was hardly noticeable. Examination with the visuscope shows that there is a primary form of microstrabismus, which may develop into macrostrabismus, and a secondary residual strabismus resulting from surgery and orthoptic treatment of a higher degree of squint. Heredity plays a significant role.

The author considers microstrabismus to be a separate entity. To an oculist, who has been imbued with the teaching of Worth, microstrabismus is evidence of fusion deficiency. Even when the images presented to both eyes are superimposed by prisms, no perfect vision results. Failure to obtain normal binocular vision may be compared with the failure of speech training to produce normal natural speech.


This book is a precis of the proceedings of a Symposium held in Florida in 1970. Its coverage is thus wider than its title suggests, but it has all the disadvantages of multiple authorship (33 contributors covering only 317 pages), with varying quality, overlap, etc.

Many interesting and useful points emerge, and excellent advice is given concerning the collection of eyes and simple inexpensive containers for transport. Many methods are described of evaluating corneal donor material. Some of these are still experimental, such as the reversal of induced hydration, electron microscopy of endothelium (mitochondrial changes), Stocker’s trypan blue test, temperature reversal, nitroblue tetrazolium (where one eye has to be discarded), and studies with the specular microscope of Maurice; the last seems to hold most promise, since endothelial cells can easily be seen at about 100x with a 10 x air-immersion objective.

There are some surprising statements. It is noted that the eyebanks of Canada, Brazil, Argentina, Israel, and France deep-freeze eyes, but there is no reference to the centre where this technique was first elaborated; and although credit is indeed given to the Westminster Hospital unit for the first use (in 1964) of deep-frozen material, this is said to refer only to rabbits (although the quoted title specifically mentions “human cornea”!). It is also curious that, although 55 per cent. of surgeons will not use eyes from jaundiced patients, only 57 per cent. refuse cornea from patients with absolute glaucoma.

The regular use of stored deep-frozen corneae is, in fact, limited to those few centres where an adequate supply of fresh tissue cannot be obtained, and for the occasional lamellar keratoplasty; but if recent work on the value of tissue-typing in corneal grafting can be confirmed, it may be necessary to have an eye-bank where one can call for the appropriate tissue match. In any event, this is a valuable compilation of our present (or at any rate 1970) knowledge.


The authors of this monograph are of the opinion that the conventional tests of ocular function in the presence of dense opacities of the refractive media are inadequate. A quantitative evaluation of the light sense through closed lids is required. The visual fields should be examined by eliciting phosphenes from pressure and diascral light stimulation of the retina, and by testing the retinal vessels with the Purkinje vascular shadow figure. The technique of these tests and their reliability are discussed in great detail. Special stress is laid on examinations which can be easily done by the ophthalmic practitioner. No mention of echography is made. It is true that ultrasound is an anatomical and not a functional investigation. However, anatomy and function are so closely connected that this relationship would have been worth a few words of comment.