cerned with diabetic retinopathy will confront these concepts with their own ideas heavily influenced by information from fluorescein angiography. While the authors discuss the delicate minutiae of capillary-tissue oxygen delivery systems, in a strange way the crudities of photocoagulation therapy, inflicted on the diabetic retina by the clinician, may seem less embarrassing and more logical.

The other five papers are on the impact of August Krogh on the insulin treatment of diabetes and our present status (Poulsen), autoregulation of the micro-circulation (Crone), blood oxygen transport system (Garby), the ophthalmoscopic and fluorescein angiographic picture of diabetic retinopathy (Larsen), and dynamic changes in the microcirculation of diabetics as related to diabetic microangiopathy (Kohner).

They are competent and informative reviews and the book as a whole is very much worth reading.

R. RUBINSTEIN

XIth ISCERG Symposium, Bad Nauheim 1973 (Documenta Ophthalmologica Proceedings Series, vol. 4). Edited by E. DODT and J. T. PEARLMAN. 1974. Pp. 518, 293 figs, tables, refs. Junk, The Hague (DG150)

This collection of papers from the annual symposium reflects the continuing development of visual electrophysiology. Founded to provide a forum for research workers and clinicians interested in electro-retinography it has assimilated newer techniques of retinal and cerebral studies. The increasing importance of the visually-evoked response is reflected in the number of papers.

The standard of the contributions is variable. This is because in order to attend the symposium the delegate has to present a paper and it has been the society's policy to publish all such contributions. The official language is English and many of the translated papers are less than fluent.

The result is a useful review of this rapidly developing field. The book will be of value to both clinicians and research workers involved in visual electrophysiology but it will be of little interest to most ophthalmologists.

J. H. KELSEY

The Eye in General Practice, 7th ed. By C. R. S. JACKSON, 1975. Pp. 174, 47 figs. Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh and London (£5.00)

That this book should now have reached its seventh edition shows how useful it is for practitioners. It is also an excellent book for the medical student, being of convenient size, beautifully produced and illustrated, clearly written, and it has a well chosen and balanced content.

As is always the case with revision some new material has been added and other chapters have been modified while a few nostalgic hints of its past still linger—such as, the advice to the general practitioner to paint the conjunctiva with 1 per cent silver nitrate in cases of conjunctivitis which have lasted several days, and if an eye is red and irritable from a foreign body to instil atropine, advice which the author clearly does not like giving, as

having given it he promptly says 'it should be avoided if possible'.

There are one or two minor points on which a future edition might perhaps with advantage be slightly altered, such as the advice to the general practitioner to pass a fine probe into the lacrimal passages in cases of injury near the inner canthus: this seems rather much for the average general practitioner to take on. Another is the slightly irritating repetition, at the foot of the first page of every chapter in part one, of reference to the fact that a drawing of the whole eye is given in Fig. 1. A third point the author might consider looking at for future editions is the rather stereotyped and surely obsolete implication that macular degeneration is due to arteriosclerosis.

I very much liked the optical diagrams, and admired the poetic licence in the illustration of diplopia. Altogether I found this book very good value and highly recommend it.

REDMOND SMITH

First International Symposium on Artificial Lens Implantation (Documenta Ophthalmologica Proceedings Series, vol. 6). Edited by A. T. M. VAN BALEN. 1975. Pp. 169, figs, tables, refs. Junk, The Hague (DG55)

This symposium was held at Utrecht in April 1974, but of course there has been an active 'intraocular implant club' in existence for more than 10 years.

The papers cover nearly all aspects of iris-clip lenses, and I would particularly recommend interested readers to start with the 'Discussion' where they will find some abrasive and helpful argument on such problems as the cause of macular oedema, the indications of iris-clip implant in children, and the management of complications.

Those of us who are familiar with this technique of cataract surgery know how valuable it is to the patient, and the number of surgical centres up and down the country, and indeed throughout the world, which are producing good results, increases every year.

Undoubtedly, the results in senile cataracts are the best, and there are few contraindications to the use of iris-clip lens. The results in children with congenital cataract, however, are disappointing. Binkhorst, who has had 20 years' experience in this field, confines his operation to those who have bilateral incomplete forms of cataract, and then to the worse eye only. Good visual results are obtained in traumatic cases over the age of five years, and in this group the implant appears to be superior to a contact lens.

An interesting trend back to an extracapsular technique is discussed, and Binkhorst recommends a one-stage operation with a capsular supported lens. It is suggested that this gives a better immobilization of the implant and reduces the incidence of macular oedema to below that of all forms of intracapsular extractions. Statistical proof of this is not yet available. Those in a position to use phako-emulsification on their patients also claim that an irido-capsular implant has a very low rate of complications.

A useful book, then, for anyone who wants to find out about lens implant surgery, and a 'must' for the converted.

N. DALLAS