Book Reviews

French (4 with short English summaries), and 6 are in German (2 with short English summaries). The scope of the papers is wide, with an agreeable mixture of clinical and scientific contributions; there are in addition several case reports and an article on ophthalmic history.

In a composite volume such as this it is difficult to single out any particular contribution for special mention, but the high quality of the illustrations throughout should be stressed. Professor Streiff's long association with Lausanne has stimulated a number of articles from Swiss authors, and English readers might be put off by this apparent parochialism, but the uniform standards of this popular series are maintained. T. J. FcYTCHc


This book is the detailed investigation of a number of children who were born blind and who had no other disability. The development of grasping, standing, mobility, prehension, and speaking is recorded. It is apparent that it is important to organise an educational programme which is based on the principles of developing the blind child as an individual and making him recognise this individuality. The book will be of the greatest interest to those who have to work with blind children. A. G. Cross


Volume 5 of 'Der Augenarzt' edited by Karl Velhagen takes the form of previous volumes in this series, with 6 contributions on a variety of topics. Each chapter is virtually a short textbook, examining the subject in depth and providing a comprehensive bibliography, so that the book is both a teaching manual and a source of reference.

The opening chapter discusses ocular trauma and its management and prevention. This is followed by a short illustrated lecture on the biomicroscopy of the peripheral retina. Professor Vodovozov discusses the technique and findings of ophthalmochromoscopy, a method of examination that has never received much interest in Britain. It is unfortunate that the fundus appearances in this type of investigation are displayed by diagrammatic paintings rather than photographs. There is a comprehensive treatise on radiotherapy of the eye and orbit, followed by a short section on ocular physiotherapy, which includes some unusual and exotic forms of treatment not readily available under the NHS. The final chapter is the longest and deals with disorders of ocular motility. It discusses the physiology of binocular vision together with disturbances of ocular position and motility and abnormalities of lid function.

Like its predecessors, this book will appeal to postgraduate and practising ophthalmologists, and if it were available in English translation the sections on trauma, radiotherapy, and ocular motility would be essential reading for those studying for diploma and fellowship examinations. T. J. FcYTCHc


This is the second edition of a standard reference book on the management of severe visual defects. The first edition was called the International Catalogue of Aids and Appliances for Blind and Visually Impaired Persons. It is comprehensive but not complete and provides a general picture of the devices available. The guide has information about all Braille equipment, sound equipment like talking-book machines and tape recorders, clocks and watches for the visually handicapped, mobility aids, and calculators. There are also details about educational and occupational aids and about low-vision aids. Devices are described to help in cooking, measurement, music, handwriting, typewriting, and telephoning. Help with games, sports, and puzzles is also available. It is a most useful volume for the visually handicapped and those who work with them.

A. G. Cross


Dialogues in Ophthalmology is a collection of 3 cassette tapes and an accompanying booklet. Both carry a discussion between the moderator, Paul Henkind, and 3 experts, on the diagnosis and management of open-angle glaucoma. The discussion is ably led by Dr Henkind, passing in a clear and logical manner from definition to diagnostic signs and then to the timing and type of treatment to consider in the management of the disease. This discussion, containing many practical points and pearls of wisdom, would be useful both for residents preparing for the Fellowship and for general ophthalmologists wanting to update their knowledge. I found it more convenient to listen to the discussion than to read the exact transcription. It might have been more useful to condense the information on the tapes for presentation in the booklet. If the points made could have been given references, many of them would have been lifted above the level of anecdote. This work deserves a wide public, though it is not necessarily an item to purchase for constant reference.

R. Hitchings


This book is a report of two symposia sponsored by the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness in the USA in 1975 and 1976. Each symposium takes the form of case presentations by one of the coauthors to a panel of specialists before an invited audience. Paul Lichter introduces the 12 cases of open angle, congenital, and secondary glaucoma, which constitute the subject of the...