Opaque lens matter are protruding from the opening in the capsule and filling the anterior chamber, is a mistaken use of the term." I find them bewildering. To what extent can a lens swell when its capsule is intact? A lens capsule which has been needled, however imperfectly, may be "practically intact," according to Mr. Hepburn's nomenclature; but it is not intact; and if a needled lens imbibles fluid, and thereby becomes more bulky than it was before needling, surely "swelling" is an appropriate name for the process.

If my memory serves me, the experiments of Sir J. H. Parsons, referred to by Mr. Hepburn, consisted in passing a needle or knife across the vitreous chamber to wound the retina and choroid at the opposite side of the globe, and were conducted in association with a study of the scars produced by metallic foreign bodies. The conditions here are scarcely comparable with those of the posterior needling operation. In any case, my paper was not concerned with theoretical considerations of what might or should happen, but with the practical question of what does happen.

Finally, while I recommend the posterior needling operation primarily just because I believe it to be the "safest and best for the patient," I think that questions of cost in time and money are not irrelevant in the choice of an operation. To most of our patients in Glasgow, and I fancy in London, expense is an important consideration, and, hospital waiting-lists being what they are, anything which reduces the demand for beds is usually welcomed.

Yours faithfully,

A. J. BALLANTYNE.

11, SANDYFORD PLACE,
GLASGOW, C.3, OCTOBER 20, 1936.

**OBITUARY**

FRANK CRESSWELL

It is with great regret that we record the death on October 6, of Mr. Frank Pearson Skeffington Cresswell of Cardiff. He was born at Dowlais, Glam., where his father had a great reputation as surgeon to the Dowlais Iron Works. Educated at Christ's College, Brecon, and at University College, Cardiff, he came to London for his medical training and entered Guy's Hospital. He took the B.Sc.Lond. in 1887 and qualified M.B., B.S., Lond. in 1893, proceeding to the F.R.C.S.Eng. in 1894. At Guy's he came under the influence of Charles Higgins and Brailey and, after a period
of post-graduate work at Utrecht, he became a clinical assistant at Moorfields. He returned to Wales to act as senior resident medical officer to the Cardiff Infirmary, and on the expiration of this appointment started to practise as an ophthalmic surgeon in Cardiff.

Cresswell joined the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom in 1899 and served for a period on the council. Practising, as he did, in a large mining centre, he became a recognised authority on miners’ nystagmus and though he did not write much, his opinion was sought and valued over a wide area.

In addition to a large private practice, Cresswell held many hospital appointments, the chief of which was that of ophthalmic surgeon to the Cardiff Infirmary. He was also attached to the Aberdare and Merthyr Hospitals as consultant in eye cases and he was surgeon to the South Wales Institute for the Blind, as well as ophthalmic referee for cases in South Wales and Monmouthshire. He had been at one time hon. secretary to the Cardiff Medical Society and, until he reached the retiring age, he was lecturer in ophthalmology to the Welsh National Medical School.

LIEUT.-COL. R. H. ELLIOT, I.M.S.

Robert Henry Elliot, who died on November 9, had a distinguished career in more ways than in ophthalmology. The son of a Colonel in the Army he was educated at Bedford School and St. Bartholomew’s Hospital. He had a brilliant career as a student and qualified M.B., Lond. in 1890, with honours in obstetrics and forensic medicine. In the following year he took the B.S., again with honours. He passed the examinations for the F.R.C.S., Eng. and the D.P.H., Cantab. in 1892, and proceeded M.D., Lond. in 1895. In 1904 he became D.Sc., Edin.

Elliot entered the Indian Medical Service and was Montefiore medallist and scholar in military surgery and Maclean prize-man at Netley in 1892.

His work in India naturally led to a very large experience in operative ophthalmology which resulted in his being Superintendent of the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras, for ten years, 1904-1914. During this period he was also Professor of Ophthalmology at the Madras Medical College. He became a life member of the Ophthalmological Society in 1902. At the Seventeenth International Congress of Medicine in 1913 he was a reporter on the subject of operations for glaucoma.

On his return to this country he settled at 54, Welbeck Street, and rapidly acquired a very large practice. In 1917, Elliot was Hunterian Professor at the Royal College of Surgeons, and his lectures on “the Indian Operation of Couching for Cataract”