Accommodation is neither overage, underage, or average, though some writers have extrapolated amplitude curves to life expectancy. This only proves that anyone can misapply the law of probability, so true in general, so fallacious in particular.'

It also proves that there is no limit to the suffering to which some writers subject uncomplaining sheets of paper.

ROBERT WEALE

Multipanar Anatomy of the Head and Neck for Computed Tomography. By ENRIQUE PALACIOS, MICHAEL FINE, VICTOR M. HAUGHTON. Pp. 206. £70.00. John Wiley: Bognor Regis, Sussex. 1980.

The introduction of computerised tomography as an investigative procedure has necessitated a reorientation of the radiologist's knowledge of anatomy. The images obtained by this technique define structures section by section and in the latest scanners can be displayed in 3 dimensions. This atlas demonstrates sectional anatomy of the head and neck in 4 planes; axial, semiaxial, coronal, and sagittal, and is intended as an anatomical guideline for CT studies. In addition to photographs of anatomical sections made from the cadaver, radiographs of the sections are also included. These are the most informative of the illustrations, which, in spite of their excellence of reproduction, on the whole do not always give adequate detail either in the anatomical sections or in the corresponding CT scans.

Although the CT scans of the gross head and neck anatomy correlate well with the anatomical specimens, detail in such regions as the petromastoid, larynx, and orbit is inadequate. Clearly these areas require separate treatment both by CT and in corresponding anatomical studies, and should not be dealt with as part of general head and neck scans. The work is therefore likely to be useful to the general neuroradiologist or neurologist concerned with brain scanning, but could not be recommended to the ophthalmologist dealing with orbital CT, or for that matter the radiologist concerned with ear, nose, and throat problems.

G. A. S. LLOYD

Documenta Ophthalmologia Proceedings Series. Vol. 23. **Visual Electrodiagnosis in Systemic Diseases.** Eds. E. SCHMÖGER and J. H. KELSEY. Pp. 289. Dfl. 130.00. W. Junk, The Hague, Netherlands. 1980.

This book is a compilation of papers presented at the 17th meeting of the International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision held in Erfurt in 1979. Since the meeting was held in East Germany, papers from Russia and the Eastern block are well represented and thanks to careful translation and editing are clearly readable. The first part of the book, on 'Visual electrodiagnosis in systemic diseases', deals with several papers on the electroretinogram (ERG) in chronic nephropathy together with other papers relating changes in the ERG to vascular disease in the eye. In the second part of the book can be found some interesting new ideas on the use of the laser stimulus to produce local ERGs, and there are also more papers on the relationship between the stimulus field and the visual evoked response.

The volume provides a useful collection of papers for anyone interested in the field as well as a good source of references.

N. R. GALLOWAY

Foundations of Ophthalmic Pathology. By DANIEL M. ALBERT and CARMEN A. PULIAFITO. Pp. 664. £31.70. Prentice/Hall International: Hemel Hempstead, Herts. 1979.

Beginning with a very readable introduction to the history of ocular pathology by Norman Ashton, the body of the book is divided into 5 sections dealing with developmental, degenerative, and dystrophic lesions, with inflammatory disease, with ocular involvement in systemic disease, with tumours, and with several miscellaneous conditions. Each is preceded by a useful synopsis from the editors succinctly surveying the milestones in the topics selected for discussion. The sections themselves consist of reprinted articles from the literature written by some 50 distinguished ophthalmic pathologists, many of whom, it is good to report, continue to be active in the field. To single out names would be invidious.

I have found this a most difficult book to review. Not because of any complaint with the component parts, since, as is to be expected in a book of this sort, the quality of the articles chosen for inclusion is beyond reproach. No, the difficulty arises in determining to whom the book is addressed. Composed for the most part of papers written within the last 25 years and still readily available in the original, there would seem little reason to go to the trouble and expense of obtaining this separate publication. Apart from devotees of the subspecialty of ophthalmic pathology I doubt very much whether the generality of ophthalmologists will find this compilation of gems of compelling virtue. This judgment may be a little harsh, especially on the editors, for whom the putting together of the book has clearly been a task dear to their hearts, but I cannot help the feeling that here is a book which is beautifully dressed but has nowhere to go.

ALEC GARNER

Pflügertrident-Plates for Testing the Sense of Colour. By KARL VELHAGEN. Pp. 22. No price given. George Thieme Leipzig: Berlin. 1979.

This book uses a modification of the familiar 'E game' to test colour vision with pseudoisochromatic plates. It is described as being useful for testing children and other illiterates and as being suitable for testing by nonophthalmologists. It is simple to use and can approximately grade the severity of red/green colour blindness. It is a quick screening test, and the ophthalmologist may find it a useful addition to the tracing plates of the familiar Ishihara test.

D. S. I. TAYLOR

1980 Year Book of Ophthalmology. Ed. W. F. HUGHES. Pp. 374. £27.00. YB Medical Publishers. 1981.

The 1980 Year Book has made its usual early appearance and is a worthy successor to previous editions. A precis of recent advancements in particular aspects of ophthalmology serves as an introduction to the main chapters. The aspects discussed are orbital rhabdomyosarcomas, development of the geniculo-cortical pathways, extended wear contact lenses, conjunctival biopsy for sarcoidosis, refractive keratoplasty, the mechanism of resistance to aqueous outflow, intra- versus extracapsular extraction, birdshot retino-