

# OPHTHALMIC PATHOLOGY

## AN ATLAS AND TEXTBOOK

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By

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The value of a Registry of Pathology as an educational medium could have no better exemplification than this Atlas and Textbook of Ophthalmic Pathology. It presents a clear and comprehensive coverage of the morphologic pathology of the eye and an exposition of the physiologic processes that pertain to ocular change. The text, written by outstanding investigators in the field of ophthalmology, represents the most advanced thought on the pathologic considerations of this specialty and furnishes a solid foundation for the interpretation of clinical manifestations of ocular disease.

The Registry of Ophthalmic Pathology is the oldest component of the American Registry of Pathology. The contribution of specimens and records by ophthalmologists over a period of thirty years has built up an outstanding collection of material in this Registry. During these years this valuable material has been coordinated for greater usefulness in study and research by analysis and interpretation carried

on by members of the staff of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, both present and past. Thus, this Atlas is the product of a great collaboration in which, in a sense, all who have contributed material to the Registry are partners.

We are gratified to have been in a position to stimulate and participate in the preparation of this unique work. It is something new in the way of an atlas in that it includes the discussion of physiologic mechanisms that influence pathologic change, and it still retains the best features of the older atlases in its magnificent illustrations. This volume is indeed an achievement in which both the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology and the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology can justly take pride.

ELBERT DECOURSEY  
*Brigadier General, MC, USA*

The Atlas and Textbook of Ophthalmic Pathology is an outgrowth of the Atlas of Ophthalmic Pathology by DeCoursey and Ash, which was based on material in the Registry of Ophthalmic Pathology, produced by the Army Medical Museum, and sponsored by the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology. Its preparation was instigated by the educational committees of the Academy, inspired by the success of the earlier Atlases. The aim of these committees was to provide a text embodying the requirements in histopathology for Board certification, to further the instruction of residents in hospitals with limited teaching and laboratory facilities, and to furnish a convenient source for the ophthalmologist pursuing study in the pathology of his specialty.

As the task of revision progressed, it was proposed that Friedenwald's "Pathology of the Eye" be used as a basis for the text, that relevant physiologic data be included, and that the photomicrographs be arranged to illustrate subjects corresponding to the chapter headings rather than specific cases. It was realized that while this procedure involved considerable change in the character of the Atlas, it would add materially to its usefulness. Although this volume is intended as a teaching aid rather than a reference, it logically carries the added text, which has been written to give the most widely accepted concepts of pathology as they are now understood and taught in the leading medical colleges.

The purpose of the Academy in sponsoring the publication of this Atlas and the Atlas of Otolaryngic Pathology remains unchanged since Dr. Ralph A. Fenton suggested in 1937 that they be made a part of its educational activity. The first edition of the Atlas of Ophthalmic Pathology appeared in 1938 under the joint authorship of Captain Elbert DeCoursey, Pathologist to the Registry, and Lieutenant Colonel James E. Ash, Curator of the Army Medical Museum, with credits to Helenor C. Wilder, Roy M. Reeve, and Lawrence P. Ambrogi. The second edition in 1939

and the third edition in 1942 were products of the same collaboration. Later in the war years, revision toward a more comprehensive text was projected, and this work was begun while Colonel Ash was Director of the Army Institute of Pathology, as the Army Medical Museum had by then been designated. The writing of the text was undertaken by a group of authors headed by Dr. Jonas S. Friedenwald, and this book is the fruit of that collaboration.

To facilitate administration of the project, Dr. Brittain F. Payne was selected in 1945 as Chairman of the Committee for Revision of Pathologic Atlases. He appointed as members of that Committee a number of teachers of eye, ear, nose and throat pathology. Every ophthalmologist of that group contributed in one way or another to the preparation of the Atlas in his field. In 1946 the Academy Committees on Pathology were merged into an Advisory Committee charged with the supervision of the selection of material and the production of the Atlases.

The debt of the Academy to Colonel Ash for his deep interest in the Atlases and for his enthusiastic cooperation in their preparation is gratefully acknowledged. Brigadier General Raymond O. Dart, who succeeded him as Director, continued the traditional cooperation with the Academy. Dr. Hugh G. Grady, who became Scientific Director of the American Registry of Pathology during this period, has been most helpful in matters concerned with publication. It is particularly fitting that the Atlas and Textbook of Ophthalmic Pathology should become an accomplished fact when Brigadier General DeCoursey, who contributed so generously to the three early editions, is Director of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology gratefully acknowledges the contributions of Dr. Brittain F. Payne, who has guided the Committee on Revision of the Atlases; Dr. Jonas S. Friedenwald, who has written much of the text and revised and

unified all of it; Helenor Campbell Wilder, who not only contributed to the text but also bore the entire responsibility for the illustrations; Dr. A. Edward Maumenee, who is to be credited with a large share of the authorship; Dr. Theodore E. Sanders, Dr. John E. L. Keyes, Dr. Michael J. Hogan, who wrote or collaborated on one or several chapters; Drs. William C. and Ella U. Owens, who contributed text and illustrations on retrolental fibroplasia; Dr. Frederick H. Verhoeff, Colonel James E. Ash, Dr. Georgiana Dvorak Theobald, Dr. Algernon B. Reese and Dr. John S. McGavic, who acted as consultants, reviewing the manuscripts and suggesting revisions and additions; Dr. Benjamin Rones, who organized and took part in the conferences of the authors

and in the critical review; and Helen Knight Steward, who edited the manuscript and prepared it for press in addition to her regular assignment in the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. With no thought of reward other than that of seeing a much-needed work well done, the members of the Committee on Revision of the Atlases, the authors, and the contributors of time and material to the production of the Atlas and Textbook of Ophthalmic Pathology have exemplified to the highest degree the spirit of unselfish cooperation that so typically distinguishes the medical profession and its devotion to the cause of education.

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