

Book reviews

Plastische Chirurgie der Lider Wundversorgung, Stellungskorrektur und Rekonstruktion. By CHARLES K. BEYER-MACHULE. Pp. 99. DM.40.00. Ferdinand Enke Verlag: Stuttgart. 1982.

This short volume on the principles and techniques of various types of lid surgery has chapters on the surgical management of lid injuries, malpositions, reconstructions, lid retraction, and cosmetic surgery. The procedures are illustrated by informative diagrams, and there are useful instructions on instrumentation and sutures. Surprisingly no mention is made of the surgical correction of ptosis, but apart from this the essentially practical approach to the subject makes this a book to be recommended.

T. J. FFYTCHÉ

The Eye in Childhood. Eds. JOHN S. CRAWFORD AND J. DONALD MORIN. Pp. 616. \$75.00. Grune and Stratton: New York. 1983.

The new edition of this book has become an extensive textbook covering nearly every aspect of paediatric ophthalmology. The chapters are logically laid out, and the authors include short chapters on general anaesthesia, reading disabilities, the care and education of the visually handicapped child, photography, and preventive ophthalmology apart from those in the main stream of paediatric ophthalmology.

The editors have done well to integrate the chapters written by the various authors, most of whom are from the ophthalmology department at the Hospital for Sick Children, and all of whom are from Toronto. One might say that it is a disadvantage to have a book written by the members of one department because of the inevitable variability in the contributors' expertise and ability to write well. However, this does not show in this book, which has consistently high standards; it is well written and well illustrated.

I found that there was perhaps too great an emphasis on purely ocular aspects of ophthalmology and only 19 pages on systemic disease, but this perhaps indicates that the book is designed more with the general ophthalmologist or resident in mind than the paediatrician or paediatric ophthalmologist. Most chapters have a brief, useful, and up-to-date list of references. Although smaller than its major competitor, I thought that this book is the better of the two, because of its excellent layout and comprehensiveness, despite its lower price, and it is warmly welcomed.

D. S. I. TAYLOR

The Neurology of Eye Movements. By R. JOHN LEIGH AND DAVID S. ZEE. Pp. 281. \$56.00. F. A. Davis: Philadelphia. 1983.

Many ophthalmologists and neurologists have gained not only their clinical expertise but also their higher qualifications from Cogan's *Neurology of the Ocular Muscles*. It is therefore entirely appropriate that Professor David Cogan should supply the foreword to this excellent book which has appeared 25 years after the first edition of his own.

The 2 authors are both neurologists working at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, and one of them received his initial training at Newcastle on Tyne. The book has 2 main objectives, firstly to synthesise the results of basic ocular motor research into a form useful for clinicians, and secondly to interpret the pathophysiology of eye movement disorders. The book is successful in both these tasks and introduces the reader to the complexities of systems analysis and current neurophysiological terms in understanding this most complex of systems. The book is concise and marshals its contents into 260 pages with appropriate illustrations, line drawings, and CT scans, but unfortunately lacking any face pictures.

After an introductory chapter the 3 main types of eye movements are discussed: (1) vestibular optokinetic system, (2) the saccadic system, (3) the smooth pursuit system. This is followed by a chapter on the synthesis of the versional eye movement command which indicates how these 3 systems interact, and it will introduce the reader to the latest interpretation of the anatomical substrate and new concepts such as the leaking neural integrator. Remaining chapters discuss eye head co-ordination and vergence eye movements and conclude with 2 excellent chapters for the clinician on the diagnosis of peripheral and central ocular motor problems.

This book is most strongly recommended and will be invaluable for ophthalmologists, neurologists, and basic scientists. The script is readable, the text concise, and the bibliography extensive. The breadth of topics covered emphasises the advantages of dual authorship rather than the published proceedings of symposia by multiple authors, which seems to have dominated the field of eye movement books in the last 2 decades. The medical historian will be interested to find that David Cogan's father, J. J. Cogan, investigated eye movements with Dodge before undertaking his ecclesiastical studies.

This book should find a place in most ophthalmologists' libraries, and the price, though substantial, will provide a work that should sustain the purchaser for many decades.

M. D. SANDERS

Diabetic Retinopathy. By HUNTER L. LITTLE, ROBERT L. JACK, ARNALL PATZ, PETER H. FORSHAM. Pp. 396. DM. 178.00. George Thieme Verlag: Stuttgart. 1983.

This well produced book is the latest of many on diabetic retinopathy. It is a substantial publication covering most clinical aspects and possible pathogenic mechanisms. Because most chapters are up to date and well referenced, it will stand as a standard reference book for the next few years.

Among articles on the pathogenic mechanisms discussed, Ashton's review is, as expected, exhaustive and well written, Shabo's on immunogenic vasculitis, though this is not really credible as a cause of diabetic retinopathy, is an interesting approach. The chapter on neovascularisation is one of the most exciting and informative in the book. Authors Glaser and Patz are modest about their own work, which is among the most original in recent years in the field of diabetic retinopathy. The introductory section, chapters 1-6, is very useful, and especially the chapter on non-ocular risk factors by the Joslin Clinic workers, which gives a welcome report