

tion of the visual system. New examples of environmental effects are described—for example, on the postnatal growth of cells in the W cell relay of the lateral geniculate, on cortical orientation selectivity, and on ocular dominance in areas 18 and 19. Papers also examine the potential for recovery from environmental modifications, for example, by reverse occlusion of monocularly deprived animals. New work on the maturation of the rabbit and primate visual cortex is presented.

This book provides a good review of the research under way on the development of visual pathways and is most suitable for those already working in this area.

B P HAYES

Atlas of the Ocular Fundus. Third edition. By H SAUTTER, W STRAUB, R TURSS, H ROSSMANN. Pp. 188. £78.00. Pitman: London. 1984.

This is a beautifully produced book. It contains high quality colour photographs of common fundus conditions with fluorescein angiography pictures printed where relevant. The descriptions are elegant, and in some case treatment is described. Some of the nomenclature does not coincide with that used in England and America. For example, they use the term arteriosclerotic-chorioretinopathy for disciform macular degeneration. The only common fundus conditions omitted are macroaneurysms and a few less common conditions, such as presumed ocular histoplasmosis and Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada syndrome.

The only criticism I have with the treatment sections is that the authors tend towards focal treatment quite frequently for retinal new vessels, which is contrary to the British experience, where more peripheral retinal ablation is used.

This is a good atlas for any ophthalmologist and would be useful for physicians. It would be a good investment for any large medical library. The price is rather high for the individual ophthalmologist.

RONALD J MARSH

Major problems in Clinical Pediatrics. By LEONARD B NELSON. Pp. 268. £42.00. Saunders: London. 1984.

This book was written for paediatricians, general practitioners, house officers, and others concerned with the welfare of children, and it succeeds in its aims. It is laid out conventionally, discussing the various aspects of paediatric ophthalmology on a mainly anatomical scheme. There are chapters on visual development and ocular examination, which are practical, but perhaps a little high powered for the non-ophthalmologist. For instance, it seems a little much to expect the paediatrician to be interested in descriptions of slit-lamp examination or indirect ophthalmoscopy except to satisfy his curiosity. There is a chapter on the visually handicapped child which is directed towards the older child and offers little advice about early intervention.

The book is well if not always accurately referenced, and there are numerous illustrations, most of which are borrowed from two well-known textbooks. It is sad that exchange rates will put this book out of the reach of most private buyers, but it will find its way on to hospital library shelves, where it will be dipped into by many doctors who look after children.

DAVID TAYLOR

I Glaucomi Secondari. Eds. F PONTE, L SCULICA, C BISANTIS. Pp. 527. No price given. Clinica Oculistica: Messina, Italy. 1983.

This textbook on secondary glaucoma is written by the three main authors, nine collaborators, and 31 assistants, all from the Universities of Palermo and Messina. A substantial historical introduction is followed by a chapter on the definition and the classification of the secondary glaucomas which is adopted in the book. The intrinsic ocular causes are dealt with in the first chapters, pseudoexfoliation glaucoma and neovascular glaucoma receiving extended treatment. An approximately equal space is devoted to the systemic associations of secondary glaucoma. An outstanding feature of the book is its abundant bibliography, perhaps rather loaded towards the Continental and, more particularly, the Italian literature; however, the Anglo-Saxon sources, where fundamental, are adequately represented.

The material is well presented in spaciouly set out pages, and the illustrations are mostly of a high standard.

JOHN ROMANO

Notes

Medical management of ocular inflammations

A national symposium on 'Recent and controversial aspects of the medical management of ocular inflammations' will be held at Jodhpur on 16–18 November 1985. Further details from the chief organiser, Professor M R Jain, Department of Ophthalmology, Dr SN Medical College, New Teaching Hospital, Jodhpur 342 003, India. Registration fee 25.00 US dollars.

Contact lens technology

The Cullen Eye Institute, Baylor College of Medicine, will hold its 26th Annual Course in Contact Lens Technology 5–7 December 1985 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Houston, Texas. This course is open to all ophthalmologists, residents, and fellows in ophthalmology, and technicians sponsored by an ophthalmologist. It will include lectures, practical demonstrations, and student participation in 25 areas of contact lens technology. Details from Bette McAinch, Contact Lens Technology Course, Cullen Eye Institute, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas 77030, USA.

Cyclops Society

Composed of people who have lost the sight of one eye, the Cyclops Society has been formed to help those who are completely blind. To this end it would welcome contact with one-eyed people in all walks of life, and it can supply posters (A4 size) for display in the waiting rooms of hospitals and individual physicians and surgeons. Details from Mr Richard Sweet, Cyclops Society, 1 Longshaw, Hazelwood Lane, Chipstead, Surrey CR3 3QL.