and the book will doubtless find a wide circulation in our increasingly health-conscious population.

P. D. TREVOR-ROPER

Reference

- 1 Worthen D. Economic aspects of the management of ocular hypertension. *Surv Ophthalmol* 1980; 25: 206.

Documenta Ophthalmologica Proceedings Series 28. Third International Conference on Myopia, Copenhagen 1980. Eds. H. C. Fledelius, P. H. Alsbirk, E. Goldschmidt. Pp. 253. Dfl.135.00. W. Junk: The Hague, 1981.

The transactions of the Third International Conference on Myopia are reported, and deal with several aspects of myopia. The subject grouping would indicate that research is chiefly concerned with the correlations of myopia, education, heredity, and scleral rigidity. Animal studies in monkeys elucidate the possible mechanisms of accommodation and internal eye pressure changes. There are also some contributions on pathological myopia and treatments to arrest myopia.

MONTAGUE RUBEN

The Visual Fields: A Textbook and Atlas of Clinical Perimetry. 5th edn. By DAVID O. HARRINGTON. Pp. 437. £27.00. Mosby: London. 1981.

The first edition of this book appeared in 1956 and its excellence as a practical guide to the examination of the visual field was quickly recognised. The main factors which have contributed to its success are a common-sense approach to the subject and plenty of good illustrations. The whole text is brought to life by the enthusiasm of the author for a method of examination which he believes to be of great clinical importance and with which the ophthalmologist himself must be closely associated.

Much of the revision undertaken since the fourth edition in 1976 is concerned with the introduction of new apparatus and techniques for examining the visual field, but the general arrangement of the book, with part I dealing with procedures and part II dealing with interpretation of results, has been retained. As examples of the changes we may note that descriptions of the Ferree-Rand perimeter, the Lloyd stereocampimeter, and Estermann's scoring grids for the tangent screen have been eliminated or curtailed, and in their place there appear accounts of the Baylor visual field programmer, the Fieldmaster, the Perimetron and the Octopus. Due acknowledgment is thus given to the contribution of new technology to the examination of the visual fields, but one sees clearly that the author believes that the ophthalmologist must not allow complicated automated apparatus to weaken his own involvement in the performance and interpretation of visual field tests. There is little need for much revision elsewhere in the book, though there is an increase in the number of substances which have to be mentioned in the section on toxic amblyopias, and CT

scans have been added to illustrate cases in the sections on optic nerve, chiasma, and visual pathways.

Undoubtedly this edition maintains the high standard previously set.

J. GLOSTER

Intraocular Lenses. Ed. DALJIT SINGH. Pp. 225. £25.75. Praeger: New York. 1981.

Despite the fact that this book has been dedicated by the authors to 'the ophthalmologist who wants to learn more about intraocular lenses' it is really rather difficult to determine at which readers it has been directed. The book certainly gives an account of intraocular lenses and their usage up to 1979 and contains a lot of rather personal views in connection with the surgery. For an ophthalmologist already practising intraocular lens surgery it contains nothing new, and in fact the text is sadly out of date, as the subject has marched on a good deal since this book was assembled.

For the student seeking surgical guidance the text cannot be recommended, not so much because it is now behind the times but more because of some of the controversial material included. It is difficult to ignore statements to the effect that the superior rectus suture can be used to lift an eye out of a deep socket to facilitate surgery, but, more dangerously, the views expressed on indications and contraindications would be quite invalid in the UK.

A chapter is included on the insertion of intraocular lenses in very young patients, including infants, and I think that insufficient care has been taken to remind the reader that even in 1982 such views are not widely supported even in the United States.

This book deals in a way which is neither radical nor illuminating with a subject which has already been well covered in better texts, and I fear most purchasers would run the risk of being either disappointed or seriously misled.

A. D. MCG. STEELE

The Cranial Nerves. Eds. M. SAMII AND P. J. JANNETTA. Pp. 664. DM 180.00. Springer-Verlag: Berlin. 1981.

It is a great pity that the quality of this book is so patchy. It is an interesting attempt to synthesise anatomy, physiology, pathology, medicine, and surgery. Some of the reviews are very good (for example, Jannetta's chapter on the treatment of trigeminal neuralgia and hemifacial spasm), others are written in the most appalling English, which surely in a book written in English should have been corrected by the English-speaking editor, who should make sure that sentences like this do not appear: 'In newborns it is like a canal outlet to the intracranial side which in the mid-canal region and in the orbital exit looks like a rounded and on-point standing triangle or ellipse' (p. 77, referring to the optic canal). Unfortunately there are many other infelicities of style; arachnopathia pontocerebellaris may be perfectly meaningful to those of us who remember our Latin but not