

fully covered. The various tumours of the ciliary body are described in great detail. Retinoblastoma is well described, and other retinal tumours are mentioned. Optic nerve tumours, both primary and secondary, are discussed and well illustrated. The investigation of tumours of the orbit and lacrimal apparatus is comprehensively described, and the treatment of the various types is indicated. The surgical treatment of orbital tumours is discussed in detail, the operation of orbital exenteration is described, and radiation treatment is reviewed.

**The Assessment of Visual Function.** By A. M. POTTS. 1972. Pp. 226, 149 figs, refs. Mosby, St Louis; Kimpton, London (£11.00)

Most clinical tests of visual function are used empirically, and generally only the visual acuity, the visual field, and colour vision are tested. Tests of binocular function are undertaken by the orthoptic department. There are other tests available but rarely used, such as dark adaptation, electrophysiological studies, and tests of dynamic visual function.

This book is an attempt to relate the clinical use of these tests to their physiological basis. The result is a book of uneven calibre but of unflinching interest. The contributors are actively engaged in research in the various fields, but their contributions maintain a firm clinical bias. References are numerous, but it is noticeable that when a particularly provocative statement is made the reference is to unpublished data.

Some of the substance of this book may be found in other publications, but the whole is a thought-provoking review of many of the methods that we clinicians tend to use uncritically.

**Intraocular Injuries.** By G. M. HAIK and W. H. COLES. 1972. Pp. 133, figs, refs. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia (£5.60)

The extensive experience of the authors in this field is evident throughout the volume. As an atlas it satisfactorily details the minutiae of surgical technique and its presentation and format are excellent. Many surgeons in Great Britain would hesitate to treat vitreous loss in the presence of lens damage with lens extraction and anterior vitrectomy as a primary procedure, but this traditional caution may well be ill-judged as the authors suggest. The philosophy of the book reflects current opinion, providing a readable and coherent account that merits serious consideration by all concerned with the treatment of intraocular trauma. In these days of expensive specialist text-books, a cheaper paperback edition might well increase its appeal to trained ophthalmologists.

**The Lacrimal System. Proceedings of the I International Symposium.** Edited by E. R. VEIRS. 1971. Pp. 178, 166 figs, refs. Mosby, St. Louis; Kimpton, London (£10.10)

This is a collection of contributions to the First International Symposium on the Lacrimal System. Chapters are devoted to congenital anomalies of the lacrimal system, disorders of the lacrimal gland, lacrimal canaliculi, and lacrimal sac, and the operative approach to treatment of such conditions.

Many authors review current concepts of treatment, and other chapters present new approaches to the understanding of lacrimal disorders. These include electron microscopy of lacrimal tumours and new studies of the anatomical factors to be taken into account in surgery of the lacrimal drainage system. The symposium offers a good résumé of current work in this field for the use of students and ophthalmic practitioners.

**Contemporary Ophthalmology.** AMERICAN ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY AND OTOLARYNGOLOGY. 1972. Pp. 246, 162 figs, refs. Mosby, St Louis (£13.25)

This book contains selected papers presented at the 1971 meeting of the Academy. Despite the high quality of the contributions, the justification for this [expensive] publication is questioned, as they will all be published in the *Transactions of the American Academy*.

**Year Book of Ophthalmology 1972.** Edited by W. F. HUGHES. Pp. 398, 80 figs, refs. Year Book Medical Publishers, Chicago (£6.30)

This excellent publication reviews selected articles in the literature published in the previous year.