

Arteriography of the External Carotid. Anatomical, Radiological, and Clinical Study. (Artériographie de la carotide externe. Étude anatomo-radiologique et clinique.) By C. AARON, D. DOYON, H. FISCHGOLD, J. METZGER, and J. RICHARD. 1970. Pp. 118, 135 figs, refs. Masson, Paris. (Frs. 66)

This is an excellently illustrated account of the anatomy of the external carotid distribution, methods of angiography, and findings in the normal and abnormal. There is also a correlative note on thermography and a less relevant short chapter on comparative anatomy. Although most of the book is of no practical importance to the ophthalmologist, it is of great interest to be made aware of the advances in another speciality. Although the orbit is supplied mainly by the internal carotid there are anastomotic branches from the external carotid, and examples of the importance of these are shown.

A useful feature is a book mark with a list of abbreviations used in the illustrations.

Congenital and Paediatric Glaucomas. By R. N. SHAFFER and D. I. WEISS. 1970. Pp. 221, 253 figs, 3 col. pl., refs. Mosby, St Louis (Kimpton, London). (£9.25)

This is a classical treatise on a difficult subject, beautifully presented and packed with most valuable information. The work is notable for its scrupulous honesty and accuracy of data and for its wide coverage of many associated conditions and the rarer syndromes.

The illustrations are of a strikingly high standard and help to bring home forcibly many of the important points made in the text.

Although the work is not essentially controversial in nature, the authors introduce at one point the tantalizing enigma of the precise cause of cupping of the disc in ocular hypertension. The reader may be justified in wondering whether fluorescein evidence of delay in disc circulation is also evidence of reduced circulation.

He may also wonder whether the point has been made in favour of the contusion angle deformity in traumatic glaucoma (a syndrome which the reviewer regards with deep suspicion). But these matters add piquancy to a delightful work.

There are several points which the reviewer found of great interest; for example the fact that a cup/disc ratio of more than 0.3 is so rare in normal infants, and the important part played by rubella in many infantile glaucomas, together with the intriguing suggestion that rubella glaucoma and cataract are mutually exclusive.

This book certainly makes absorbing reading and is highly recommended for ophthalmologists at all levels.

Symposium on Ocular Anti-inflammatory Therapy. Edited by H. E. KAUFMAN. 1970. Pp. 272 + xiv, 75 figs (some col.). Thomas, Springfield, Ill. (\$19.00)

The immense benefits which the development of anti-inflammatory agents have brought to the treatment of ocular inflammation have been offset to some extent by their complications, both systemic and ocular. The main purpose of this symposium was to evaluate the potency of different preparations and different methods of use in order to combine the optimum therapeutic effect with the minimum toxicity.

The adverse systemic effects can be reduced by local administration, and injections of a depot preparation into Tenon's capsule seem to have advantages over subconjunctival injections in the treatment of uveitis. Two papers suggest that steroids and antimicrobial therapy can be combined safely in the treatment of infective conditions, provided that the patients have normal immunoglobulins.

Although some promising results have been obtained with immunosuppressive agents in corneal grafting and ocular inflammation, the presently available drugs are too toxic and too limited in their

effectiveness for most clinical requirements. Antilymphocytic serum has not so far been shown to be of value in corneal grafting or ocular inflammation.

The many detailed experimental and clinical studies presented in this symposium will be useful for those specializing in the field of ocular inflammation, but the clinical ophthalmologist will not find any easy solution to the treatment of inflammatory disease.

Ocular Pharmacology. By W. H. HAVENER. 2nd ed., 1970. Pp. 556, 304 figs, refs. Mosby, St Louis (Kimpton, London). (£13.25)

The first edition of this book brought together a very wide range of information concerning the drugs used in ophthalmology. The mode of action, route of administration, dosage, and toxicity were very clearly presented, with emphasis on the practical application in routine treatment.

The second edition has been brought up to date and supplemented by a section on the treatment of common ophthalmological conditions. Again the accent is on practical management, and the balanced and well-documented views of the author should be read by all ophthalmologists. The introductory chapter on the evaluation of therapeutic response is a salutary condemnation of "clinical impressions" unsupported by properly controlled trials.

This is an excellent and well-written book, enlivened by many examples from the author's own experience, and it provides a reference manual to modern work on ocular pharmacology and a practical guide to ocular therapeutics. It is well produced and well indexed, and has an extensive list of references at the end of each chapter.

Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery. By S. A. FOX. 4th ed., 1970. Pp. 590, 308 figs, refs. Grune and Stratton, New York and London. (\$29.75)

This new edition is a considerable improvement on its popular predecessors. After introductory chapters on anatomy, technical details, grafting, and basic techniques, there follow chapters dealing with all minor and major lid, lacrimal, socket, and orbital problems classified on a sensible anatomical basis. The book is very readable and practical in its outlook. The line diagrams are uniformly successful but the standard of photographs is rather variable for a book of this expense (a point that the author admits). It is a pity that modern radiotherapy in the treatment of lid tumours is not given more prominence (only six pages) as—in Great Britain at least—this would seem to be the ideal form of primary treatment. However, these are small criticisms of an excellent book.

Management of the Patient with Subnormal Vision. By G. FONDA. 2nd ed., 1970. Pp. 167, 114 figs, bibl. Mosby, St. Louis (Kimpton, London). (£5.85)

"The nation's blind population is increasing at nearly twice the rate of the general population"—an emotive statement and one that sets the theme for this excellent book on the management of the patient with subnormal vision.

This is a difficult subject for the clinical ophthalmologist largely because of the supposed requirement for the knowledge of advanced optics, and also for the length of time that needs to be devoted to each patient. Gerald Fonda's book sets down in a precise, uncomplicated form the background to the prescribing of visual aids. In the course of bringing our knowledge up to date many myths are exploded. We learn of the advantages of high plus lenses to aid reading even though the print must be brought very close to the eye, and the patient must "read with his nose". We learn of the difficulties of telescopic aids which may effectively make an individual legally blind, and there are provocative thoughts on the use of large print and the question of learning Braille.

The volume is well-produced, excellently illustrated, and written in a logical and lucid style. Each chapter is succinct and the final questions-and-answers section is particularly recommended.

All in all a very good book.