being uniformly bad, heroic surgical measures are sometimes resorted to. Brunner reported cure of a unilateral case after ligature of the internal carotid, Bircher after opening the sinus through the orbit, while fairly recently Christopher has had a successful case in which he drained the sinus by means of Krönlein's operation. Benjamin's case was a boy, aged 15 years, suffering from a right-sided purulent otitis media. A right-sided mastoid operation was performed. The patient developed many secondary abscesses. Twelve days after operation inequality of the pupils was noticed—four days later there was proptosis. Abscesses formed in both orbits, which were opened. The process subsided, but further secondary abscesses occurred: parotid, pharyngeal, etc. The patient finally recovered with a unilateral optic atrophy.

Ida Mann.

BOOK NOTICES


There are now seven special ophthalmic clinics maintained by the Department in Beersheba, Jaffa, Gaza, Ramleh, Nablus, Tulkarem and Acre. The most serious ophthalmic question which has to be dealt with in Palestine is the summer epidemic of acute conjunctivitis which is rife in the southern districts. According to the 1931 Census 39 per cent. of the population in this part of the country were blind in one or both eyes. This almost incredible ocular devastation has been corroborated by Dr. Strathern who spent a month in the villages most affected. It is proposed to re-establish a mobile travelling ophthalmic unit to visit the scenes of the more severe epidemics.

However the main causes of the occurrence of these epidemics and of their severity are a greatly diminished average rainfall for several years and an increasing population. With a grossly insufficient water supply, providing not even a minimum for domestic purposes, ocular conditions, in the opinion of the reviewer, are likely to get worse even though increased opportunity of attending an ophthalmic clinic is provided. While the drastic methods of Herod are unlikely to appeal to the very able Director of the Department of Health, Colonel Heron, some diminution in the increase of the population could be affected by stopping all immigration into Palestine until the rainfall again became normal, for in the six months, January to June, 1932, 4340 persons came to reside in the country.