

Book reviews

Glaucoma. By RAYMOND ÉTIENNE. 1969. Pp. 630, 176 figs. Diffusion Générale de Librairie, Marseille.

In 1961 Étienne in collaboration with Albert Ourgaud presented the annual "Rapport" of the French Society of Ophthalmology on the "Functional Investigation of the Glaucomatous Eye"—the subject chosen for that particular year. Étienne's new book on glaucoma is an extension of his work on that monumental thesis, and is a beautifully produced volume worthy of the high esteem in which the members of the Lyons School are held.

Apart from the striking colour illustrations (which have been printed with a plasticized glossy finish to enhance their contrast), the book is a mine of thought-provoking information, and will repay any effort involved in reading the French. It is written in concise style and is divided into thirteen sections covering all aspects of glaucoma. The latest views on the anatomy and physiology of glaucoma are dealt with in detail, as are methods of clinical investigation, such as tonometry, tonography, the perilimbal suction cup, gonioscopy, and static and dynamic perimetry. The chapter on the classification of glaucoma includes a lengthy list of the common forms and rare syndromes associated with the disease, based on gonioscopic findings, but the condition of iridoschisis is not mentioned.

Aspirants for higher diplomas in ophthalmology should find the section on the pharmacology and clinical use of antiglaucomatous drugs particularly useful, as some textbooks of ocular physiology in the English language are insufficiently detailed on this subject. It is interesting to learn that the absorption of 120 ml. whisky promotes a fall in intraocular pressure lasting 4 to 5 hours. This should prove a popular remedy!

The surgical treatment of glaucoma is profusely illustrated in colour with emphasis on those procedures favoured by the author, such as iridosclerectomy *ab externo* (Foroni) for chronic simple glaucoma and thermo-sclerectomy (Scheie) for the chronic angle-closure type. The author does not give a definite answer to the controversial question of when (if at all) one should evacuate a choroidal detachment associated with a flat anterior chamber following filtering operations.

A chapter is devoted to cyclodialysis and goniotomy, and another to cyclodiathermy, with its modification of angiodyathermy as practised in Lyons. Brief reference is made to cyclocryotherapy. The final chapter covers some of the newer procedures, such as trabeculectomy, the sinusotomy of Krasnov, and a detailed description of the trabeculotomy of Harms with an appraisal of its indications.

The value of this excellent book would be enhanced by a much more comprehensive index and bibliography, and a few of the black and white photographs are lacking in contrast. There are one or two misprints but these are minor criticisms and the book can be thoroughly recommended.

Ophthalmology: Principles and Concepts. By FRANK W. NEWELL. 2nd ed., 1969. Pp. x + 527, 233 figs. Kimpton, London. (140s.)

The fact that a second edition of this work has proved necessary within 5 years of the publication of the first confirms our assessment of the original volume in these pages (*Brit. J. Ophthalmol.*, **50**, 555, 1966) and justifies the eoniums then accorded to it.

It was recommended not to the average medical student—or rather not, to be more precise, to those following the curriculum at present in vogue in British medical schools, but to those with thoughts of taking up ophthalmology as a valuable introduction to their future life-work, to those