Transactions of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom. Vol. LIV. London: J. and A. Churchill, Limited. 1934.

The 54th volume of *Transactions* appeared with commendable punctuality at the end of last year, and contains the record of the last Congress with the reports of affiliated Societies. It makes a most interesting volume. The Council's report shows that the Society is in a prosperous condition. There are 562 members and eight honorary members. Six members died last year, including Mr. Lawford and Dr. Maddox, and the President, Mr. Mayou, and 28 new members were elected during the year. We note that Mr. R. Foster Moore is the President for the coming year.

An album of photos of Past Presidents has been presented by Mr. Leslie Paton, and Dr. A. H. H. Sinclair has presented a case for the Presidential regalia. An appeal for subscriptions to the Treacher Collins Memorial Fund was launched towards the end of the year and the response to date has been satisfactory.

CORRESPONDENCE

**Vogt's paper on "Catholysis as a New Technique for
Operative Closure of Holes in the Retina and for
Treatment of its Detachment"**

Brit. Jl. of Ophthalm., Vol. XVIII, p. 650, 1934.

To the Editors of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

SIRS,—It is likely that it escaped Vogt's attention that Imre discussed the application of this method to cases of retinal detachment at a meeting of the Hungarian Ophthalmological Society in 1932, after having already had one year's experience with the method. There was no detailed publication on Imre's results in German, but a short account of the above mentioned discussion can be found in the following periodicals: *Klin. Monatsbl. f. Augenheilk.*, Vol. LXXXIX, p. 545, 1932; *Zentralbl. f. d. ges. Ophthalm.*, Vol. XXVIII, p. 575, 1933.

Although it is not mentioned in reports of the International Ophthalmological Congress at Madrid, I have been informed by Imre that in his discussion there he demonstrated fundus pictures of several cases treated by electrolysis.

When Imre tried his method, his idea was that when electrolysis was used alkali appeared at the positive pole, thus the small

amount of hydroxyl-ions which appeared as a result of electrolysis could give rise to an adhesive choroiditis. He says, that "Die alkalische Wirkung kann aber ganz genau dosiert werden, wenn das abzugrenzende Gebiet durch Einstich von 6-10 feinsten, zur elektrolytischen Epilation gebrauchter Nadeln umgrenzt wird, welche dann mit dem positiven Pol verbunden werden. Auf diese Weise werden Hydroxylionen frei..." May, 1932. This theory has since been experimentally proved by other research workers.

The changes caused by this very delicate alkaline reaction are not very great even where the treatment is continued longer than the time recommended by Vogt, but in spite of the relative mild alkaline reaction the choroiditis produced by electrolysis shows a slowly progressive character resulting in a relatively lively pigmentation. This pigmentation, however, seems to show no further progress after three months.

Yours truly,

MIKLÓS KLEIN.

BUDAPEST,

December 5, 1934.

NOTES

Death

WE regret to record the death of Dr. George M. Harston in Putney at the end of last year, at the age of 61 years. George Montague Harston was educated at Charing Cross Hospital and qualified in 1898. He took the M.B.Lond. in 1904 and proceeded M.D. in 1906, in 1914 he obtained the D.O.Oxon. He practised in the Far East, was ophthalmic surgeon to the Hong Kong Hospital and lecturer in ophthalmology at the Hong Kong University. He was our representative for China on the General Editorial Committee and he contributed occasional articles to our columns. Harston became a member of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom in 1910.

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The
William Mackenzie
Memorial Medal, 1935

THE William Mackenzie Medal has been
awarded to Miss Ida Mann.