future of this important branch of ophthalmology.

There are interesting papers on stereopsis and the physiology of unioocular and binocular cortical stimulation. Amblyopia is well presented although perhaps the older generation would object to such terms as normalization and penalization.

Aspects of the problems associated with dysthyroid disease, cerebral palsy, and operative techniques are well presented. The volume is one that should be found on the bookshelves of all those interested in the problems connected with binocular vision.

G. T. Willoughby Cashell


The subject matter is a new, but more difficult method of cataract removal—the phacoemulsification of the adult cataractous lens with an in-flow-aspiration powered titanium tip vibrating 40,000 cycles per second.

There are certain advantages and disadvantages of this technique. For the operation to be performed the surgeon must have binocular functions, and be a skilled microsurgeon. With this operation the margin for error is small, since the operation is performed in the anterior chamber of the eye in the narrow space between the corneal endothelium and the posterior lens capsule. The advantage of the operation is that it is of immeasurable benefit to the patient, who is allowed all activity the next day and can resume a normal life immediately after the procedure. He can wear a contact lens within one or two weeks.

Dr Kelman began work on this new method in 1962, performing the first phacoemulsification on patients in 1967. He has now performed this operation on more than 3000 patients.

In 1971, Dr Kelman started instruction courses for qualified eye surgeons. The book deals largely with details of the course as given to participants.

This book is very well illustrated. It includes among its contents: introduction to the Kelman technique, history of aspiration, mechanical considerations, selection of patients and preoperative preparation, the surgical technique, equipment and instrumentation difficulties, the postoperative patient, late complications, preparing the surgeon for the Kelman technique.

This book is intended to be a supplement to a recognized course in the Kelman technique of cataract removal, and to be used as a reference book for the experienced surgeon.

E. J. Arnott


This book is written in Italian to record the ideas expressed at the Symposium of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery of the orbital region organized by the ophthalmic clinic of the University of Bari in 1973. It is laid out in a logical manner beginning with anatomy and basic techniques and then proceeding with individual chapters on topics such as entropion, ectropion, ptosis, and eyelid surgery. A wide range of different operations is described in each chapter and the reader is therefore given a good overall view of the available choices. The book is distinctly written for the ophthalmologist as opposed to the plastic surgeon and major plastic surgical repairs are little discussed. There is for instance no discussion of burns in the orbital region and split skin grafting is only briefly mentioned. From the ophthalmic point of view, however, not only are the standard procedures reviewed but also new techniques such as vein grafting for conjunctival replacement in pterygium surgery. The book is well illustrated with both diagrams and photographs and achieves its aim of giving the ophthalmologist a review of those oculoplastic procedures which come within his province.

J. R. O. Collin


The author is a pioneer and has applied the concept of problem-oriented diagnosis, developed by Dr Lawrence Weed, to three aspects of ophthalmology. Dr Weed's concept is fascinating; the method of its development, presented by Dr Roy, is often confusing although always thought-provoking. I question whether the reader will find the plan, as it is presented here, useful in clinical situations, for the extensive knowledge of ophthalmology is often required in order to use meaningfully many of the lists compiled by the author. This book should, however, be read by all interested in ophthalmic education.

Barr J. Jay


Dr Janisse has edited the papers presented to the University of Manitoba Symposium on Pupillometry in 1973. Apart from an introductory chapter, the work is that of the individual authors and the style of the papers is thus highly variable, although, in general, they make hard reading for a clinical ophthalmologist not well versed in the subject.

Pupillometry is the study of the effects on the autonomic nervous system by psychological factors as registered by changes in pupil diameter. As such, it is a subject of interest to psychologists rather than ophthalmologists, and this volume generally reflects the views and aspirations of the three major departments working in this field in North America.

The pupillary effects of concentration, anxiety, fatigue, and psychosexual awareness are examined in different papers. Additionally there is a long and detailed attempt to justify the use of pupillometrics in the assessment of psychiatric disorders, and a complex report on the construction of a mathematical model of the pupil which functions in accordance with known motor characteristics. Data presented in most of the
papers are complex and difficult to analyse critically.

Perhaps for anyone not immediately interested in pupillometry the introductory paper by Janisse and the final review paper by Hess and Goodwin have the most value as an introduction to the subject. None the less, taken overall, I doubt whether such a specialized subject at a price of £25 makes this volume of compelling interest to most ophthalmologists in the UK.

S. PILLEY


This is a most interesting book beautifully illustrated and giving descriptions of instruments used in astron-omy, navigation, and surveying. Optical instruments are also included such as the microscope, telescope, and camera obscura. A chapter is even devoted to sundials.

For those who require a detailed description of the purely scientific aspects of instrument design its value is limited. However, this book can be highly recommended to those who are interested in the history of the development of scientific instruments, as well as those for whom the collection of such aniques is either a hobby or a profession.

R. F. FISHER


This new edition of an already established and successful book ensures that it will continue to provide an up-to-date summary of ophthalmology for the senior medical students, general practitioners, and ophthalmic house surgeons for whom it is intended. It is extremely difficult in a short volume to give a balanced view of a subject which does not go into excessive detail and yet still presents the salient information. This synopsis not only achieves this goal but emphasizes the dynamic nature of modern ophthalmology by introducing such topics as intraocular lens implants, lasers, and electronic helps for the blind. The book is laid out in a logical and orderly way but the text is only rarely supplemented and relieved by diagrams. This concession to brevity is perhaps carried too far in that even optical anomalies do not escape the ban. However it is a great tribute to the authors that they have been able to 'leave' the script so successfully with their short anecdotes and quotations, and the final result is an excellent short modern textbook of ophthalmology.

J. R. O. COLLIN


Dr David Michaels has contributed a scholarly and readable book, written in a relaxed and easy style with many historical and anecdotal notes. It is lucid exposition aimed at the clinician who is eager to understand the 'why' as well as the 'how' of the subject.

It is divided into three sections. Part I is basic science and covers some 130 pages in which are explained the nature of light, physical optics, ophthalmic lenses, physiological optics, and ametropia. Section II (the main part) is devoted to techniques of examination and includes a full description of objective and subjective methods applied to the measurement of visual acuity and accommodation. The final section is an evaluation, with chapters on anisometropia, presbyopia, contact lenses and, in addition, ocular motility, colour perception and subnormal vision. The whole is well illustrated with line diagrams and should prove a useful and stimulating addition to the bookshelves of the experienced refractionist as well as an excellent introduction for the beginner.

J. SILVER


The Year Book of Ophthalmology 1975 marks the 75th anniversary of its publication. The concept of a year book occurred in 1900 to Gustavus P. Head, a Chicago physician who believed in selective abstracts enhanced by brief editorial comment.

Since 1959 Professor William Hughes has edited The Year Book of Ophthalmology and the present edition opens with an introduction from his pen outlining in masterly fashion some of the trends in growing ophthal-mic knowledge since the turn of the century and especially during the last two decades, 'a retrospective view which is indeed heartening'.

As usual the book itself presents 400 pages of compact and solid information lucidly collated by editorial surveys and excellently indexed. It is a veritable mine of restless information.

S. J. H. MILLER

Notes

Instruction Course in Ophthalmology
25 and 26 November 1976

A course on the retina will be held at St Thomas's Hospital. It will include basic aspects, retinal involvement in systemic disease, surgical aspects of retinal disease, and case presentations.

Application forms may be obtained from Miss R. Clarke, Secretary, Eye Department, St Thomas's Hospital, London SE1.