have emphasised the greater susceptibility of the fellow eye to ACG in hospital and immediately after discharge.

On the subject of medication, it is notable that no fellow eyes developed acute ACG when mydriatics were withheld from the operated eye. Although numbers are small (16 out of 187 eyes in hospital and 14 out of 52 eyes at initial follow-up), I think they are sufficiently large to warrant further study. As regards pilocarpine treatment, this possibly has a protective effect preoperatively (Table 3: $\chi^2=3.17$ $p>0.05$ but less than 0.1) and certainly has a protective effect postoperatively (Table 4: $\chi^2=16.7$, $p<0.001$) (Yates's correction applied for both calculations) consistent with Bain's observations in 1957.³ Although my data suggest that carbonic anhydrase inhibitors may have a protective effect, I concede that this cannot be established with certainty from my study.

I would like to emphasise that no medical regimen entirely prevented acute ACG in the fellow eye. In this observation I am supported by Bain,³ Lowe,⁴ and Mapstone.² In Mapstone's study of 202 fellow eyes² 9 developed acute ACG spontaneously in spite of having a negative pilocarpine phenylephrine provocative test.

In answering Mr Mapstone's letter I therefore still maintain that my large retrospective study does provide additional useful information on the behaviour of the fellow eye.

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Book reviews

Limbusprobleme. By WILHELM DODEN. Pp. 115. DM 44. Ferdinand Enke Verlag: Stuttgart. 1982.

The 88th volume in the series 'Bucherei des Augenarztes' consists of a collection of articles on the limbus. These include a description of the anatomy and physiology and discussions on inflammations, injuries, degenerations, and tumours of this region. The contributions derive from a symposium held in Frankfurt in 1977, and the authors have been requested to bring the text up to date and to expand the illustrations. The result is an interesting, well-illustrated portrayal of a specific area of the eye in health and disease which makes a welcome change from the more conventional textbook approach. The high standards of this on-going series are maintained, and the book may be recommended for ophthalmologists of all levels.

T. J. FFYTCH

Diagnosis and Management of Uveitis: An Atlas Approach. By ALAN H. FRIEDMAN, MAURICE LUNTZ, WALTER L. HENLEY. Pp. 116. US\$95.00. Williams and Wilkins: Baltimore. 1982.

In the field of uveitis most ophthalmologists still despair of ever seeing any sort of order in the confusion of clinical syndromes ranged under this heading. Despite there being no dramatic new advances in either diagnosis or treatment a general text presenting a thorough review of current concepts would be welcome. I received this book hoping it might fill this purpose, but unfortunately it does not. It is a slender volume of 116 pages, more than one-third of which bear colour illustrations. The type is clear and there are very few errors in the text. Although the style is easy to read, the text is frequently interrupted by tables which could be more smoothly related to the text. One often has to turn forward several pages to take up the text line, and there are many irritating half empty pages. There is a useful chapter of basic immunological concepts and a brief discussion of most types of uveitis and their treatment. The imbalances in the book presumably reflect the particular interests of the distinguished authors.

It is not, however, to be judged as a comprehensive text but in the light of its illustrations, since these justify its title and undoubtedly account for its high cost. Many are excellent, especially in those cases where pathological sections are related to the clinical photographs. On the other hand there are many which fail to make their point clearly, if at all, and one or two which seem to be unrelated to their captions. Many of the illustrations seem superfluous, and one wonders what criteria were used in selection.

W. J. DINNING

Pediatric Optometry. Ed. JEROME ROSNER. Pp. 458. £34.00. Butterworths: Sevenoaks, Kent. 1982.

It is of course perfectly sensible that there should be a movement towards specialisation in the optometry of children and that there should be a book on paediatric optometry to help those who are less familiar with the needs of children. Professor Rosner's book is logically laid out, being divided into 2 basic parts: examination and diagnosis, and the postexamination process. The description of history taking and defining the child's problem is rather overburdened with detail, and while the author warns the reader not to overstep his professional skills he then goes into detail about the relevance of genetic, prenatal, perinatal, and postnatal factors, augmenting the text with turgid lists of names of conditions which may affect children, some so rare as to be unfamiliar to most paediatric ophthalmologists. The section on examination of the vision is relevant, and there are good descriptions on the examination of binocular vision and refraction.

The chapter on examination of the eye and adnexae is a perfect demonstration of the need for closer co-operation between ophthalmologists and optometrists and an end of the dreary cold war between the 2 professions. In this chapter the author lists a series of conditions that could affect the eye of the child. There are no illustrations, and asking the reader to stay awake while reading lists of names such as euryblepharon, posterior lenticonus, Argyll

Robertson pupil, asteroid bodies (in children!), retinal macroaneurysms, etc., is probably asking too much. Some of the information given is erroneous, and in one chapter when the author describes the management of a child with nystagmus his lack of emphasis on the incidence of severe and life threatening disease in these children is totally inappropriate; it must surely be inappropriate for optometrists to manage any patient with nystagmus. Similarly the encouragement of optometrists to involve themselves in the diagnosis, assessment, and management of delayed development and in the selection of 'a first rate' surgeon for those of his squint patients for 'cosmetic surgery' is bordering on the ridiculous.

The shame of it is that this book has very many excellent points, but it would have benefited enormously from an infusion of common sense from a paediatrician and a paediatric ophthalmologist, if there were such to be found with sufficient self confidence and stature to associate themselves with an optometric textbook.

Each chapter is well referenced, and much of the information is up to date, but this book is not to be recommended for ophthalmologists, ophthalmic assistants, nurses, or orthoptists. An optometrist reading it selectively and supplementing it with appropriate reading and lectures from paediatric ophthalmologists and experienced senior colleagues would benefit from it if he could maintain his interest.

DAVID TAYLOR

Neuropathology of Parasitic Infections. By W. JANN BROWN and MARIETTA VOGEL. Pp. 240. £18.50. Oxford University Press: Oxford. 1982.

This small monograph describes human infestation by protozoa and helminths and puts particular emphasis on the involvement of the eye in these diseases. In spite of its title it is not only pathology that is dealt with; epidemiology, the life cycles of the parasites, and clinical diagnosis and treatment form a major part of the text.

Each chapter is concise and there are numerous and excellent light and electron micrographs, diagrams of the biological cycles of the parasites, clinical cases, and numerous examples of ocular involvement. The literature cited seems abundant and up to date.

A feature of the book is that the clinical and pathological aspects of the various diseases are not presented in a general and impersonal way as in most textbooks. Rather, the approach is through the presentation of cases. The obvious advantage is that the reader feels more involved, and interest and attention are aroused. However, I wonder whether shorter descriptions in the conventional style, leaving space for extra detailed information and more pictures, would have been more useful.

Since the book is addressed to a wide range of readers, the appendix, containing the description of staining and culture methods, as well as names and addresses of reference laboratories, will certainly be of use to those dealing with difficult cases. Moreover, the detailed description of the pathological processes in the eye that occur during infestation by many of the parasites included here makes the book useful to the specialist as well as the nonspecialist dealing with clinical and pathological problems in ophthalmology.

F. SCARAVILLI

Grenzen der konservativen Therapie, Indikationen zu operativen Eingriffen in der Augenheilkunde. By GERD MEYER-SCHWICKERATH and KLAUS ULLERICH. Pp. 200. DM 50. Ferdinand Enke Verlag: Stuttgart. 1982.

The 89th volume in the series 'Bucherei des Augenarztes' upholds the high standards set by many of the previous volumes with an elegant exercise in lateral thinking. The editors have taken a number of ophthalmic subjects in which the margins between conservative and surgical treatment are ill-defined. They have invited experts in these conditions to discuss and rationalise their therapeutic approach to the problems, and the result has been a most interesting collection of articles.

The papers derive from a clinical meeting held in Essen in 1977, and, although some of the views expressed and the procedures described are no longer contemporary, much of the work has been brought up to date. The topics range widely and include indications for surgery in trauma, malignancy, thyroid eye disease, nystagmus, and squint, and there are articles as well on photocoagulation and on investigations and surgery in children. The illustrations are of a high standard, and each of the 17 chapters is provided with an English summary—a commendable feature.

This is an informative and very readable book, and if it reflects the character of other textbooks available in the Federal Republic one cannot but envy our German ophthalmic colleagues.

T. J. FFYTCH

Documenta Ophthalmologica Proceedings Series 31. Techniques in Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision. Eds. G. NIEMEYER and CH. HUBER. Pp. 523. Dfl. 235.00. W. Junk: The Hague. 1982.

A society now known as ISCEV (International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision) was founded in Stockholm in 1961. It is a small society of only some 300 members world-wide who are mainly either ophthalmologists or visual physiologists. Since its foundation meetings have been held annually in Europe, Japan, or the United States. The published proceedings have provided an invaluable review of this complex and rapidly changing specialty. This is the report of the 19th meeting held in Zurich in 1981 and it fully maintains the standard and the value of its predecessors.

The ERG and VER are most extensively covered, as the EOG is a main topic for the next meeting. The ERG is treated under 3 headings—techniques, applications, and use in children. The use of the ERG in the classification of the tapetoretinal degenerations and the investigation of carriers has given impetus to the development of a routinely available standardised technique separating rod and cone activity. A reliable foveal and pattern ERG system promises to be of great value in the investigation of macular disease and visual loss.

The ERG and EOG are generally accepted to be part of ophthalmology. The VER is but one of several sensory evoked changes in the EEG. Thus electroencephalographers have an established interest, and it is widely used in neurology, otology, and paediatrics. There is a vast amount of work on the psychological aspects of the responses,