

Book reviews

Atlas d'histologie et d'ultrastructure du globe oculaire (Atlas of the histology and ultrastructure of the globe). By Y. POULIQUEN, S. LIMON, J.-P. FAURE, and J. BISSON. 1969. Pp. 124, 158 figs. Masson, Paris. (60 NF)

This atlas has been produced for the medical student who seeks to learn some aspects of ocular anatomy. It is divided into a number of sections each covering the light and electron microscopy of a particular region of the globe. To help in the interpretation of the groups of micrographs, there is a series of carefully drawn three-dimensional diagrams quite evidently designed by someone who knows the subject well. These are the strongest feature of the book and succeed in depicting complex structural relationships without the use of long verbal descriptions. This is particularly important when attempting to understand the eye, since it is often difficult to demonstrate specific planes of section in a spherical organ.

Where the atlas does not succeed is in the quality and nature of the micrographs. Some of these fall below any acceptable standard and are not described in a way which would enable them to be related to the three-dimensional diagrams. In addition, there are many examples of both histological and handling artefact which, unless described as such, might well cause the reader to accept them as aspects of real structure.

Finally there are inconsistencies in interpretation. For example, one line diagram of a rod synapse is shown as containing a number of processes all labelled as bipolar dendrites, but on the next page another line diagram shows at least one of these processes to take origin from a horizontal cell.

Symposium on Ocular Surgery, Bari, 1967. (Atti del Simposio di Chirurgia Oculare). Edited by G. SBORGIA. 1969. Pp. 427, 61 figs (some col.). Italseber, Milan.

This symposium held in Bari has now been reported under the editorship of G. Sborgia. The contents include extraction of the lens by cryopexy, removal of the subluxated lens, complications of cataract extraction, treatment of cataract associated with glaucoma, tonography and the treatment of primary glaucoma, effects of fistulizing operations on corneal opacities after keratectomy, treatment of retinal detachment by photocoagulation, surgery of the lids and orbit and of the A-V syndrome, and muscular transposition in paralysis of the third nerve.

Print for Partial Sight. By ALISON SHAW. 1969. Pp. 92. The Library Association, London. (25s.)

In Britain there are 35,000 people registered as partially sighted and an unknown number of others; the alleviation of their difficulties is therefore of considerable educative and social importance. The Nuffield Auxiliary Fund gave a grant to the Library Association to undertake this responsibility, and after 2 years' work, involving extensive investigations into the design of printing reading matter including speed and accuracy in reading, they have produced their report. The size of the type is of importance up to a certain level, particularly to adults when compared with children, bold face type is valuable, as also are simple letters without serifs, while the spacing between the letters or words is relatively unimportant. The part played by typography in improving the visual performance in reading is great, particularly for adults for whom an increase in legibility is often of the order of 35 per cent.

Strabismus in Childhood. By H. M. KATZIN and G. WILSON. 1968. Pp. 84, 24 figs. Mosby, St. Louis; Kimpton, London. (36s.)

The often elaborate task of explaining to parents the implications of their child's squint will be greatly facilitated by a work such as this. The effects of squint on vision, binocular aspects, possible investigation, and treatment, including surgery, are well expounded in simple terminology. The reassurance given by an explanation in this form will without doubt be of great value to many parents.

Notes

XXX All India Ophthalmological Conference

Patna, February 5 to 7, 1970

The next All India Ophthalmological Conference will be held at Patna (Bihar) from February 5 to 7, 1970. The subject of the symposium is "Detachment of the Retina."

Those wishing to attend the Conference are asked to write to Dr. B. D. Telang, Honorary General Secretary, All India Ophthalmological Society, 395 Dr. D. Bhadkamkar Marg, Bombay 4, India.

150th Anniversary Celebration

New York, May, 1970

The 43rd Annual New York Eye and Ear Infirmary Clinical Conference, presented by the Alumni Association and Infirmary Staff, will be held from May 6 to 8, 1970, at the Biltmore Hotel in New York City. This Conference will be held in conjunction with the Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary.

For further details write to Miss J. Stark, Executive Secretary, Alumni Association, The New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, 310 East Fourteenth Street, New York, N.Y. 10003, U.S.A.

Fight for Sight

The FIGHT FOR SIGHT, founded in 1946 with the primary purpose of encouraging and financing eye research, has awarded \$294,593 during 1969 for 75 basic and clinical research projects in ophthalmology and its related sciences.

Applications for 1970 Awards will be accepted until *March 1, 1970*.

The Scientific Advisory Committee wishes all who apply from countries outside the United States to understand that, in view of the present financial situation, FIGHT FOR SIGHT will consider only applications deemed to be particularly significant, unique in scope and/or personnel, or where extraordinary circumstances prevail. The Committee suggests that investigators from economically advanced countries should make every effort to seek local support for the pursuit of their research interests.

French Ophthalmological Society

Paul Reiss Prize, 1970

Candidates for the International Paul Reiss Prize instituted under the auspices of the "Société Française d'Ophthalmologie" are reminded that their entries (10 typed copies in French or English) must reach the Secretary General, 28, rue de Charenton, Paris XII^e, by *December 31, 1969*. Studies should be entitled "Research into the pathogenesis and non-surgical treatment of keratoconus and corneal dystrophies". Further information is given in a notice which appeared in the advertisement pages of the *British Journal of Ophthalmology* in August, 1969.