Book reviews


Eighty-four ophthalmologists have contributed to this volume which is presented as a testimonial to the leading ophthalmologist of the century. Almost every aspect of clinical ophthalmology is covered in the 55 excellent papers and this book can be strongly recommended to ophthalmologists as one to be dipped into from time to time.


This book is an elegant essay on lid surgery by an acknowledged master of this particular craft. It is not an original book, in that all the material has been published elsewhere, but it is mature, simple, a pleasure to read, and reflects a wide and deep knowledge of the subject. The historical aspects are particularly enjoyable and it is pointed out that new operations often are, in fact, not new and that old operations tend to recur in the literature quite frequently. It is outspoken against some modern complicated plastic techniques and the work of Mustardé comes in for special criticism.

Unfortunately, there is one glaring defect, namely the chapter on lacrimal surgery. This chapter is out of context and should never have been published. It reflects a bias which is unsubstantiated by fact and which is at variance with the experience of experts in this field. Taken overall, however, this is a delightful and helpful book which can be read with great benefit by all who practise surgery of the eyelid.

Notes

North of England Ophthalmological Society

Percival J. Hay Memorial Prize

Competitors shall be required to submit work of an ophthalmological nature or having a direct bearing on ophthalmology in the form of an original essay, paper, or demonstration.

The competition is open to past, present, and prospective members of the Society.

The Prize shall take the form of a plaque and a sum of money the amount of which shall be determined by the Committee.

For full details apply to the Honorary Secretary, 2, Walmer Villas, Bradford BD8 7ET. Yorkshire.

Closing date of entry December 31, 1973.

Reading Needs of the Hard of Seeing

Conference, London, June 5, 1973

The Library Association and the National Association for the Education of the Partially Sighted are to hold a one-day conference on the reading needs of the hard of seeing on Tuesday, June 5, 1973, at the Commonwealth Hall, Royal Commonwealth Society, London, W.C.2. The speakers will include Mr. Brian Harcourt, F.R.C.S., on the needs of the visually handicapped; Miss Jane Finnis on the short and longer-term problems of being visually handicapped; Dr. W. A. Munford, Librarian and Director-General, National Library for the Blind, and Mr. F. A. Thorpe, of Ulverscroft Large Print Books, on the present and future of book provision; and Professor M. D. Vernon, Emeritus Professor of Psychology, University of Reading, on the problems encountered by visually handicapped children in adapting to the world.

The total fee for the conference is £7.70, to include morning coffee, buffet lunch, and afternoon tea. For further information, write to The Research Officer, The Library Association, 7, Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE.