Simple Eye Diagnosis. By H. B. CHAWLA. 1973. Pp. 83, 37 figs. Churchill-Livingstone, London and Edinburgh (£1)

Not many ophthalmic texts are based on symptomatology, and the aim of this book to provide a symptom-linked presentation of simple ophthalmology for the non-ophthalmologist is praiseworthy. The book deals with all the common ocular conditions with which a patient may present, and the exposition is clear if, at times, dogmatic and over simplified. The racy, telegraphic, homespun style may appeal to some, but to this reviewer bore a rather patronizing air which was found irritating.

The book may well be of value to the general practitioner or the junior house officer who already has some knowledge of ophthalmology, but it is unsuited for undergraduate study. Some sections, for example, on squint and diplopia, require strengthening, and it is a pity that a number of misprints and inaccuracies throughout the book tend to mar its otherwise excellent layout.

The use of trade names of preparations recommended for ophthalmic treatment may be an attempt to use terms already known to the general practitioner, but the preparations chosen are not always those most commonly used. Most ophthalmologists would agree with the author in condemning the use of steroid antibiotic mixtures, but the selection of one manufacturer's preparation for castigation when most drug firms market mixtures of this sort is difficult to defend.

In general, the book provides the qualified non-ophthalmic doctor with an easily read *aide-mémoire* which should help him to identify quickly the most likely conditions suggested by particular ocular or visual symptoms.

W. S. FOULDS

Paediatric Oculo-neural Diseases—Case Studies. By J. A. McCrARY. 1973. Pp. 232, 45 figs. Kimpton, London (£4.50)

This is an unpretentious loose-leaf compilation of 45 typical examples of various neuro-ophthalmological syndromes in children. An introduction of 83 pages is devoted to paediatric neuro-ophthalmological history and examination, disorders of the pupil, disorders of ocular motility, visual fields, the optic nerve, and the retina. There is a useful index.

This is a highly practical handbook which summarizes the problems likely to be met in the wards and out-patient departments of a children's hospital. It is recommended particularly for the registrar who has completed his basic studies and who needs guidance in the handling of sick children. At the end of the description of each syndrome there is a list of questions with multiple-choice answers. Honest replies would floor all but the most experienced. To the young and enthusiastic of all chronological ages this book of case studies is highly recommended.

S. J. H. MILLER

Eye Diseases in Childhood. By R. SACHSENWEGER. 1973. Pp. 261, 94 figs. Thieme, Leipzig (DM 45)

The author states in his preface that his aim is to deal with ocular disorders which occur especially in children. He describes the anatomy and physiology of the normal eye and of malformations due to chromosomal disorders. Multiple syndromes such as mongolism and metabolic disturbances are mentioned briefly. Muscular anomalies and strabismus are presented clearly and with authority. The psychological effects of visual impairment are discussed.

This is a stimulating book, recording the results of many modern investigations, and also reminding the reader of established concepts.

H. LYTTON