
This book covers comprehensively the field of practical refraction by a series of questions and appropriate answers. This form of presentation inevitably makes systematic development of the subject difficult, but the book is a mine of useful information for those wishing to check specific points of refraction theory and technique. In view of the detailed treatment in regard to reflection and refraction at plane surfaces—even the trigonometrical ratios are defined—it is surprising that reflection and refraction at spherical surfaces is not discussed. As a result of this the section dealing with retinoscopy, which includes few diagrams, is difficult to follow.


This 30th Cahier spécialisé reports the latest in the following subjects:

- Ultrastructure of the irido-corneal angle of the iris and choroid—Y. Poulilken
- Ultrastructural aspects of the lens and normal human vitreous body—A. Brini, A. Porte, and M. E. Stockel
- Physiology of the cornea—P. Payrau
- Physiology of the vitreous body—J. P. Gerhard
- Echography—F. Rousselle and H. Hamard
- Chronic dacryocystitis—G. Perdriel and G. Coscas
- Surgical treatment of chronic dacryocystitis—G. Perdriel and G. Coscas
- Aniseikonia—G. Coscas and S. Delthil
- Surgery of orbital tumours—C. Haye and C. Clay

As always, these chapters are written authoritatively and clearly by experts and add to the continuing interest of the encyclopaedia.


This small book, which represents the depth and range of optics required by the U.S.A. trainee ophthalmologist, covers elementary optics very adequately. It is written in a friendly style and never complicates the issue with formulae. When we come to visual optics, in many subjects the appetite is whetted but the further clinical optical significance of the instrument or technique is not described. This applies to keratometry and contact lenses, to quote only two examples.

I have no hesitation in recommending this book for the trainee ophthalmologist, especially before beginning a course of lectures or revising for an examination, but he will certainly have to refer to longer texts to complete his education.

It would be wrong to pick out small mistakes, but should a second edition be called for: 1·133/60 = 22·16, and not 22·5 as stated on p. 131.


This book contains the proceedings of the "National Consultation concerning Needed Research in the Behavioural Sciences and the Humanities, with Reference to Problems Related to Blindness", held in Pennsylvania in 1969. Subtitled "A Liberal Studies Perspective", it reviews aspects of social psychology and recent psychological research which deal with blind people, their reactions to the sighted community, and the community's attitude towards them. The difficulties of blind people in a sighted world are discussed in detail, and the book may be recommended to those concerned with the welfare and rehabilitation of the blind, but will not be of great interest to ophthalmologists.