Intended as an aid to topical and differential diagnosis, this book is seen as a supplement to other major clinical text-books. The organization is therefore into anatomical sub-sections rather than disease processes, and progresses from the optic disc to the calcarine cortex. The major part of the book is devoted to the optic disc, the optic nerve, and the chiasmal region where a unique amount of material and pathological information is accumulated. The photographs of pathological sections have been painstakingly prepared, though the accompanying commentary could have been presented in a more readable way. This does not detract from the content, which is superb. Typical cases are described with numerous pertinent references to the literature. Historical vignettes, such as the autopsy findings on Abraham Lincoln, fundus photographs, and diagrams further enhance the value of this volume.

This book fulfils a most important role, contributes a fund of knowledge to those concerned with disorders of the visual system, and is strongly recommended.

M. D. Sanders

Neuro-ophthalmology. Vol. 7. Edited by J. LAWTON SMITH and J. S. GLASER. 1974 Pp. 146, figs, bibl. Mosby, St Louis; Kimpton, London. (£10.10)

This symposium seems thinner in substance than its predecessors. The three major sins in neuro-ophthalmology according to Lawton Smith are insufficient history, failure to order x-ray examinations or to interpret them correctly, and errors or omissions in plotting visual fields. Layman describes an association of optic nerve hypoplasia and aniridia in 9 cases. Lubow revisits optic disc oedema, Lessell the toxic and deficiency optic neuropathies, and Burde ischaemic optic neuropathy. Page describes a series of developmental tumours about the optic chiasm and Streletz presents a case of trans-sphenoidal encephalocoele. Harcourt recounts the battered-child syndrome as met in the U.K. Dell 'Osso shows what can be done with prisms to help the sufferer from congenital nystagmus. Donaghy gives his experience of micro-vascular techniques which present problems similar to those met by the ophthalmologist. There follows a series of free papers—the two most interesting concern defective saccadic eye movements in Wilson's disease by Kirkham and myoclonic encephalopathy associated with neuro-blastoma by Senelick. The discussions on the free papers are unedited and some barely merit publication.

S. J. H. Miller

Questions and Answers on Contact Lens Practice. By J. HARTSTEIN. 2nd ed., 1973. Pp. 254, figs. Mosby, St Louis; Kimpton, London (£3.75)

The first edition of Dr. Hartstein's book was published in 1968, and this second edition is proof that it was found useful.

The question-and-answer presentation can be very helpful to both reader and writer. In many text-books both questions and answers are in considerable doubt. Dr. Hartstein says that the purposes of his book are to give the beginner in contact-lens practice a step-by-step procedure he can follow and to provide essential information in a concise and readily available manner. He succeeds very well in providing accurate information for the experienced practitioner, but I think the beginner might have been helped in his learning by a better order of chapters. For example, basic fitting techniques are described in chapter 16, while the fitting of keratoconus is dealt with in chapter 9.

The author deals with many aspects of the production, fitting, modification, and after-care of contact lenses big and small, hard and soft. A very useful chapter on haptic lenses is included,