to others. For the ophthalmologist there are accounts of the anatomy of the optic nerve and chiasm, and there are chapters on the common compressive lesions of the optic nerves and chiasm. One chapter entitled 'Optic nerve compression by processes of the rhinobasis' is mostly about diseases of the paranasal sinuses. Ocular palsies due to aneurysms and pituitary adenomas are reviewed.

It is difficult to know at whom this volume is directed. It is hardly a comprehensive work of reference and most of its chapters are very difficult to read, and there is nothing which struck this reviewer as being of special interest to the ophthalmologist which could not be found elsewhere.

C. J. EARL

Current Ocular Therapy. By FREDERICK T. FRAUNFELDER and F. HAMPTON ROY. Pp. 647. £24.25. W. B. Saunders: Philadelphia. 1980.

Each author of this book has been asked to write a precis of today's treatment for a specific syndrome. On the basis of his experience he defines the syndrome, discusses systemic, supportive and ocular therapy, outlines ocular or periocular manifestations, describes precautions which are necessary in applying the recommended therapy, and ends by commenting on the disease and its treatment. The result is a most useful reference book and a thoroughly practical compendium. The personal aspect of the recommendations is helpful in that each author declares his preference when several options are offered in the way of therapy.

It is hardly a book which can be read through by the student or the trainee. It is rather a compendium of practical knowledge which should be handy for quick reference. For the practising physician in ophthalmology it is difficult to imagine a more helpful auxiliary, because each author has taken a special interest in the syndromes which he discusses, and they are chosen from all over the world.

STEPHEN MILLER

Molecular and Cellular Biology of the Eye Lens. Ed. HANS BLOEMENDAL. Pp. 469. £48.00. John Wiley: Chichester. 1981.

In a comprehensive account of the biochemistry of lens protein and the morphology of the lens particular attention has been paid to recent work on the cytoskeleton and contractile elements in the lens cell. This is further elaborated by a chapter devoted to the relationships between lenticular plasma membranes, the cytoskeleton, and microtubules. Detailed chapters on lens crystalline biosynthesis and the relationships between the crystalline of lower animals are also included. Proof of aging of lens proteins and the changes in their structure as seen in cataract are discussed. The final chapters deal with changes in concentration and enzymic activity due to aging and cataract formation. Particularly useful features of the book are the helpful concluding remarks and an extensive bibliography at the end of each chapter.

R. F. FISHER

Ocular Microsurgery. Developments in Ophthalmology. Vol. 1. Eds. A. S. M. LIM, L. C. Y. KHOO, and L. B. C. ANG. Pp. 95. Sfr. 50. Karger: Basle. 1981

This small volume contains a selection of articles and discussions presented at the World Convention on Microsurgery held in Singapore at the end of 1979. It proved to be important in promoting the extension of microsurgical knowledge and experience in the developing world. Ocular microsurgery is not covered systematically, but the topics indicate its wide scope. There is no index, and there are a few unfortunate misprints, but the book gives useful information to those wishing to make more effective use of the microscope.

M. J. ROPER-HALL

Notes

Cataract surgery

The New Orleans Academy of Ophthalmology will hold its 32nd annual symposium on cataract surgery on 16–20 February 1983. Details from Mr Bud Robinson, Executive Secretary, New Orleans Academy of Ophthalmology, Suite 512, 2025 Gravier Street, New Orleans, LA 70112, USA.

Glaucoma congress

A joint meeting of the 7th International Glaucoma Congress and 18th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Contemporary Ophthalmology will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Bal Harbour, Florida, USA, on 13–19 March 1983. Details from John G. Bellows, MD, 211 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 1044, Chicago, Illinois 60611, USA.

Public health ophthalmology

A special master's degree programme in public health ophthalmology will be offered during 1983–4 by the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions under the auspices of its International Center for Epidemiologic and Preventive Ophthalmology, a WHO collaborating centre. The programme is designed for persons interested in initiating, developing, and providing leadership to national or regional blindness prevention activities and in conducting serious clinical epidemiological research. Fifteen to 20 places are available for participants from developing and developed countries. Further information from Training Co-ordinator, ICEPO, Wilmer Institute, Johns Hopkins Hospital, 600 N. Wolfe Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21205, USA.