Book reviews


The individual contributions to the European Strabismus Congress in 1969 were so diverse that the two scientific sessions were not related to specific aspects. Many of the contributions were restatements of previous work for which the authors are already renowned. The original papers were also of high standard, including some interesting case reports, a new fusion test by Fells, and a stimulating thought from Gilkes on psychogenic factors. The meat of the congress came in two round-table discussions. The first was on the significance of vertical imbalance in horizontal squint. The factors discussed were the incidence, diagnosis, and treatment of the condition; the participants expressed not very differing views on these and a natural outcome was a review of the A and V syndrome. A shorter survey of the round-table on the long-term significance of sensory anomalies of squint is devoted to three topics: microtropia, the possibility of visual improvement in an eye amblyopic since childhood when the sight of the other is lost; and the long-term results of amblyopia. It was generally held that anomalous correspondence of microtropia is probably impossible to eliminate. A claim was made by Berari for the use of prisms before surgery to retain binocular vision during treatment of amblyopia, but others did not support this idea.

It is a matter of regret that the reports of the discussion are not somewhat extended. This defect will surely be remedied in the transactions to be published after the next congress, an event which is establishing itself as one of prime importance in the world of strabismus research.


This well-known textbook of the Hungarian ophthalmic school has been revised and supplemented by a disciple of Kettesy. Many operative procedures are described in great detail. A simplified modification of the ptosis operation of Blaskovics is noteworthy. Other techniques are not or only shortly discussed. Not much is said about lid sutures or clips to keep the eye open during cataract extraction. As the author prefers the tucking of the lens he does not favour the straight cryostat manoeuvre. The importance of cautering the scleral wound lip in iridencleisis should have been mentioned. The book conveys a great amount of valuable information and is interesting to read as it reflects the great experience of its past and present authors.


This follows the previous high standard of these reports in giving an exhaustive review of the published work on the experimental and clinical aspects of immunity and allergy in relation to uveitis.

The first section deals with the phenomenon of hypersensitivity in general and in relation to the eye, and reviews experimental studies. Next, the evidence for the role of autoimmunity in uveitis is discussed with particular reference to phakoaaphylaxis and the possible aetiological significance of autoimmune reactions in other types of uveitis.