aspects as well as the medical aspects of the cases. They also carried out biochemical and cytogenic analyses in some cases in order to try to establish the most exact diagnosis.

Blindness is considered under genetic and acquired causes, and the main sector deals with that probably due to genetic determination. One of the most important chapters deals with choroido-retinal degeneration, and the authors emphasize the variability of the conditions seen and the difficulty of exact diagnosis in some cases. They give a very good clinical account of the different types of retinal aplasia, but this is really a misnomer that was introduced for a group of conditions that are progressive degenerations rather than aplasias. The many associated abnormalities that occur with the choroido-retinal degenerations are also described and grouped as much as possible in definite categories. They describe at least 9 different autosomal recessive and 3 sex-linked recessive conditions. Several pedigrees are given of representative conditions. Tables in the appendices list all the cases in groups, and give details of genetic and clinical importance. There are also chapters on retinoblastoma, pseudoglioma, optic atrophy, cataracts, myopia, corneal lesions, colobomata, aniridia, buphthalmos, and complex syndromes. The importance of differentiating between somatic and genetic mutations in retinoblastoma is emphasized, and the chapters on optic atrophy and cataract are of more than usual interest, though the suggestion that hypoglycaemia is of importance in the causation of cataract needs much more substantiation.

Acquired blindness is divided into that occurring prenatally, perinatally, and postnatally. The authors emphasize that these causes are changing, and while 177 cases of retrolental fibroplasia were seen in this survey, future samples will contain far fewer of these cases.

There are Tables at the end of the book summarizing the findings under different headings; there is a good index and an extensive bibliography. The authors are to be congratulated on producing this book which will be of especial value to geneticists and ophthalmologists, not only for the presentation of the material but also for delineating problems that still await further elucidation.

The Young Handicapped Child. Educational Guidance for the Young Cerebral Palsied, Deaf, Blind, and Autistic Child. By AGATHA H. BOWLEY and LESLIE GARDNER. (Pp. x + 167; 11 figures + plates. 30s.) London and Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone. 1969.

Dr. Agatha Bowley published her first edition under this title 12 years ago. She is now joined by Mr. Leslie Gardner for this second edition in which they have attempted to incorporate the increases in knowledge and improvement of methods occurring in the intervening years. In their Preface they state that the book is primarily for the non-specialist reader; and in this connexion they have the parents of handicapped children in mind, but also hope that the book will appeal to nurses, health visitors, teachers, therapists, social workers, and other professional workers. Clearly they aim for a wide audience, but present their material in a relatively small and short book. It is extremely difficult to present such a wide subject to such a wide range of readership, and they have not always succeeded in this task.

Four problems are selected for particular discussion, namely, the cerebral palsied child, the deaf child, the blind child, and the autistic child. Information is given about the incidence and nature of the various conditions, how the children are examined psychologically, and some of their problems and difficulties, particularly with regard to school placement, are discussed. Because of shortage of space, the descriptions have to be brief, and many readers will be left with their interest stimulated but not satisfied. Both authors have considerable practical experience in this work, and it is a pity they did not take this opportunity to provide readers with, on the one hand, more detailed information about the techniques used in their own speciality and, on the other hand, the lessons they have learnt over the years.

The index is so incomplete as to be almost useless. A number of interesting pictures are included but the quality of reproduction is not good, possibly because some are old pictures, and insufficient space has been allowed to permit reproduction at adequate size. The experience and knowledge of the authors merit a fuller publication than the present one.

International Symposium on the Management of the Rh Problem

This Symposium will be held in Milan, Italy, on October 9–11, 1969, and the following topics will be dealt with.

Prevention of Rh isoimmunization (Chairmen: B. Pollack (Raritan, New Jersey) and J. Gorman (New York)); diagnosis and prenatal treatment of fetal erythroblastosis (Chairmen: J. Queenan (New York) and B. Liley (Auckland)); and pediatric problems (Chairman: J. Lucey (Burlington, Vermont)).

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An International Symposium on Medical Problems of Adolescence

A Symposium will be held in Athens, Greece, on September 26–27, 1969, immediately preceding the 6th Middle Eastern Mediterranean Pediatric Congress, and will be conducted in English.

Programme Chairman is Professor Saul Blatman of New York, and the whole Symposium is under the Chairmanship of Professor Spyros Doxiadis, President of the Institute of Child Health.

For further information please write to the Institute of Child Health, Athens 608, Greece.