

There are relatively few matters with which one might take issue. In the first chapter, however, no mention is made of dynamic events in the vitreous, and the anatomical basis of the 'vitreous base' is treated unduly cursorily. Dr Michel's preference for light projection over the swinging flash-light test as an index of likely vision in an eye with dense vitreous opacities does not accord with our experience. Similarly, the choice of the inferonasal quadrant for purposeful retinotomy to allow internal drainage of sub-retinal fluid is open to debate. The illustrations are generally excellent, though the drawings of traction retinal detachments tend to depict the elevated retina as a partially deflated balloon rather than a structure striving to retain apposition with the pigment epithelium against all the odds.

Vitreous Surgery is destined to attain and maintain pride of place in the surgical section of ophthalmic libraries. It is highly recommended to all, though its price may deter students and those not primarily concerned with ocular surgery from a personal purchase. DAVID MCLEOD

Implantation einer künstlichen Augenlinse. By S. N. FJODOROW. Pp. 146. DM.98-00. Georg Thieme Verlag: Stuttgart. 1981.

Fjodorow's original book on intraocular lenses was first published in 1977 and has now been translated into German by Rene Georg Frey. The author reviews the early history and development of implants and discusses the mathematical principles and optics of artificial lenses. The surgical techniques of implantation in use at the time of writing are described in detail and illustrated by line drawings and photographs, and there are chapters on postoperative management, results, and complications.

At the time of its publication in 1977 this pleasantly written volume was almost out of date, so rapid were the developments in intraocular lens implantation, and indeed the most recent references in the text are as long ago as 1973. Sadly, therefore, all the major recent advances in this expanding field receive no mention, and the book has limited value as a teaching manual. Its importance lies, however, in the fact that it represents a Russian view on lens implantation, and as such it merits a place in any comprehensive collection of works on the history and development of this form of anterior segment surgery. T. J. FFYTCHÉ

Advances in Ophthalmology. Vol. 42. Eds. M. J. ROPER-HALL, H. SAUTTER, and E. B. STREIFF. Pp. 161. S.fr.98-00. Karger: Basle. 1981.

The 42nd volume of this well-known series follows the same form as many of its predecessors with an in-depth presentation of 3 contemporary but unrelated topics.

Demeler has written a short and beautifully illustrated article on fluorescein angiography in iris and ciliary body tumours. He stresses the value of this test as much in follow-up studies as in the diagnosis of these lesions, and from examination of 182 patients he feels that angiography can detect those tumours which should be regarded as definitely malignant.

Schepens, Englert, and Leuenberger have contributed a chapter on the effects of liminal doses of argon laser on ocular tissues and present the histological and pathological findings in rabbits and 'minipigs.' The results are similar to

those of other workers and suggest that the main therapeutic advantage of argon laser over other forms of photocoagulation is its ability to produce small, easily controlled, and localised burns in the pigment epithelium.

These 2 articles, the latter in French, comprise one-third of the book. The remaining two-thirds consists of an extensive discussion on anterior chamber implants by Bürki. The history of these implants is traced and the optics and mathematical principles are demonstrated by means of case reports as illustrations. There is a heavy emphasis on these mathematical aspects, with particular reference to the Binkhorst lens. The article, which is in German, is supplemented by an extensive bibliography.

Yet again the reviewer is forced to criticise this volume with the same criticisms that have been applied to previous similar volumes in this series. Three articles are presented, unconnected in content, and in 3 separate languages, on this occasion without even English translations—a situation to tax the linguistic powers of most British ophthalmologists. The book is too specialised in its choice of articles to attract the general ophthalmologist and postgraduate, and too diverse in its content to appeal to the ophthalmologist with a special interest. For whom then is this volume intended? The question remains; presumably the editors and publishers know the answer. T. J. FFYTCHÉ

Superficial Keratitis. Eds. P. C. MAUDGAL and L. MISSOTTEN. Pp. 192. Dfl.100-00. Junk: The Hague. 1981.

This book is written by 2 ophthalmologists working in the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, mainly recounting their personal experiences. Its chapters include sections on corneal erosion, filamentary keratitis, fine and coarse punctate, keratitis, herpes virus, and the dry eye syndrome as well as introductory sections on diagnostic techniques, corneal anatomy, and healing of the corneal epithelium. The monograph is usefully referenced and well illustrated. It reflects the authors' interest in surface disorders of the cornea, but as a result, where a condition is clearly more protean in its manifestations, one sometimes feels that the presentation is top heavy, rather as if one were presented with John the Baptist's head when one had hoped to see him intact. The decision to present warts and molluscum contagiosum under 'fine punctate keratitis' and adenovirus, chlamydia, and Thygeson's keratitis under 'coarse punctate keratitis' is somewhat arbitrary and diminishes the general usefulness of this classification in the differential diagnosis of punctate keratitis.

The authors wish to promote the use of their replica technique in the diagnosis and treatment of superficial keratitis. In this the dried anaesthetised surface of the cornea is coated with collodion solution and the membrane produced is stripped off. The surface defect heals in 2 to 4 days. Replicas of corneal erosion, the healing epithelium, corneal filaments, and corneal epithelial cells affected by herpes simplex virus, adenovirus, and Thygeson's keratitis are presented among others. They are not all contributory. Many ophthalmologists may balk at using the replica technique as a way to debride the cornea in corneal erosion, filamentary keratitis, and dendritic ulcer, though it clearly is of value as a clinical or experimental research tool.

Parts of this book are good and the clinical approach sound, but at times advice is given which is based on slender evidence and is bound to diminish confidence in the whole. Thus the suggestion that Thygeson's keratitis might be due to yeast-like bodies is of interest, but the success of hourly nystatin or flucytosine over a period of 4 months in 2 out of the 3 patients without controls or follow-up does not constitute sufficient evidence. The last 2 chapters, on marginal keratitis and management, are too short to be of value. External disease specialists will want to dip into this book from time to time but they may not want to buy it.

ANTHONY J. BRON

A Colour Atlas of Nutritional Disorders. By DONALD S. McLAREN. Pp. 109. £15.00. Wolfe Medical Publications: London. 1981.

The greater part of this book is a pictorial account of the effect of dietary deficiencies both in children and adults. A small part is devoted to the appearance of the patient with disorders of lipid carbohydrate and amino acid metabolism together with the effect of food toxins and disorders of uncertain nutritional aetiology. The illustrations are excellent and the text very readable. However, as this is a general account of these disorders, the eye changes, although well illustrated, form but a small proportion of the text. The book may thus be of more limited interest to those solely concerned with ophthalmology.

R. F. FISHER

Pharmacological Denervation and Glaucoma: A Clinical Trial Report with Guanethidine and Adrenaline in One Eye Drop. By PHILIP F. J. HOYNG. Pp. 150. Dfl.70.00. Junk: The Hague. 1981.

This 150-page monograph is divided into 2 parts: an extended pharmacological introduction consisting of the anatomy, physiology, and biochemistry of the sympathetic and parasympathetic systems in the human eye, followed by a study of the eye after denervation, with special stress on supersensitivity to adrenergic chemical transmitters, and its application to the treatment of glaucoma. The main part of the book is devoted to clinical investigations, and consists of 9 independent papers (by P. Hoyng and C. L. Dake). They cover various aspects of treatment with guanethidine and adrenaline: short-term and long-term trials, a study of the biphasic IOP response (hypertension followed by hypotension), the pupillary response, aqueous dynamics (by tonography), and maintenance therapy. The book is well presented, with numerous clear graphs and tables.

JOHN ROMANO

Neuro-Ophthalmology Board Review Manual. By FRANK J. BAJANDAS. Pp. 141. \$9.00. Charles C. Black, 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, N.J.08086, USA. 1980.

This book presents a diagrammatic and numerical approach to the learning of neuroophthalmology. Intended for neurologists, neurosurgeons, and ophthalmologists about to take their Board examinations, it is based on the clinical teaching in Miami and dedicated to J. Lawton Smith, Joel S.

Glaser, and Robert R. Daroff. In addition to the numerical approach to localisation and diagnosis, it is supported by numerous diagrams, depicting the anatomy, visual field abnormalities, and pupillary diagrams. There is a useful bibliography at the end of each section.

This is a sound manual, which would be of value to candidates approaching the FRCS. Additionally, by condensing the basic core of a complex subject in a compact form, it may stimulate readers to consider the modern definitive works on the subject with greater confidence.

M. D. SANDERS

Textbook of the Fundus of the Eye. 3rd edn. By ISAAC C. MICHAELSON. Pp. 910. £65.00. Churchill Livingstone: Edinburgh. 1980.

This is the third edition of a well established textbook which is unique in ophthalmic literature. It represents perhaps the peak of the contribution of a distinguished author who has long toiled in this field, particularly with the problems of retinal circulation. The learning displayed herein is immense, with references freely quoted, reminding the reader of Duke-Elder's *System of Ophthalmology*. There is, however, a very selective approach, stated in the preface, where the author, referring to the changes in the text since the last edition, says, 'I like to think that Professor Arthur Ballantyne would have approved these developments and would have seen in them a continuation of the search for the histological equivalents of clinical fundal appearances and the basic principles which he taught all of us.'

The book is an education for the discerning ophthalmologist but will prove disappointing as practical guide. The first 50 pages, on 'Methodical investigation of the fundus,' are confined to objective examination and demonstrate the wealth of information to be obtained rather than the art of acquiring it. Throughout the book the clinical descriptions, though adequate, are subservient to the larger issues of pathology in its broadest sense, and treatment is mentioned in outline only save in the chapter on uveitis. While it is understandable that the complexities of retinal and vitreous surgery should be omitted, it is disappointing to find so little up-to-date information about the role of photocoagulation in diabetic retinopathy.

Those who are unfamiliar with previous editions should realise that the scope of the book is broad, covering disease of the retina, choroid, vitreous, and optic nerve from the clinical, pathological, epidemiological, and preventive aspects. Indeed there is a final chapter summarising the preventive aspects of various fundus disease. Two chapters particularly attract attention, on 'The chronic arteriolar capillaropathies of the ocular fundus' and on 'Diseases of the choroid and anterior uvea,' contributed by Dr David BenEzra. The first summarises the author's unitive approach to the chronic vascular retinopathies, whether due to local vascular change, deficient regional perfusion, or blood disorder. The second contains a valuable survey of present trends in the understanding and treatment of disorders of immunity in relation to uveitis.

The reviewer would hate to damn with faint praise a reference book of such unique value and scholarship, and it is to be hoped that even in these austere days this edition will find a place in all comprehensive ophthalmic libraries. On