

Book Reviews

Fundamentals of Ophthalmology (Grundriss der Augenheilkunde). By W. LEYDHECKER. 15th ed., 1968. Pp. 252, 280 figs (46 col.). Springer, Berlin. DM.36.

This students' textbook of ophthalmology, begun by F. Schieck in 1930 and continued by E. Engelking, has now been taken over by W. Leydhecker of Würzburg who has prepared the 15th edition. The book has been somewhat curtailed, but the number of illustrations has been increased from 254 to 280. It is an excellent book, as indeed is testified by its fifteen editions, and contains all the groundwork required by the ophthalmological student without being overburdened with unnecessary detail or descriptions of rare conditions. The illustrations, many of them in colour, are unusually good and it continues to deserve the popularity it has obtained in the German-speaking world.

Microscopical and Histological Test Methods with Special Reference to the Eye (Mikroskopisch-histologische Untersuchungsmethoden unter besonderer Berücksichtigung des Sehorgans). By A. HEYDENREICH, F. BAUER, K.-TH. BUSCH, R. HAHNE, and I. TRAUTMANN. 1968. Pp. 419, 141 figs, 11 plates, bibl. Thieme, Leipzig. £11 14s.

This is a very fine book which will be of great help to every ophthalmic pathologist, as it gives a complete list of the different test methods used in this field.

In the general part of the book the preparation of the various tissues to the final stage is described, and there are chapters on histochemical tests as well as on various microscopical methods.

The anatomy of the eye is also described with special reference to methods of obtaining specimens.

The lay-out is excellent and the reader can easily find the reference to any particular method.

Surgical Treatment of Caustic Injuries of the Eye. By B. ALBERTH. 1968. Pp. 146, 194 figs, bibl. Akadémiai Kiadó. 3 guineas.

This little book represents the author's experience in the treatment of so-called hopeless cases of caustic injuries to the cornea. Cases without symblepharon are treated with total lamellar keratoplasty or perforating keratoplasty, and the author follows this with a description of possible complications. Cases with symblepharon are treated by a series of procedures which are probably not very often performed in English-speaking countries: extracorneal keratoplasty, skin-grafting, amnion-grafting, peritoneum-grafting, conjunctival-grafting, or oral mucous grafting. All stages are illustrated with black-and-white and colour photographs and described in a rather informal style, which at times is certainly not fluent (*e.g.* "The eye was immediately flushed, but the clot could be removed only three hours later at the clinic", p. 12.)

This book represents a considerable experience in these rather rare injuries and as such is probably not one for the general ophthalmologist but rather for assimilation by the fully experienced corneal surgeon.

May's Diseases of the Eye. By J. H. ALLEN. 24th ed., 1968. Pp. 430, 258 figs, refs. Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore; Livingstone, Edinburgh. 90s.

In recent years several excellent new textbooks of ophthalmology have appeared to join the classic ones. With its 24th edition May's textbook must belong to the second group and it must prove that it is