

advises non-interference, unless the copper be easily removed or forces the surgeon's hand on account of recurrent iridocyclitis or rising tension. A waiting policy is all the more justified as there seems to be but little danger of sympathetic ophthalmitis in chalcosis.

ARNOLD SORSBY.

BOOK NOTICES

Stereoskopischer Atlas der äussern Erkrankungen des Auges.

By KARL WESSELY (München). A second series of ten stereo-photographs in colour (2½ in. by 2 in. on cards, 7 in. by 4 in.). München: J. F. Bergmann. Price, R.M. 12.00.

A first series of ten stereo-photographs in colours was reviewed on page 138 of the present volume of this Journal. Of the ten photographs in this second series three deal with such gross lesions as cicatricial entropion due to advanced lupus, abscess formation in acute dacryocystitis and dislocation of the whole of the eyeball. These three conditions are successfully illustrated, but it must be confessed that the photographs dealing with finer lesions, such as for instance the one depicting a splinter of iron in the iris, leave much to be desired, as far as stereoscopic representation goes. Of the twenty photographs thus far published, the most successful are undoubtedly those dealing with gross and essentially cutaneous lesions. Nothing approaching the same standard of excellency is to be found in the photographs of the purely ocular affections. The technical difficulties associated with colour in stereo-photography have apparently not been overcome altogether.

Morax et Petit. Le Trachome. Editeur: J. AN MORAX. Paris: 1929.

Since Morax published his clinical researches on trachoma in Egypt in *Ann. d' Ocul.* in 1901 and 1902 he has been looked on as one of the greatest authorities on this disease. As the founder of, and principal contributor to, *La Revue Internationale du Trachome*, a quarterly journal, he has retained the study of trachoma in all its aspects as one of the professional interests of his life.

A book by him on trachoma has been awaited eagerly, and now

that it is published will be studied by all surgeons who come in contact with the disease.

In England we see so little trachoma that it is a shock to learn that probably at least 100 millions of the world's inhabitants are afflicted with a disease of the conjunctiva which very seriously affects the visual acuity of about 25 per cent. and in association with superadded acute infections, leads to partial or total blindness in a considerable number.

Some of the statistics given for the British Isles date from 30 or 40 years ago, and can be of little value at the present time.

While it is well known that Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, and Palestine are veritable hotbeds of trachoma, some European countries still have the important problem of this chronic contagious disease with which to reckon. In France the regions most affected are the Mediterranean coast, and Corsica, then the Spanish frontier; the frontiers adjacent to Germany and Belgium are also affected. In France the notification of trachoma became obligatory in 1924; however, it appears that this enactment is a dead letter as far as most French oculists are concerned.

Hungary, Poland, Roumania, and Czechoslovakia have an appreciable amount of trachoma. In some of these countries serious efforts are being made to deal with the disease, notably in Hungary by Professor de Grosz.

Morax goes into the question of treatment very fully, though he does not indicate the danger which may arise from the use of such experimental forms of treatment as diathermy.

The chapter on the pathology of trachoma is, as was to be expected, of great value. The author does not consider that the bacterium *granulosum* described by Noguchi is the specific agent in the causation of the disease.

Koby's Slit-lamp Microscopy of the Living Eye. Translated by GOULDEN and HARRIS. Second Edition. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1930. Price, 15s.

Both the original edition by Koby in French, and its translation by Goulden and Harris, have already been reviewed in these columns. The first edition has served as a framework of the second, but slit-lamp observations during the past few years have added considerably to the present volume.

Some sections have been remodelled and completed. Among the questions which are treated at length are alterations in the thickness of the cornea, the arrangement of precipitates on the back of the cornea, deposits on the posterior surface of the lens, heterochromic cyclitis, etc.

The bibliography has been considerably developed and now

contains nearly 600 references. As the author says in his introduction the book shows the beginner in ocular microscopy something of what is, and prevents him from seeing what is not. For this purpose it is of the greatest value and even indispensable.

The description of the vitreous will not be universally accepted. It is said that the framework of the vitreous is extremely polymorphous, also that well marked strands or pseudo-membranes in regular mesh belong especially to youth, and are seen chiefly in emmetropes and hypermetropes. However, MacCallan has pointed out that in numerous cases he had been unable to detect with the slit-lamp any opacity in the vitreous apart from vestigial filaments, and he concluded that fibrillar opacity in the vitreous is a variation from the normal and has a pathological significance. (*Trans. Ophthalm. Soc. U.K.*, Vol. XLVIII, 1928, p. 189, and *Proc. of the Roy. Soc. Med.*, Vol. XXII, 1929, p. 331). Subsequently in a paper on the structure of the vitreous, Duke-Elder stated that the granular, fibrillar, or membraneous appearances are deposits and coagulations, and are seen only in pathological states. (*Trans. Ophthalm. Soc. U.K.* Vol. XLIX, 1929, p. 88).

Chronic Nasal Sinusitis and its Relation to General Medicine.

By PATRICK WATSON-WILLIAMS. 8vo, pp. 16 and 221, with 109 illustrations. Bristol: John Wright & Sons, Ltd. London: Simpkin Marshall, Ltd. 1930. Price, 15s.

This book is based on the author's Semon Lecture at the University of London, 1925, which was entitled "The Toll of Nasal Focal Sepsis on Body and Mind." It is divided into two parts, the first containing two useful chapters on the pathogenesis of focal sepsis, and others on the importance of case histories, symptoms and signs, sinusitis in children and regional complications. The last of these chapters includes the affections of the central nervous system, the respiratory and gastro-intestinal tract, cardiac, arthritic and skin affections, and orbito-ocular conditions. The second part deals with diagnostic methods, the importance of endo-rhinoscopy and diagnostic exploration suction of the sinuses being emphasised, while some principles of treatment, medicinal and operative, conclude the work.

Naturally the ophthalmic complications form but a small section of the volume, but some interesting observations are recorded. The author rightly points out that even if a source of sepsis is discovered in the nose, it does not always follow that this is the primary or sole cause. He condemns indiscriminate operating, but emphasises the importance of dealing with nasal infections if any are found, an opinion which will be shared by all.