authors have simplified the immense amount of literature available on retinal and choroidal dystrophies, and the commoner conditions are described in an orderly manner with particular reference to terminology, heredity, clinical findings, diagnostic tests, and differential diagnosis. The book concludes with a useful selected bibliography.

Clearly and logically presented, the book suffers relatively little from the absence of clinical photographs. It presents a good clinical introduction to diagnostic testing and classifies the retinal and choroidal dystrophies in such a way that they can be easily reviewed and learned. The text is arranged to facilitate quick reference and will be useful to all ophthalmic practitioners, particularly those in training and with a special interest in diseases of the retina and choroid.

DESMOND B. ARCHER

**Current Genetic, Clinical and Morphologic Problems.**


This latest volume in the series 'Developments in ophthalmology' consists of 7 articles of which 3 are in English and 4 are in German—one with an English summary—again a situation to tax the linguistic skills of English (and German) ophthalmologists. The book begins with a scholarly and authoritative article by Jules François on genetic predisposition in glaucoma and is accompanied by a comprehensive bibliography. Three papers concern methods of examination. Blasius and Runde discuss the assessment of colour vision and describe a new instrument designed by Blasius which compares favourably with existing methods of testing colour vision. Weder evaluates the use of stereo projectors in orthoptic examination, and Jessen, Sayegh, and Weigelin discuss ophthalmodynamography and its role in the investigation of circulatory disorders of the retinal and ophthalmic circulation. Two articles by Würster and Hoffman deal with the effect of laser irradiation on the vitreous in experimental animals, namely, hybrid pigmented rabbits. The first paper describes the experimental technique and biochemical studies, while the second discusses the late changes that occur in the vitreous after photocagulation, with follow-up over 60 days. The final contribution, from Stodtmeister, Wilhams, and Baur, reports on the influence of nonperiodic stimuli on the visual evoked response.

Yet again the editorial policy of this type of bilingual publication must be questioned. For the average English and probably German ophthalmologist only half of this book will be understood, and the provision at least of English and German summaries would seem to be mandatory. Although the standard of each individual article is high, their connection with one another is tenuous, and to group them together under the vague title of 'Current problems' is misleading. It would be far better to collect contributions on related subjects into one volume, be they English, German, or French, than to continue with this medley of themes. This criticism is not solely the reviewer's bête noire but represents widespread feeling among British ophthalmologists, and the publishers of this and other similar volumes should take this into consideration.

T. J. FFYTCHÈ

**Notes**

**Development of visual functions**

A symposium on 'Development of visual functions in infants and children' will be held in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, on 17-18 June 1983. Details from Dr J. van Hof-van Duin or Dr G. Mohn, Department of Physiology I, Erasmus University Rotterdam, PO Box 1738, 3000 DR Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

**Contact lens congress**

The 13th European Medical Contact Lens Congress of the European Contact Lens Society of Ophthalmologists will be held in Gothenburg, Sweden, on 26-28 May 1983. Details from the Secretary-General, Dr Mats Rydberg, ECLSO 1983, PO Box 2040, S-700 02 Örebro 2, Sweden.

**Fourth Biennial Contact and Intraocular Lens Conference**

A contact lens conference combined with intraocular lens presentations including lectures and workshops will be held on 6-7 May 1983 at the Four Seasons Yorkville Hotel, Toronto, Canada. Further information from Dr Harold Stein, c/o Park Plaza Hotel, 170 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 1T9.

**Glaucoma**

An international symposium on glaucoma will be held in Jerusalem from 28 August to 1 September 1983. Further information from U. Ticho, MD, Department of Ophthalmology, Hadassah University Hospital, PO Box 12000, 91120 Jerusalem, Israel.

**Vision research**

A course in clinical vision research—epidemiologic and biostatistical approaches will be held on 27-30 April 1983 in Sarasota, Florida (immediately preceding the ARVO meeting). The course is an introduction to contemporary methods and principles of clinical vision research and is sponsored by the National Eye Institute in cooperation with Epistat Associates. Further information from Catherine M. Beinhauer, Epistat Associates, PO Box 214, Norwich, Vermont 05055, USA.

**Neuro-ophthalmology course**

An advanced course in neuro-ophthalmology will be held on 11-15 July 1983 at the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases and the Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London. The course will include talks on optic nerve disease, eye movements, the cortex, vascular disease, and recent advances in neuro-ophthalmology. Professor Shirley H. Wray will be guest lecturer. Cost: £150. Closing date for applications: 30 April. Further details from Miss J. Lace, Department of Neuro-ophthalmology, National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, Queen Square, London WC1N 3BG.