

## Book Reviews

### *ABC of Eyes.*

A. R. Elkington and P. T. Khaw

Most doctors need to know something about eye disorders. General practitioners, casualty officers and medical students in particular require a concise, well-illustrated and readable book to which to turn for reference or revision. This new edition of *ABC of eyes*, originally published as a series of articles in the British Medical Journal, by A. R. Elkington and P. T. Khaw fulfils these criteria admirably. The colour pictures are a valuable improvement on the monochrome of P. A. Gardiner's previous edition. The authors have adopted a 'problem oriented' approach which, with careful selection of material, makes it a useful reference booklet. Ophthalmologists may with confidence recommend it to colleagues in other disciplines.

R. Finlay

### *Manual of Oculoplastic Surgery.*

Edited by Mark R. Levine.

This manual is written by a number of doctors, the main aim is to be a stepwise description of common oculoplastic surgical procedures for doctors well versed with their diagnosis. So it is for doctors who know which procedure to do but do not know how to do it. Who are those doctors? It is really too advanced for those beginning their training in oculoplastic surgery, while it is too basic for those who have more experience.

Being written by many authors some things are mentioned twice, while others are not. Anterior approach for levator resection in ptosis surgery is described in full detail both in the congenital and acquired part, while posterior levator resection is not mentioned at all.

The pictures are good, they are clear and show well relevant details. Some of the subjects are also well presented, like ectropion, where the chapters do not overlap.

It is difficult to edit a book like this, I would

have preferred more interference from the editor, i.e. a more schematic approach for each disease category. That would have helped the beginner and not harmed the one who knows more.

Haraldur Sigurðsson

### *1988 The Year Book of Ophthalmology.*

Ed J. T. Ernest and T. A. Deutsch.

This 1988 edition of the Year Book repeats the familiar format with summaries and critical reviews of major papers from the year in question (which is actually the year up to December 1987).

Two hundred papers from over 50 journals have been chosen. The book is arranged in 11 chapters and each opens with a mini-review on subjects ranging from 'α, β and Glaucoma Therapy' to 'Retinal Toxicity With Chloroquine'. Each paper is given a fairly full summary with original illustrations included where appropriate. An editorial comment follows each paper placing it in context and emphasising important conclusions.

The book is easy to read, and provides a wide ranging, although inevitably incomplete, summary of the year's developments. It provides a painless way to update on topics outside one's main areas of interest.

B. L. Halliday

### *The Eye in Infancy.*

Sherwin J. Isenberg, MD.

Year Book Medical Publishers Inc 1989.

The title of this collaborative work, which involves forty authors, suggests a narrower sphere of reference than is attempted. It is, in fact, a substantial book covering the whole field of Paediatric Ophthalmology.

The structure is well conceived and the bulk of the chapters are well written. The best chapters are those which do stay within the realm of the title in treating the infant eye as an organ with its related structures. Chapters on teratogenic agents, chromosome abnor-