

rapidly as eye movement physiology. Secondly the meeting was sponsored by the European Communities, and served as the editors state, to bring together specialists of 'oculomotricity' from Europe and North America. This apparently new term may well be appropriate, in signifying how far this field has descended (or ascended) into the realms of basic science, and the number of ophthalmologists contributing is minimal.

Brief chapters are concerned with (1) gaze displacement in man, (2) the vestibulo-ocular reflex, (3) the optokinetic reflex, (4) effects of lesions on VER and OKN, (5) visuo-vestibular interaction, (6) saccadic system, (7) eye-head co-ordination. Many of the world's leading authorities are numbered as contributors, and these include neurologists, neurophysiologists, biomedical engineers, and psychologists.

Although some understanding of eye movements is advisable for ophthalmologists, the present text would seem to be aimed at those with a deeper interest in this complex subject.

M. D. SANDERS

**Clinical Ophthalmology: A Text and Colour Atlas.** By JAMES L. KENNERLEY BANKES. Pp. 125. £9.95. Churchill Livingstone: London. 1982.

The book is divided into 15 short chapters starting with the examination of the eye, continuing with chapters on refractive errors, rapid changes in refractive errors, colour vision defects and various other pathological conditions, and concluding with disorders of the optic nerve and visual pathways. The layout is most unusual for a medical textbook, being more akin to a brochure. Glossy paper is used, the text is brief and heavily captioned, and there are coloured photographs on most pages. The general effect is pleasing and probably very attractive to beginners, especially medical students, casualty officers and general practitioners. A small textbook on a big subject should include as many common conditions as possible and leave out most of the rare ones. The selection of material is not easy, but the author has managed very well in his 120 pages.

REDMOND J. H. SMITH

**Recent Advances in Ophthalmology.** Ed. SIDNEY I. DAVIDSON. Pp 113, £9.95. Churchill Livingstone: Edinburgh. 1982.

It is 8 years since the last edition of *Recent Advances* and there have been considerable changes in ophthalmology. The intention of the new editor is to provide an overall view of recent literature for the general ophthalmologist, but with the complete omission of the anterior segment the aims of this volume are far from being fulfilled.

The 6 chapters cover vitreous and retina, glaucoma, ocular motility, medical ophthalmology, ocular therapeutics, and the orbit, including the diagnosis of dysthyroid eye disease. Vitreous and retina are comprehensively covered by John Scott in a didactic chapter, with the aetiology of detachment and the important Lincoff and Gieser paper on finding the hole. He stresses the importance of prophylaxis and its lack of complications. The surgical procedures include useful hints on the use of silicone oil, although its use will probably still remain limited to certain centres even though the initial hostility to

the technique is lessening. He concludes with a questionable plea for open-sky vitrectomy. Three-quarters of the glaucoma section is devoted to the mechanism of angle closure—a disproportionate amount. The excellent chapter on ocular motility is exactly what one hopes to find in this volume. It takes the uninitiated through the complexities of modern thinking and should dispel the idea that squints are small, medium, and large and that they need commensurate surgical correction. The medical ophthalmology chapter proves the need for specialist centres if the problems of inflammatory and vascular diseases are to be understood, and for a closer co-operation between the clinician and pathologist. Ocular therapeutics covers the use of Ocuserts and soft contact lenses as drug delivery systems and summarises the present state of prostaglandins and beta-adrenergic blocking agents. The orbital chapter emphasises the importance of computerised tomography, which with thyroid function tests can increase the accuracy of diagnosis of orbital disease to well over 90%.

The book is only one-third of the size of the fourth and fifth editions, so that the lack of the anterior segment chapter is not the only reason for its slimness. In fairness it must be said that it is intended to publish more frequent editions, which should help to redress the balance.

M. G. GLASSPOOL

**Presurgical Evaluation of Eyes with Opaque Media.** By DWAIN GORDON FULLER and WILLIAM L. HUTTON. Pp. 228. US\$39.50. Grune and Stratton: New York. 1982.

The book's aim is to serve as a practical guide for ophthalmologists evaluating eyes with opaque media. The first section deals with the initial clinical evaluation of patients, with a subsection devoted to retinal function tests. The following 3 sections cover electrophysiological tests and give a comprehensive and clear description of the significance of findings. The ultrasound section, occupying over half of the total text, is a refreshing description of the authors' experiences of their findings in eyes containing vitreous opacities. Two subsections particularly useful to those beginning in the world of ophthalmic ultrasound concern the ultrasonic appearance of eyes having had previous surgery and artefacts. Other sections are devoted to foreign bodies, trauma, and paediatric assessment.

This book is comprehensive and easy to read. It clearly sets out the scientific foundation of ocular evaluation and will hopefully form a sound basis on which the ophthalmologist can build his clinical problem solving—that is, which of the tests will be of value for a given clinical problem, and what surgical approach, if any, is appropriate thereafter.

MARIE RESTORI  
DAVID MCLEOD

## Note

### Implantlens congress

The Third European Intraocular Implantlens Council Congress will be held on 11-14 September 1984 at Harrogate. Details from Miss J. Wilson, Postgraduate Medical Centre, Harrogate General Hospital, Knaresborough Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire.