to ophthalmology in particular. There is, however, no harm in making assurance doubly sure. This is what this book sets out to do. It throws in a history of examination practice for good measure, and shows how a patient’s answers (he does not have to know any algorithm or even BASIC) can be fed to the monsters. Both subjective and objective techniques are considered. The reader’s understanding is much helped by numerous plates and line illustrations. Several of the latter seem to serve as sight tests. But the documentation is good; there is both an author and a subject index. It is, however, not clear to at least one reader, in spite of a revealing section on the economics of the matter, how even a group practice will tackle an initial overall investment of more than £40,000. Only the furniture component (£4170) is not computer-linked, so that we really are dealing with an investment problem of some magnitude. The book would be appreciated even more if it gave an indication of the probable number of such complexes in clinical use. ROBERT WEALE


This book includes a short review on motility by David Mittelman, on contact lenses by Jack Hartstein, on herpes conjunctivitis by Fred M. Wilson, on the corneal endothelium by Donald J. Doughman, on human leucocyte antigens in glaucoma by Robert A. Moses, on surgery of the lens by Robert C. Drews, on tuberculous and syphilitic uveitis by T. F. Schlaegel Jr., on massive periretinal proliferation by R. Joseph Olk and Chang Bok Lee, on transient unilateral visual loss by Michael A. Rosenberg, on regulations of the Food and Drug Administration by Arnaud F. Scafidi and Philip P. Ellis, and on computers in ophthalmology by Albert M. Potts, and there is a final section wherein there are 49 questions to form a searching test for the reader.

As is usual the year’s literature is concisely summarised, and interest is continually stimulated by parenthetic remarks and observations by the editor William F. Hughes stringing together isolated observations and catalysing them to form a unified philosophical compendium. STEPHEN MILLER

Notes

Oculoplastic surgery
A semiannual oculoplastic surgical course will be held at Tarrytown, New York, sponsored by the New York Medical College, on 13–16 May 1981. Fee $650. Details from Ms P. Tamkin, c/o Dr P. Guibor, 630 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021, USA.

European Ophthalmic Pathology Society
The next meeting of the European Ophthalmic Pathology Society will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 24–28 May 1981 and will be a combined meeting with the Verhoeff Society. Professor J. Babel, of Switzerland, will act as organising secretary.

OSSA meeting
The next meeting of the Ophthalmological Society of South Africa will be held on 2–5 June 1981 at Sun City. Details from the Secretary, 7th Floor, Tower Hill, Kotze Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg 2198, South Africa.

Lacrimal course
The seventh annual lacrimal course will be held at Park City, Utah, USA, on 3–6 June 1981, sponsored by the University of Utah Department of Ophthalmology, St Francis Hospital, and the Boston Eye Research Institute. Details from Boston Eye Research Institute, 20 Hope Avenue, Suite 106, Waltham, Massachusetts 02154, USA.

Retinal disorders
The Retinal Vascular Center of the Wilmer Institute will celebrate its 11th anniversary with a course entitled ‘Diagnosis and management of retinal vascular and macular disorders’ at Big Sky, Montana, on 12–17 July 1981. Details from Big Sky Course Co-ordinator, 17 Turner, 720 Rutland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21205, USA.

Herpesvirus
An international symposium on ‘Herpesvirus: clinical, pharmacological, and basic aspects’ will be held in Tokushima City, Japan, on 27–30 July 1981. This is one of the satellite symposia approved by the 8th International Congress of Pharmacology. Further details from Dr H. Shiota, Department of Ophthalmology, Tokushima University, Kuramoto-cho, Tokushima City 770, Japan.

Ophthalmic genetics
On 20–23 September 1981 an international symposium on ophthalmic genetics will take place in Jerusalem, Israel. The symposium is sponsored by the National Foundation-March of Dimes, International Society for Genetic Eye Diseases, Israel Ophthalmological Society, Israel Academy of Sciences, and the Israel-American Ophthalmological Society. Major subjects include retinitis pigmentosa, lipid and oligosaccharide retina storage diseases, gyrate atrophy of retina, retinoblastoma, corneal dystrophies, phakomatosis, connective tissue diseases and the eye. Information from Donald Bergsma MD, Department of Ophthalmology, School of Medicine, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, USA.

Ocular electrodiagnosis
The Institute of Ophthalmology and the Electrodiagnostic Department, Moorfields Eye Hospital, London, will present a 5-day intensive course in ocular electrodiagnosis on 15–19 June 1981. Fee: £250. Further information from Professor G. B. Arden, c/o The Dean’s Department, Institute of Ophthalmology, Cayton Street, London EC1V 9AT. Applications, which are strictly limited, should be received before 1 April 1981.