Health took office, with the sorry happenings that have followed in her wake.

Frank Law, who has been part of Moorfields ever since the first war (when he overlapped with Treacher Collins), helping, and still continuing to help, in so many capacities, was the obvious choice of author; and the book is clear, comprehensive, and indeed a model for the future historians of our great medical institutions.

It must have been a problem to furnish a record of so much change, to catalogue the evolution of all the new departments that have emerged, to give life to all those shadowy personalities that crowded on to the stage, particularly when in 1948 the Central London Ophthalmic Hospital was engulfed, the Institute started, and the 'Royal Westminster' at High Holborn united. Thereafter the changes and emergent departments in the last are decently appended (a résumé of the history of the Royal Westminster from 1816 to 1948 would have been a welcome addition to the record). And, above all, how difficult it must have been to condense that endless stream of minutes which formed the body of the record, with their depressing official jargon, their impersonal tones and passive tenses, their prolixity and stuffiness. One is grateful for the occasional anecdote and fleeting aside. Without them (and one longs for more) it would be rather like reading Bradshaw—an important record, but undeniably heavy going. Even so the biographical sketches of the main characters tend to read like the pious obituary notices from which many of his accounts were doubtless drawn. For they all emerge as virtuous, dedicated, and orthodox; even the unlikeliest of them seems to have started with athletic prowess in some sport, and they all progressed serenely through a succession of standard achievements to an honoured retirement. It is a credit to Law's artistry that in these he manages never to repeat himself.

Every now and then one regrets that the author, who is capable of writing with such spirit and satire, such whimsy and wit, has so muted the sound of artillery over those near-forgotten battles around the Royal College chair, the amalgamation, the birth of the Faculty and so on. He might just have hinted at the foibles and shortcomings of some of the staff now long dead. But he is grave and benevolent throughout—perhaps just as well—one must not look for fun in Leviticus.

P. D. TREVOR-ROPER

International Glaucoma Symposium, Albi 1974. Edited by R. ETIENNE and G. PATERSON. 1975. Pp. 501, fig, tables, refs. Diffusion Générale de Librairie, Marseille (£40)

This book represents the published proceedings of the International Glaucoma Symposium held in Albi in May 1974. In addition there are two extra chapters on the use of ultrasonography in glaucoma and pneumotonography. It includes contributions from experts in this field and brings the reader up to date on glaucoma. The book is particularly interesting because the discussions are published in full. It is well produced with high quality illustrations including a set of stereophotographs of the optic disc and should prove a useful addition to all ophthalmic libraries.

S. J. H. MILLER

Modern Approaches to the Diagnosis and Instruction of Multihandicapped Children, vol. 13. Eye Movements, Surprise Reactions, and Cognitive Development. By R. M. WILTON and F. J. BOERSMA. 1974. Pp. 69, 2 figs, 6 tables, refs. University Press, Rotterdam (DG29'90)

This is not a book for the general ophthalmologist and it will be of limited interest only to those in the speciality who study the link between recorded eye movements and visual perception. Even so the objectives outlined, namely whether training can accelerate intellectual development and if retarded children differ from normal children in this respect, have little ophthalmological content.

The acceptance by the authors that corneally reflected eye movements in children can be used experimentally as an index of 'perceptual activity' might surprise those of us who deal with children. Educationalists are in a better position than ophthalmologists to judge the value of the main conclusions. These are that the development of intelligence can be accelerated in normal children by training and that visual searching of pictorial material increases with age and/or mental development. These conclusions are supported by no fewer than 11 pages of statistics.

P. A. GARDINER

Modern Problems in Ophthalmology: New Research on the Aetiology and Surgery of Retinal Detachment. By L. GUILLAUMAUT, M. MASSIN, and L. FISON. 1975. Pp. 138, 150 figs, 55 tables. Karger, Basel (DM145)

This book reports the ninth meeting of the proceedings of the Club Jules Gonin which was held in La Baule, France, in 1974. The book is mainly in English but contains some contributions in French and German. The many subjects dealt with included genetics in retinal detachment, the terminology and nature of peripheral retinal degeneration, the non-drainage of subretinal fluid in retinal detachment surgery, and recent advances in vitreous surgery. There were also contributions on photocoagulation. Of particular interest was the work performed by the Miami group on the pathogenesis of intraocular fibrous tissue.

The book is beautifully produced and the illustrations are of high quality. It gives a thoroughly up-to-date account of progress in the management of diseases of the retina and is recommended to ophthalmologists with a special interest in this subject, although all ophthalmologists will find it of value as a source of reference.

A. H. CHIGNELL

Modern Problems in Ophthalmology, vol. 12. Limitations and Prospects for Retinal Surgery. Edited by E. NORTON, R. DUFOUR, C. GAILLOUD, R. KLOTI, and L. FISON. 1974. Pp. 598, 192 figs, 143 tables. Karger, Basel (£25'40)

This volume is a report of the eighth meeting of the Club Jules Gonin held in Miami in 1972.

The main subject was the cause of failure in dealing with detachments of the retina. Several papers dealt with aspects of basic research and experimental work

in macular disease; others reported the clinical use of the xenon arc and argon laser in macular disorders and in diabetic retinopathy. Other papers were given on vitrectomy and the use of vitreous substitutes. A final section of the book is devoted to the diagnosis and natural course of malignant melanoma, treatment by photocoagulation and excision, and on the long term follow-up of retinoblastoma.

The extensive and interesting discussions which went on throughout the meeting are fully reported. D. GREAVES

Ocular Differential Diagnosis, 2nd ed. By F. H. ROY. 1974. Pp. 612, refs. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia; Kimpton, London (£8.30)

This is a reference book written to help the ophthalmologist to make a quick diagnosis and to prevent his overlooking a possible disease. The book contains comprehensive lists of possible conditions described under the different parts of the eye. For example, there are 39 syndromes associated with nystagmus and 48 with congenital cataract.

The second edition has been enlarged by 144 pages, several sections have been added, including those on granulomatous and non-granulomatous uveitis, and on ultrasonography of the orbit; there are also tables of comparison. The index would be easier to use if the main reference to a disease could be italicized. Actinomyces (p. 250) is still wrongly listed under bacteria, and prematurity associated with anoxia or hypoglycaemia is not mentioned as a cause of congenital lamellar cataract.

This book is a real mine of information and should be of value to the established ophthalmologist and to juniors preparing for examinations. C. A. BROWN

The Ocular Fundus; Methods of Examination and Typical Findings, 3rd ed. By A. NOVER. 1974. Pp. 169, 150 figs. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia; Kimpton, London (£9.25)

This third edition of a small textbook on the fundus has been translated from the German by Frederick Blodi. A chapter on diseases of the vitreous has been added for this edition.

The first part is mainly concerned with methods of examination. However, it is difficult to decide for whom the book is intended, as the descriptions are too brief for the ophthalmologist and yet not sufficiently practical for the non-ophthalmologist.

The second part is essentially a colour atlas of the fundus with a text describing the conditions, their ophthalmoscopic findings, and differential diagnosis. Colour prints of the fundus are difficult to reproduce but these are excellent and the book is recommended as an atlas to students, physicians, and junior ophthalmologists. MARTIN CRICK

Ocular Motility and Strabismus. By M. M. PARKS. 1975. Pp. 195, 150 figs, refs. Harper & Row, Hagerstown, Maryland (\$25)

In the description of the contents of this book, emphasis is made on the fact that strabismus is primarily a disorder

which occurs in the paediatric age group. It is scarcely surprising, therefore, that this new contribution to the subject of the disorders of ocular motility is made by such a person as Dr Marshall Parks, who has achieved world-wide recognition as a paediatric ophthalmologist with a rare ability to combine academic excellence with a great degree of practical skill.

An appraisal of the structure and function of the normal extrinsic ocular muscles is given in a clear and yet detailed way in the early chapters. This is followed by an essay on the meaning of the complex phenomenon of binocular single vision, and this leads naturally to a discussion on the different forms of squint and on the methods which are adopted in their detection. The important role of the mechanism of accommodation in the production of squint is discussed in a chapter dealing with the vergence movements of the eyes, and this includes a straightforward description of the AC/A ratio.

The sensorial adaptations in squint—suppression, amblyopia, eccentric fixation, and anomalous retinal correspondence—are dealt with in an up-to-date manner with a detailed discussion on the methods of examination which are concerned in their detection and with a realistic appraisal of their importance, particularly in regard to their prevention and treatment. This is followed by excellent chapters on the management of esodeviation, exodeviation, and vertical squint, with a separate chapter devoted to the A and V phenomena which are features of many basically horizontal squints. There are also descriptions of the squints which follow cranial nerve palsies, congenital anomalies, and various forms of trauma.

The book is of a remarkably non-controversial nature. Certain parts, particularly the discussions on the monofixation syndrome and intermittent exotropia, reveal the personal views of the author, but these have been acquired as the result of prolonged experience and the contrasting opinions are included in the discussion. Indeed, the text as a whole provides 'a breath of fresh air' in a field of ophthalmic practice which tends to be obscured sometimes by an unnecessary obsession over tedious detail so that the main aim in the treatment of squint in the young child—the achievement of a satisfactory form of binocular association—tends to be overlooked in the frequently fruitless task of trying to achieve a state of perfection. KENNETH WYBAR

Ocular Pathology: A Text and Atlas. By M. YANOFF and B. S. FINE. 1975. Pp. 762, figs (25 in colour), refs. Harper & Row, Hagerstown, Maryland (\$60.00)

Having previously provided a superb account of the normal structure of the eye, Dr Yanoff and Dr Fine have now produced an equally masterly survey of ocular histopathology. The coverage is comprehensive with virtually no ocular disorder escaping mention, and the authors are to be envied in their ability to depict so many of the conditions they describe. By dint of careful montage and judicious pruning of all but the immediately relevant areas, an incredibly lavish array of photographs has been included and, on the basis that one good illustration conveys more than a barrage of