find new and interesting points discussed in these concise essays. The first paper, by Freye, which deals with genetic problems, gives fascinating hints regarding the possibility of biological engineering, but it would have been instructive to have had these problems illustrated by examples and diagrams. Such details make the paper of Jaeger on the heredity of congenital defects of the colour sense lucid reading. Of great practical interest are the publications dealing with corneal surgery. Such masters of this specialty as Harms and Mackensen have given contributions on microsurgery, Alberth reviews immunosuppression, and Puchkovskaya regenerative processes after keratoplasty. Much has been achieved, but much more remains to be achieved.


This is a monumental volume consisting of a number of monographs on various subjects which have a physiological basis. A third of the volume is taken up by chapters on optics, visual physiology, refraction, and visual aids. There is a large section on microbiology and chemotherapy in relation to the eye, and a number of short well informed articles on electroretinography. Each section is comprehensive, furnished with up-to-date references (some even include work done in the year of publication), and contains considerable detail about instrumentation, but the emphasis seems to be rather on the theoretical than on the practical and clinical aspects of the topics under discussion. The section on microbiology and chemotherapy, for instance, describes the basic methods of the study of micro-organisms and each one is discussed in detail, but little is written about the manifestations of bacterial and viral ocular disease or their treatment. The book is at its most practical in the articles on ultrasound and x-ray diagnosis. Obviously, this is a book for the postgraduate ophthalmologist, but it is not a course of introductory lectures. Those who read it will already need to have considerable knowledge of the subjects under discussion, and there are less technical, more practical, volumes available.


The papers published in this book were given at The City University to make the 75th Anniversary of the British Optical Association in 1970. They are grouped into nine sections: History, Education, Anatomy and Physiology, Abnormalities, Clinical Methods, Binocular Vision, Contact Lenses, Physiological Optics, and Practice Management.

These groups are covered by over forty papers, which span the range of experience and research work of the modern optometrist or ophthalmic optician. It is a very extensive range. For example, two papers dealing with electron microscopy (Collin, Ruskell) are entirely composed of results of laboratory research. The largest number of papers deals with binocular vision and refraction and the overall standard in this particular field is high. The same comment applies to the papers on clinical methodology. For ophthalmologists who have interests in these subjects reading of selected papers will prove well worthwhile.


The relationship between ischaemia in the region of the optic disc and field defects in glaucoma is now well established, and the dependence of perfusion of the retinal circulation on the the systemic blood pressure and intraocular pressure has been the subject of much experimental work. In this interesting monograph, Heilmann examines the reversible nature of the early field defects in chronic