The eyelids, lacrimal apparatus, cornea, aqueous humour, intra-ocular pressure, the iris, accommodation, the ocular circulation, and the lens and vitreous each occupy a chapter. In the discussion of the metabolism of the cornea and the interpretation of the hydro-dynamics of the intra-ocular fluid, the researches of E. V. Kinsey form the basis of the argument. The mobility of the eyes is discussed in a chapter of 142 pages. The remainder of the book deals with the physiology of vision, starting from the nature of light, tracing the photo-chemical and electrical events in the retina, describing the visual pathways, and discussing the physiological and psychological aspects. The clinical applications of physiology are stressed throughout the book.

Our knowledge of ocular physiology is still so incomplete as to render this an impossible ideal, but the present volume, comprehensive in scope and pleasantly written, will do much to elucidate the practical problems of ophthalmic medicine.


Ogle's work at Dartmouth in association with Ames on aniseikonia is well known, and he is generally regarded as the critical scientist who elaborated the original ideas of his brilliant colleague and subjected them to mathematical analysis. That the study of aniseikonia should have stimulated our ideas on binocular vision is readily understandable, but much of the work which emerged from the Institute at Dartmouth has been published in different and unrelated journals. The present volume assembles this valuable material, and to those already available in the literature the author has added much unpublished data, and has reached conclusions some of which are original.

The first part of the book deals with the sensorial organization of the retina and the physiological co-ordination of the two retinas. The theory of corresponding retinal points is discussed and a full and interesting study made of the empirical longitudinal horopter and monocular asymmetries. The second part is largely occupied by the perceptual processes involved in fusion, both in reference to central and peripheral vision; cyclofusional movements are discussed in detail, and much original work on fixation disparity is described. The remainder is largely occupied in the problems presented by the author's work on aniseikonia. The results of altering the relative magnification of the images of the two eyes are fully described with much experimental detail, its effect on the interpretation of spatial judgements is discussed as well as the influence of the anomalous condition of aniseikonia. The book is an excellent presentation of a difficult subject, and to do justice to the argument the reader must not be afraid of mathematical formulation.


This text-book is intended by the authors for students and the newly-qualified who desire to gain the first ideas about ophthalmology; it can only be said that they have treated their intended public liberally. They plead that, although thirty years ago a volume of 300 pages would have sufficed, scientific progress has been such as to demand a treatise four times that size.

The manual gives the impression of careful and studied preparation, such as one would expect. There are four main divisions: Generalities, Affections of the Globe and Adnexa, Surgical Technique, and Refraction. An appendix deals briefly with
industrial, social, and service ophthalmological matters. There is an excellent index, and an analytical table of contents. Methods and techniques of examination are well described. The diagrams and drawings are good, but some of the photographic reproductions are less satisfactory. The volume does not include separate sections upon anatomy and physiology.

This is an up-to-date text-book of ophthalmology which will serve a most valuable purpose.

Reviewed in Ophthalmic Literature


This is an interesting newcomer into ophthalmic literature, published under the direction of Jayle and Dubois-Poulsen. It is intended to issue a volume each year dealing with the more important aspects of ocular therapeutics.

The first volume (for 1950) which has now appeared deals with goniotomy, the treatment of syphilis, chemotherapy in ocular tuberculosis, the treatment of venous thrombosis of the retina, epidemic kerato-conjunctivitis, oedema of the optic nerve, tissue therapy, radio-therapy, post-operative haemorrhages, herpes zoster, acute iridocyclitis, eczema of the lids, perilimbal grafts, the surgical treatment of keratitis, penicillin, short-wave therapy, corneal herpes, gonococcal conjunctivitis, perforating injuries of the globe, ocular allergies, trachomatous pannus, scleritis, and the value of the vitamin B group in ophthalmology. All these sections will be abstracted in Ophthalmic Literature.


NOTES

Mr. A. H. Levy began to serve on the Executive Committee of this Journal in 1926. He now finds it necessary to resign from the Editorial Committee, the other members of which have written to thank him for his devoted services to the Journal through the last quarter of a century. Readers all over the world will assuredly remember his services with gratitude. For many years Mr. Levy was also the Business Manager of the Journal and in that capacity kept a close watch on the subscribers' interests. The business management of the Journal was taken over by the British Medical Association from the beginning of 1950 but there was still a considerable amount of work to be done in winding up the affairs of the company. Now that this aspect of the work is virtually complete Mr. Levy wishes to be relieved from active participation in the affairs of the Journal, but readers will wish him success in his numerous other activities.

Mr. D. Ainslie has been appointed Assistant Ophthalmic Surgeon at the Middlesex Hospital, London, W.1.

Miss Mary Savory has been appointed Assistant Surgeon at the Royal Eye Hospital (King's College Hospital Group), London, S.E.1.