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dealt with by R. van Heyningen. The remaining chapters are “Gross Anatomy and Embryology” (P. C. Kronfeld); “Intraocular Fluids” and “Intraocular Pressure” (H. Davson); “Vitreous Body” (A. Pirie); and “Cornea and Sclera” (D. M. Maurice).

Like Mr. Weller’s knowledge of London, Davson’s contributions to the physiology of the eye are “extensive and peculiar”. Their extent is obvious; their peculiarity is perhaps only appreciated by considering who else would undertake such an integrated account (in the first place), be able to collect such a team of authoritative contributors, and persuade them all to revise and update their texts to produce this excellent volume.


This excellent book is similar in format to that produced in 1967 by the same authors dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of retinal detachment. The text has been clearly written and is profusely illustrated with line drawings, the number of which no doubt contributes to the high cost of this book.

The first part deals with diagnostic techniques, including slit-lamp microscopy, gonioscopy, use of the three-mirror lens, the electric locator, ultrasonic techniques, and radiological localisation by the method of Sweet, but there is no mention of the prognostic and medico-legal importance of recording the visual acuity. The main emphasis in this section is on the use of the indirect ophthalmoscope, with scleral depression, with a detailed account of the principles and techniques of this procedure. In the second part there is a comprehensive description of the surgical techniques available for removal of foreign bodies from different sites within the globe and the importance of prophylactic measures (particularly cryotherapy) to prevent subsequent retinal detachment is stressed. This section is liberally illustrated and contains many useful surgical tips.

This atlas can be highly recommended and should certainly be available for the use of ophthalmic residents; those who are faced only occasionally with an intra-ocular foreign body might well find it helpful.


This interesting book deals with the perception of light and space. It is written in a conversational style which may be initially irritating (but this soon passes), and the format suggests that it is derived from a series of physiology tutorials, the whole approach being physiological rather than clinical. The contents cover the nature of light, entoptic phenomena, photochemistry, electrophysiology, assessment of visual acuity, colour vision, and spatial vision. Several features make the book particularly attractive. The experiments are described critically where necessary and the reader is given a feeling of involvement. The references are well selected and it is evident that in many cases the authors know the workers, and their laboratories, which also adds to the personal interest.

For a clinician it may not be an easy book to read and, in view of the way it is written, it is difficult to go back to re-read certain parts as required. The discussion of spatial vision is prefaced by a glossary of terms to be used to avoid ambiguity. This book can be recommended to every ophthalmologist, and particularly to the candidate for the fellowship or other higher examination.


The author gives a detailed description of the structure of the trabecular system of the anterior chamber angle as ascertained by histology, histochemistry, polarization, and electron microscopy.