Book reviews

A Colour Atlas of Endocrinology. By R. HALL, D. EVERED, and R. GREENE. Pp. 175. £18.00. Wolfe Medical Publications: London. 1979.

As the authors state in their introduction, endocrinology is a specialty with a large and variable visual content. Those aspects that are largely visual have been lavishly illustrated by numerous high-quality colour illustrations, and those topics that have a small visual content have been dealt with in a diagrammatic or tabular form. The result is a useful atlas that, while not in any way pretending to be comprehensive, covers most aspects of the subject in a way that is interesting and easy to read. The illustrations are all pertinent to the content of the book, even though there is a little duplication. Although ophthalmologists may not be excited by the standard of the eye photographs, it would be unlikely that they would be looking in this book for enlightenment about the eye signs in these conditions. But any ophthalmologist would certainly benefit from glancing through its pages to refresh his memory of classical aspects of endocrinology and to bring himself up to date on those aspects with which he is not fully conversant. Altogether this is a useful book that can be recommended for ophthalmologists at all stages.

DAVID TAYLOR

The Eye. Vol. 1. By R. C. AUGUSTEYN, H. B. COLLIN, and K. M. ROGERS. Pp. 177. £14.00. Churchill Livingstone: Edinburgh. 1979.

This volume reviews work published on the biochemistry and physiology of ocular tissues (other than the retina) between July 1976 and June 1977 and covers some 550 papers. It is divided into 13 chapters, each dealing with a particular tissue, and the text consists chiefly of what are in fact short abstracts of the various individual papers. So far as the present reviewer can judge, these are adequate and can serve as a source of further reading, though they are for the most part uncritical, and the user of this volume must regard them as such. The authors have obviously undertaken a very difficult task, in which it is hoped they will persist, but the cost in the United Kingdom seems rather high considering that some of the papers mentioned were published more than 3 years ago.

DAVID COLE

Correspondence

Living larva of *Onchocerca volvulus*

TO THE EDITOR, *British Journal of Ophthalmology*

SIR, I am sending you a photograph of a living larva (microfilaria) of *Onchocerca volvulus*, seen in Ghana in 1953 during field surveys. I used a slit-lamp adapted to give a magnification of $\times 45$. This gave an excellent view—despite the difficulties encountered by eye move-

ments—of the passage of this larva under the corneal epithelium and above Bowman's membrane. It struggled along slowly, with resting periods, apparently with some

difficulty, but it did make progress. The magnification of the photograph is $\times 4340$.

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Notes

Low vision

The First Australian/Pacific Conference on Low Vision, sponsored by the Australian National Council for the Blind, will be held in Melbourne on 19–21 May 1980. The theme is 'Low vision ahead'. Further details from Mr Lindsay McMillan, Conference Organiser, Association for the Blind, HM Lightfoot Centre, 454 Glenferrie Road, Kooyong, Victoria, Australia.

Vitrectomy course

The University Eye Clinic of Lausanne, Switzerland, will sponsor a 2-day vitrectomy course on 26–27 October 1980. The programme will cover basic and advanced concepts of pars plana vitrectomy in proliferative retinopathies, traction retinal detachments, retinal detachments with massive preretinal proliferation, giant tears, intraocular foreign body, posterior segment perforation, and panophthalmitis. Registration fees: SFr300. Further information from Dr M. Gonvers, Clinique ophtalmique universitaire, 1004 Lausanne, Switzerland.

Israel international symposium

An international symposium will be held under the auspices of the Israel Ophthalmological Society at the Tel Aviv Hilton on 3–5 September 1980. The main topics will include congenital glaucoma: surgical and medical treatment; value of provocative tests in open-