

**Slow Potentials and Microprocessor Applications.** *Doc Ophthalmol Proc Ser* 37. Ed. H. E. J. W. KOLDER. Pp. 502. \$90.00. Dr W. Junk: The Hague. 1983.

The 20th meeting of the International Society of the Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision emphasised two subjects. With Dr Kolder as host the main topic was the slow light induced change in retinal potential, investigated either through the EOG or the ERG c wave. Computer applications formed another topic of the meeting. There were also papers on the ERG, in which the importance of the pattern elicited response emerges. The visually evoked response was well represented, but still the practical clinical applications are not well defined. The full potential of this technique is yet to come. In the review of the previous symposium report there was a comment on Fourier analysis, and in this volume there is a cautionary note on Fourier methods in vision research.

As with reports of society meetings the individual papers are not included in the *Index Medicus*. A supplement to this volume is a cumulative index for the ISCEV symposia from 1972 to 1981.

J. H. KELSEY

**The Eye in General Medicine.** By CLIFFORD ROSE. Pp. 500. £29.50. Associated Book Publishers: Andover, Hampshire. 1983.

It seems only the other day (though indeed it was 1954) that a newly appointed ophthalmic surgeon to Moorfields Eye Hospital proposed that the hospital should arrange itself so that each unit had a consultant ophthalmic surgeon and a consultant ophthalmic physician in charge. The proposal failed to find a seconder.

This book gives a glimpse into the field of non-surgical ophthalmology. As Clifford Rose writes in his preface, 'Not all aspects could be completely covered—that would entail several volumes—but rather the intent has been to update the most rapidly growing areas of this multidisciplinary subject,' and very welcome is this broad view reregistered some thirty years later.

Tests of visual function, computerised tomography in the investigations of visual loss, genetics in ophthalmology, and fluorescein angiography find chapters in the first section. The neurological disorders discussed are ocular myopathies, ocular palsies, nystagmus, eye movement disorders in basal ganglia diseases, cerebral disorders of visual function, and eye signs of head trauma.

Part 3 concerns itself with the inflammatory disorders under the subheadings of immunology, infections, multi-system patterns of uveitis, and ocular sarcoidosis. Part 4 is devoted to a consideration of vascular disorders in chapters on giant cell arteritis, vasculitis, and hypertension as they affect the eye. Part 5 is concerned with endocrine disorders, including chapters on the treatment of diabetic retinopathy, the eye signs of Graves's disease, and metabolic eye disease. There is a final part on skin disorders with chapters on dermatological ocular manifestations and leprosy.

All contributions are of a high standard, and in all chapters the reader senses progress in understanding. This is particularly so in the realm of immunology, which is beginning to throw light on some of the long-standing mysteries of ophthalmic disease. The harvest from fluorescein angiography

is well described; the advances in our understanding of pigmentary retinopathies are clearly summarised; the treatment of diabetic retinopathy is ably compressed; and it is good to see leprosy finding a place in our literature as a major cause of blindness.

Each section has a list of references which will prove of value to the aspiring consultant, along with the index which is comprehensive. The illustrations are clear and carefully selected. The only criticism is that some chapters (particularly some on immunology) have too many tables, and experienced editors know that tables resemble the well brought up Victorian children who were seen and not heard. In the main tables are seen and not read.

STEPHEN MILLER

**Oeil et Sports.** By JACQUES-PIERRE CHEVALERAUD. Pp. 160. 120F. Masson: Paris, 1983.

This monograph in French has been edited comprehensively by Professor Chevaleraud, formerly professor of health to the French armed services. It is an excellent review of the ophthalmological aspects of sport in health and disease. There are seven sections commencing with a review of the anatomy and physiology of visual function, which gives a satisfactory summary of the pertinent aspects without excessive detail. More diagrams in this section would have been desirable to help those without specialist ophthalmological knowledge. Visual requirements for active sports are discussed in the next section, which emphasises the importance of visual acuity, field, colour vision, and especially binocular vision. An account of the effects of sports on visual function is a particularly good section, with altitude effects on retinal function and oculomotor balance getting an important though often forgotten mention. This particularly applies to climbers, ski-iers, glider pilots and hang gliders. A section on mechanisms of eye injuries from active sports describes the precise ocular tissue injury and the mode of damage in various sports. The account of specific injuries in various sports will be of particular interest to ophthalmic surgeons, and each sport is considered in some detail. Naturally small ball games such as squash, and boxing and alpine sports receive most attention, which reflects the concern of ophthalmologists in western countries in recent years.

Eye protection receives attention but lacks some technical detail. However, the section provides information for the non-specialist in contact lens and spectacle lens materials with some mention of irradiation protection. Visual fitness for participants in most sports is mentioned and this section sensibly includes the referees and umpires (this will please the 'where are your specs, ref' brigade).

It is particularly pleasing to read the paragraphs on sport for the visually handicapped. They give some special mention to those sports most suited to them, such as cycle tandem racing (rear cyclist), wrestling and jumping in athletics and gymnastics. The final section covers the much neglected subject of lighting in sports arenas and it is an indication of the thoroughness of this monograph. A full bibliography completes this splendid monograph deserving of a good read by all those interested in the eye and sport.

JAMES L. KENNERLEY BANKES