

Book reviews

Eye Injuries, by Edward Zagora, Springfield, Ill., 1970, Charles C Thomas, Publisher, 601 pages, 300 illustrations.

Dr. Zagora's extensive choice of subjects illustrates that the field of ocular trauma encompasses all aspects of ophthalmology. An attempt to bring this material together is, therefore, a formidable task. The task may be too great for a volume which is short of encyclopedic.

Chemical injuries by diverse compounds, radiation, thermal, ultrasound, and spaceflight hazards are extensively discussed. However, there is too little coverage of those injuries most frequently encountered in practice. Traumatic neuroophthalmology is generally well covered, but discussion of specific entities often lacks detail. The prophylaxis of injuries is stressed in depth with chapters of special value to industrial ophthalmologists. Therapeutic discussions, though, are lacking in specific practical instruction and occasionally, for example in corneal alkali burns, outdated. Introduction of medicolegal comment throughout the volume is interesting and timely.

The text itself is hindered by a tendency toward long listing and by a lack of adequate references. There are many excellent diagrams, but the clinical photographs are poorly reproduced so that the pathology frequently cannot be distinguished.

This book has its greatest value as a reference for ophthalmologists associated with industrial practice and planning for eye safety. It is unfortunately not concise enough for either casual reading or ready reference.

Alan Sugar, M.D.

Atlas of External Diseases of the Eye: Volume III—Cornea and Sclera, by David D. Donaldson, St. Louis, 1971, The C. V. Mosby Company, 475 pages, \$69.50.

This third volume in Dr. Donaldson's series provides an extensive review of corneal and scleral disease with reliance on numerous black and white and stereo color photographs. The excellence of the photographs makes this volume a worthwhile and instructive contribution to ophthalmic literature. Brief discussions of disease entities are followed in the text by illustrated case histories. The discussions are concise and lucid, but the case histories often act merely to repeat material without providing additional information, especially in those conditions in which multiple similar cases are presented. In addition, because of the period over which these cases were collected, the therapeutic approaches presented are often outdated, though instructive long-term follow-ups are provided. There is some repetition of material presented in other volumes, but different cases and photographs are used.

This book is recommended as an introductory review for residents and as a general review for more experienced clinicians. It is unfortunate that its expense limits its availability.

Joel Sugar, M.D.