Ophthalmologica 1983;187:59-60

Book Review
S.R.R. Waltman
T.K. Krupin Complications in Ophthalmic Surgery
Despite the small size of the ocular structures and the delicacy required during surgery, there is a very low incidence of complications in planned eye operations. To obtain optimal results, the surgeon must be alert to the possibility of complications and needs to act promptly should they arise.
This book is edited by two members of the full-time academic staff of the highly respected Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Washington School of Medicine in St. Louis and most of the contributors are also members of the teaching staff there. Despite the multiple authorship, the style is uniformly clear and will be easily understood by the trainee.
The aim of the surgeon should always be to obtain the maximum benefit for his patient. This means preventing complications, so the book is not only directed to their management when they arise. The authors explain why technical points are important for surgical safety. Each chapter contains practical advice and there is an extensive bibliography.
The contents reflect the pattern of ophthalmic surgery in the United States, but the emphasis differs only little from the practice in Europe. One example is the common use of local instead of general anaesthesia. Thus, retrobulbar haemorrhage is mentioned in several chapters as a complication of local anaesthesia and there is a good deal of text devoted to the management of what is a much less frequent complication in countries where general anaesthesia is more usual. This is a useful book to be read by those training to be ophthalmic surgeons and for occasional reference by those already in their career appointment.
Roper-Hall
P. Leonard, J. Rommel Lens Implantation
30 Years of Progress
Monographs in Ophthalmology, vol. 4
Junk, The Hague 1982
600pp.; US$99.-
Since Nordlohne published his monograph in 1975 on the intraocular implant lens, there has been a shortage of objective publications on intraocular lenses. This new publication by two Belgian authors is most welcome. Provided the reader accepts that intraocular lenses have a place in the rehabilitation of cataract patients, he will find no prejudice in it. The book is thoughtfully written in a pleasant style of English which is enjoyable to read.
The authors were assigned by the Belgian Ophthalmological Society to report on the evolution of lens implantations during the past 30 years. It is useful to be reminded that the period is 30 years, because even some of those who are actively engaged in intraocular lens work are seemingly unaware of all the work and experience which took place more than 5–10 years ago.
The authors consider the possibilities and limitations of the well-established lens models and the associated surgical techniques. They hope that this will be a guide to the evaluation of the full range of existing and future lens types. They also report on the materials, their optical qualities, methods of sterilization and the effect on surrounding ocular structures. The history of intraocular lenses is set out with firm facts regarding the ideas and their dates. There are very clear diagrams and concise facts about many of the established lenses with a very useful general nomenclature for use when describing them. There is a valuable reminder that polymethylmethacrylate of proved clinical quality was only available from two manufacturers. The material is now being obtained from much wider sources with a shorter follow-up.

60
Book Reviews · Livres nouveaux · Buchbesprechungen

Discussing the degradation of nylon loops, they point out that this has been seen where reactive tissue is in contact with the material, when it is embedded in vascularized scar tissue, or when removed from inflamed eyes. None of the anterior loops used by Binkhorst and others show changes in reflex, thickness or transparency when examined in situ, even after 20 years. They conclude that nylon may degrade because of improper sterilization, stress, mechanical aggression and hydrolysis in vivo especially by proteolytic enzymes in reactive tissue. Detailed attention is given to the different types of lens with iris, iridocapsular, capsular or anterior chamber angle support. Modifications are described in response to imperfections revealed by clinical experience. ‘The changes in lens design were never spectacular, though the consequences, which only became apparent years later, were.” Evaluation is often difficult, because data generally available combines results obtained with different lenses and often with a short follow-up period. They conclude that experience seems to confirm substantial advantages of improved extracapsular techniques and that this method has shown no sign of failure in the long term. They list advantages of angle-supported lenses which have contributed to the increased popularity of these lenses, but express some reservations. Much of the information in this book could be obtained only by much library research and it is very useful to have it presented so concisely.

Roper-Hall
C. H. Bedwell Visual Fields

This book is mainly concerned with the various methods and instruments for perimetry which are now available on the market. A large part of it deals with Friedman’s Visual Field Analyser, its development, technics and possibilities. This is understandable because the author contributed to the development of that instrument. It leaves the book heavily biased, however, and it appears nowhere that the author has a personal experience with other instruments, which are summed up without much criticism.

It seems to me that the book is of some value for prospective buyers of perimeters; the clinically oriented ophthalmologist, however, will rather be disappointed.

Schweitzer
Iart P. Howard
Human Visual Orientation
Human Visual Orientation is an invaluable guide through both older and contemporary research of neu-rophysiological and psychological aspects of vision. Being oriented implies the capacity to locate objects and to evaluate their relative position irrespective of the (original) position and locomotor activity of the individual. The organism directs its actions on the basis of an internal representation of spatial relationships. According to one school of thought peripheral visuo-motor, kinaesthetic and vestibular stimuli act as local signs. Retinal images and retinal coordinates provide the basic data. The internal ‘map’ is a product of secondary composition and coordination. According to an alternative theory the primary condition for internal representation of spatial relations is founded on the general architecture of the body and the corresponding structure of the nervous system, expressed in orocaudal and dorsoventral polarities and a bilateral symmetry.

The nervous system is a control system. It enables the organism to maintain posture and equilibrium against the hazards of locomotion. The complexity of spatial behaviour is correlated with the degree of sensory differentiation and articulation of the peripheral organs. They are used as scanning devices. The data are processed in function of the central program. The internal map is a product of implementation and selection rather than composition. The directional properties are derived from locomotor spatial behaviour; they do not reside in the peripheral scanning devices, which are analogous to tentacles. In this theory, retinal images and a retinal meridian are dismissed.

Throughout the book, both points of view are represented but the author is heavily biased in favour of the former. Yet, adherents to the second theory will find valuable material to strengthen their position. More than 80 pages of references provide access to some 2,000 papers. This really is the work of a lifetime.

Droogleever Fortuyn & Schweitzer
Intraocular Lenses and Corneal Endothelium
Papers presented at a symposium held in Antwerp on June 3, 1982, and organized by A. Neetens as an expression of gratitude to Professor Jules Francois on the occasion of his 75th birthday
60 figures and 8 tables, 1983
DBtfi

Drug Dosage
The authors and the publisher have exerted every effort to ensure that drug selection and dosage set forth in this text are in accord with current recommendations and practice at the time of publication. However, in view of ongoing research, changes in government regulations, and the constant flow of information relating to drug therapy and drug reactions, the reader is urged to check the package insert for each drug for any change in indications and dosage and for added warnings and precautions. This is particularly important when the recommended agent is a new and/or infrequently employed drug.

All rights reserved.
No part of this publication may be translated into other languages, reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, microcopying, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher or, in the case of photocopying, direct payment of a specified fee to the Copyright Clearance Center (see ‘Information for Readers and Subscribers’).