

BOOK REVIEWS : BOEKBESPREKINGS

PHYSIOLOGY OF THE EYE

Applied Physiology of the Eye. By H. Willoughby Lyle, M.D., F.R.C.S., assisted by T. Keith Lyle, C.B.E., M.A., M.D., M.Chir., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S. Pp. vii+341. 32 figures. 45s. London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox Ltd. 1958.

While this volume may well find itself included as a reference book in the libraries of ophthalmologists I feel that it will mainly be used by postgraduates preparing themselves for higher diplomas in ophthalmology.

The opening chapters are devoted to a comprehensive account of the physiology and anatomy of the eyeball, and give short accounts of affections of the various parts of the eye together with their causes—especially the rarer causes. The connections of the eye with the brain are dealt with in great detail. This applies not only to the retina and optic nerve on its way to the occipital

lobe but also to the extra-ocular muscles and their innervation. The effect of lesions on the function of these connections is well demonstrated. Each lesion is dealt with separately and, with the aid of excellent diagrams, a clear picture is established in the minds of the reader. The endocrine system as a whole is dealt with, with special reference to the pituitary. Chapters on diabetes mellitus, vitamins and allergic ophthalmology conclude this interesting book.

It is sad to think that Professor Willoughby Lyle did not live to see the publication of this volume, into which he put so much work.

M.F.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

The Year Book of the Ear, Nose and Throat 1958-59. Edited by John R. Lindsay, M.D. with a section on *Maxillofacial*

Surgery, edited by Dean M. Lierle and William C. Huffman, M.D. Pp. 395. 114 figures. \$7.50. Chicago: The Year Book Publishers, Inc. 1959.

This little year book has in the past been of great value to the practising ear, nose and throat surgeon in enabling him to keep abreast of the flood of current literature. This year's publication is well up to the standard of its predecessors and admirably fulfils this purpose. The book is of particular value in that pertinent articles from journals not normally read by ear, nose and throat surgeons are included amongst the summaries. The abstracts are well done and convey all the essential information so that, unless one is especially interested in details, it is unnecessary to consult the originals. The periodic editorial comment is pithy and to the point. Finally the printing and general presentation are good. The book is warmly recommended. D.V.M.

ADVANCES IN CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

Advances in Clinical Chemistry. Edited by Harry Sobotka and C. P. Stewart. Vol. I. Pp. xi+398. 9 figures. \$12.00. New York and London: Academic Press Inc. 1958.

The present volume deals with plasma iron, tubular kidney function, protein-bound iodine, radio-active iodine in the diagnosis of hyperthyroidism, determination of individual adrenocortical steroids, 5-hydroxyindoles, paper electrophoresis in clinical investigations, composition of body fluids in childhood and transaminase activities in body fluids.

Each section is written by acknowledged and experienced experts in their respective fields in the form of reviews covering technical procedure in detail as well as clinical application and interpretation. Bibliography is comprehensive, if not exhaustive, and covers current publications as recent as 1957. The clinician and practitioner may find some sections heavy going, for clinical chemistry, or chemical pathology, is of necessity a subject demanding both technical and clinical proficiency. Nevertheless here is an attempt to bring together the technical and clinical worlds in a number of volumes and to collate the widely scattered literature in selected subjects. In this volume the clinician will find much to help him—the chemical pathologist will find it sheer joy.

S.M.J.