of orbital disease, and clearly this is contraindicated in a book of this size.

In summary, this is an excellent short textbook of ophthalmic plastic surgery which has been very well researched. There is enough detail, aided by the excellent diagrams, for anyone to perform competently a wide range of surgical procedures, and the reader is given a very good overview of the whole subject from which to progress if he so wishes.

J R O COLLIN

Contemporary Issues in Fetal and Neonatal Medicine. 2. Retinopathy of Prematurity. Eds. WILLIAM A SILVERMAN AND JOHN T FLYNN. Pp. 303. £32.50. Blackwell: Oxford. 1985.

The editors state in the preface of this book that it is not intended to be a comprehensive text on retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) but might more appropriately be subtitled 'current controversies'. There are 12 chapters including: the new International Classification, pathology, animal models, perinatal retinal vascular physiology, pathogenesis, vitamin E, surgical treatment, and the sequelae of ROP. There are also sections on the monitoring of oxygen



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Br J Ophthalmol 1987 71: 642-643
doi: 10.1136/bjo.71.8.642-b

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