

BOOK REVIEWS

Physiology of the Eye. BY F. H. ADLER. 1953. Pp. 734, 329 figs. (3 col. plates). Kimpton, London. (97s. 6d.).

The writings of Francis Adler are always a joy to read; and nowhere is his pen put to better use than in ocular physiology, of which he has made a life-long study. It is good to see that his text-book on this subject, the direct follower of his "Clinical Physiology of the Eye" which appeared some 23 years ago, has now reached a second edition. Those who have studied the first edition will know its excellence; the second edition is equally good and is brought up to date, much of it being rewritten and a considerable amount of new knowledge added. Typical examples of this are the sections on the ocular muscles, the dynamics of the intra-ocular fluids (in which Kinsey's views are wholly accepted), and the photo-chemistry of the retina. Without doubt the hope of the preface is realized; this is a book which offers to the student and the practising ophthalmologist the recent findings of the physiology of the eye gleaned from the experimental laboratory, and relates these facts wherever possible to clinical concepts.

Lehrbuch der Augenheilkunde. BY M. AMSLER, R. BRÜCKNER, A. FRANCESCHETTI, H. GOLDMANN, and E. B. STREIFF. 2nd edition, 1954. Pp. xx+927, 369 figs. Karger, Basel. (*Swiss Frs* 88.40; £7 9s.).

This excellent text-book of ophthalmology of composite authorship, which has been compiled under the direction of the five Swiss Professors (Amsler of Zürich, Brückner of Basel, Franceschetti of Geneva, Goldmann of Bern, and Streiff of Lausanne), together with Weve of Utrecht, has now reached a second edition, the first having appeared in 1948. This edition follows closely the lines of its predecessor, bringing the text up to date, and adding 69 pages and 27 figures. It is to be hoped that if the book is to retain its character as one of the best students' text-books in the literature, future additions will be balanced by subtractions lest the work become unwieldy. It is well written and beautifully produced, and the illustrations are informative and good.

The Corticotropic Hormone and Cortisone in Ophthalmology (*Ormone corticotropo e cortisone in oftalmologia*). BY G. CALAMANDREI, L. FERRATA, and L. MONTANARI. 1953. Pp. 166, bibl. Edizioni Aggiornamenti di Terapia Oftalmologica, Pisa. (*L.* 1,500; 20s.).

This is a very full résumé of the general properties and metabolic effects of cortisone and ACTH, together with a discussion of the clinical administration of these hormones and their therapeutic effect on the multitude of ocular diseases in which they have been given clinical trials. The literature is well reviewed and there are two extensive bibliographies—a short compilation of the more important papers on the general action of the substances and a full bibliography of their ophthalmological implications.

Ophthalmologie. BY L. GUILLAUMAT, S. SCHIFF-WERTHEIMER, G. OFFRET, and A. DUBOIS-POULSEN. 1953. Pp. 1,263, 269 figs, bibl. Editions Médicales Flammarion, Paris. (*Fr.* 10,500; 11 guineas.)

This book is part of an ambitious project which seeks to cover all the specialties of medicine in 34 volumes. It is a large and comprehensive text-book treating ophthalmology systematically along the usual lines, and is divided into seven parts: clinical methods, optics and refraction, regional diseases of the globe and its adnexa, neuro-ophthalmology (including the physiology of ocular mobility, heterophoria, and squint), injuries, general