BOOK REVIEWS

Every attempt has been made to correlate the microscopic appearances with the ophthalmoscopic findings and this adds very considerably to the interest and usefulness of the book, but one or two of the coloured illustrations are so disappointingly blurred that it is surprising that they were passed for publication.

The fundus pictures are first referred to in the text to illustrate points in the description of a particular disease. There is also a description of each picture set out in a separate section. Nothing could be better than this form of cross-reference and, by looking at the picture first, making up a legend for it, and then comparing that with the printed description, the student can improve his knowledge and powers of observation. While nothing can replace the living fundus as seen with an ophthalmoscope, this book goes very near to performing the impossible.


Pp. 364, 318 figs (5 col. pl.), bibl. (55s.).

Eugene Wolff's "Pathology of the Eye" is so well known that a detailed review to introduce the third edition is almost unnecessary; it has now established itself as the outstanding text-book on the pathology of the eye in the English language. The third edition is considerably improved in comparison with its predecessors, the most important addition being the incorporation of over 100 illustrations, many of which are in colour. These illustrations are more than usually good; they are abundant, clear, and admirably illustrate the points in the text. Most of them are photographs of the actual conditions, while the drawings are of unusually high merit. The larger additions to the text in this new edition embrace new work on the origin of pigmented tumours, an excellent description of Schnabel's cavernous atrophy, a review of Coats's disease and retrolental fibroplasia, and the author's original work on the pathology of cysts of the glands of Zieal.

The text is clear, easy to follow, and didactic, and while it does not lose itself in detail or indulge in the discussion of theories, its value is much enhanced by 15 pages of well chosen bibliography.


In this monograph the literature on toxoplasmosis is critically reviewed in the light of the author's clinical experience and experimental findings. The review is excellent, and may be criticized only for its omissions and not for its factual content. Thus, attention is drawn to the diversity of the clinical manifestations of toxoplasmosis, and it is pointed out that adult infection may be sub-clinical or may present as an acute infection without ocular signs. One feels that more emphasis might have been put upon these features which justify a presumptive clinical diagnosis of toxoplasmosis in cases of adult chorio-retinitis, especially in view of the fact that in 140 cases of uveitis the author found a distribution of toxoplasma antibodies similar to that in his control series.

The experimental work is divided into two parts. In the first, dealing with the treatment of the experimental disease in mice, it is shown that a wide range of chemotherapeutic drugs have failed to effect a cure. The second part describes experimental choroiditis in rabbits following the introduction of toxoplasma into the carotid artery, and it is suggested that the primary lesions occur in the choroidal capillaries.

In a work of such a high general standard it is a pity that some of the photomicrographs are not of the same merit, and that the magnifications are not stated.

The discussion of the laboratory diagnosis of ocular toxoplasmosis is admirable. Attention is drawn to the value and limitations of each test, and the technique of each is described.