

**Lyle and Jackson's Practical Orthoptics in the Treatment of Squint.** By T. KEITH LYLE and M. WALKER. 4th edition, 1953. Pp. 371, 195 figs (including 3 col. pl.). Lewis, London. (63s.)

It is a far cry from the slender volume of the first edition of Lyle and Jackson's "Practical Orthoptics in the Treatment of Squint" to the present text-book, fresh from the publisher, which forms the fourth edition. There are many changes to mark this edition from its immediate predecessor; the abolition of "authorized economy standards" has led to an increase in its pages from 271 to 371; the work of Miss Salsbury and Miss Billingham has been taken up and developed by Mrs. Marianne Walker; there are 44 additional illustrations and new chapters on ocular neurosis and nystagmus; advice is given on the management and layout of an orthoptic department and the photo-frontispiece of the old orthoptic clinic in the basement of the Westminster Branch of Moorfields is replaced by a new one of the well-windowed and spacious department now existing on the first floor. The price of the volume has also increased (from 35 to 63s.).

The book is intended primarily for orthoptic students, but the constant demand for it from the medical lending libraries and the rapid sale of new editions suggest that it serves a wider purpose and need. This is not altogether surprising for the text fulfils the promise of its title. It is written always from the practical point of view, and such theoretical argument as exists is demonstrated and its lessons driven home by recourse to actual case histories and clinical examples. The production of this work represents hours and days of precise and sustained observation in the out-patient department, and its gradual evolution with the years is the result of the weighing and sifting of clinical evidence, and the establishment of firm principles with an open-mindedness towards new ideas.

The ophthalmic surgeon who finds himself divorced geographically from the personal advice of his more experienced colleagues and who is confronted with a problem of extra-ocular imbalance will almost certainly find a similar case described in this new volume and will be able to read, in detail, how to investigate it. A comprehensive practical guide is clearly the author's aim and the growth of the text-book from the primer of 1937 to the standard work of 1953 must provide him, if he has time to reflect, with a source of deep satisfaction. It is a pleasure for his friends and pupils to note on the title page that the State has recognized his good works and we wish the new edition the success it deserves.

**Test Types (Sehproben nach A. Roth).** By P. A. JAENSCH. 5th edition, 1953. Pp. 11, 8 test types. Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart. (DM. 7.50.)

According to Professor Jaensch, there has for some time existed very little choice of satisfactory Distance or Reading Types in Germany; this 5th edition of Roth's Types should therefore be welcomed there. Of the seven distance charts, which are well printed on paper, Chart No. 7 consists of "E"s and Landolt's broken rings, the remainder contain figures or letters or both. Professor Jaensch has taken particular care that this new edition should comply as accurately as possible with the requirements of Snellen. Serif letters are employed as being more readily understood in Germany, and the charts are designed for use at 5 metres. These two departures from present-day British practice will limit their value in Great Britain. The near types are of the Snellen variety, long outmoded in Great Britain. The printing of the German texts is, however, excellent.

## NOTES

### IRISH OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Irish Ophthalmological Society will be held in Dublin on April 29 and 30, and May 1, 1954.

The Montgomery Lecture, entitled "Some Recent Contributions to the Diagnostic Problem of Glaucoma" will be delivered by Professor Bietti, Parma, Italy.