Book reviews


The second edition of this splendidly presented but somewhat expensive production (5p per not very full page) is a slight but definite improvement over the first edition, which was itself a very fine illustrated guide to the basic facts of strabismus. The present work tidies up, clarifies, and slightly amplifies some features of the original.

A more recent definition of microstrabismus is given and the description of the A and V syndrome has been considerably improved. Not unexpectedly some firm statements are made on controversial topics, especially in the province of recommended surgical techniques. For example, the advice that surgery is indicated if diplopia persists for more than 2 weeks after an orbital floor fracture will stimulate someone's frontalis. The same applies to the extreme measure suggested in cases of strabismus fixus.

From the orthoptic standpoint, a high standard is again maintained and there is an excellent description of the role of the major amblyoscope in the assessment of anomalous retinal correspondence.

The illustrations are of a very high order and the whole work clearly justifies its new edition. J. D. Abrams


This is a comprehensive (and expensive) book which combines with its clear well thought-out text a large number of illustrations, both clinical and histopathological.

The book is in eight sections dealing with – anatomy and histology, congenital malformations and paediatric ocular diseases, cornea, lens and glaucoma, uvea, diseases affecting the optic fundus, conjunctiva and eyelids, and ocular trauma.

Where relevant a classification is given of the conditions under consideration. The complications and sequelae complete a full description of the clinico-pathological text.

In the section on choroidal and retinal diseases, which curiously does not include simple retinal detachments, the illustrations include some excellent fluorescein angiograms.

To complete the presentation, there are 16 reals of excellent stereoscopic views in colour, with a compact viewer, to enable the reader to study clinical appearances, gross pathology, and fluorescein angiograms with the added enjoyment that three-dimensional viewing provides.

There is an increasing number of visually orientated textbooks, and the authors have made an outstanding contribution in this field. They have, as the credits in the preface confirm, called upon colleagues in their own and other universities to augment the illustrations of ocular pathology and clinical appearances which they themselves have collected.


This book comprises some 20 papers which were presented at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas in 1972. There are 15 contributors all of whom have already made significant contributions to the subject of diabetic retinopathy. The subject is well covered by the papers. The first section of the book is devoted to the course, pathology, and microcirculation in diabetic retinopathy. The second section gives an excellent account of argon laser burns in the retina and a selection of cases for photocoagulation. Finally, several accounts are given of the procedures adopted by individual operators on various types of lesions including the disc, new vessels, and paramacular leaking capillaries. The book is warmly recommended to anyone engaged in the therapy of the condition. J. H. Dobree


In this volume Dr Antonio Piñero Carrién presents a comprehensive review of retinal detachment, including, in broad outline, current concepts of treatment. The importance of preoperative procedures is emphasized and the work is profusely illustrated with both black and white, and colour prints.