

recessive and X-linked conditions and with disorders of retinal function, two areas in which considerable advances have been made recently.

This book should be read by all established ophthalmologists. It highlights the areas of ophthalmic genetics in which advances have recently been, and are continuing to be, made. Only by furthering these advances will it then be possible to discuss the management of many of these disorders.

Diabetes and the Eye. By F. I. CAIRD, A. PIRIE, and T. G. RAMSELL. 1969. Pp. 230, figs, refs. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford. (3 *gns.*)

This is an excellent book on a subject which is at present receiving a great deal of attention. It was written by a physician, an ophthalmologist, and a biochemist. The conflicts and literature which concern the natural history and prognosis of a diabetic retinopathy are reviewed in a masterly fashion, and some original epidemiological studies are included. The clinical features of diabetic retinopathy are competently described, and an up-to-date account of pathology is given, although the pathogenesis of soft exudates is not clearly described.

The biochemistry of the retina and the lens is described in detail. Knowledge on this important subject is not great, and some of the material is not strictly relevant to the subject of the book. Nevertheless, here as elsewhere, the command of the literature is impressive and the original contributions of the authors are highly relevant.

The treatment of diabetic retinopathy is critically reviewed and the need for controlled clinical trials is emphasized, as the majority of claims of success for methods of treatment are not founded upon scientific assessment.

The subject is treated under the following headings :

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| (1) Epidemiology of diabetic blindness | (9) Transient visual symptoms in diabetes |
| (2) The ophthalmologist and the diagnosis of diabetes | (10) Clinical aspects of cataract in diabetes |
| (3) Clinical features of diabetic retinopathy | (11) Metabolism of the lens in relation to lens opacities in diabetes |
| (4) Pathology of diabetic retinopathy | (12) Disorders of the iris in diabetes |
| (5) Biochemistry of the retina and its blood vessels | (13) Diabetes and the intraocular pressure |
| (6) Natural history of diabetic retinopathy | (14) Miscellaneous ocular disorders in diabetes |
| (7) Pathogenesis of diabetic retinopathy | (15) Rehabilitation of the diabetic blind |
| (8) Treatment of diabetic retinopathy | |

This book is essential reading for all physicians and ophthalmologists associated with diabetes. The authors are to be congratulated on producing such a timely balanced and scholarly work, which has the additional virtues of readability and brevity.

Notes

European Ophthalmic Pathology Society

VIII Annual Meeting, May, 1969

The European Ophthalmic Pathology Society held its eighth annual meeting in Karlsruhe, W. Germany, from May 1 to 3, 1969. Prof. A. E. Maumenee (*Baltimore, U.S.A.*) was the honoured guest. Prof. R. Seitz, assisted by Mrs. Seitz, organized the scientific and social programme, which began with a reception at the Park Hotel. The scientific sessions were held in the fine buildings of the Karlsruher Lebensversicherung by courtesy of Dr. Alex Möller who gave an opening address. The annual dinner was held at the Hotel Erbprinze, Ettlingen, and the meeting concluded with a visit to the Burg Windeck.

The meeting was attended by 22 members:

Dr. W. A. Manschot, President (*Holland*)

Prof. K. Arnesen (*Norway*)

Prof. N. Ashton (*Gt Britain*)

Dr. R. Barry (*Gt Britain*)