(15) De Ruyter, J. (The Hague).—Aetiology of senile cataract. (*Ursachen des Altersstaes*). *Ophthalmologica*, Vol. CII, pp. 93-103; and 146-163, August and September, 1941.

(15) De Ruyter's article, whilst not containing any personal observations, is a useful survey of the recent literature on the pathogenesis of cataract. The article contains 81 references.

ARNOLD SORSBY.

CORRESPONDENCE

PRESCRIBING OF SPECTACLE LENSES

To the Editors of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

SIRS,—The attention of the Council of British Ophthalmologists has been drawn to the difficulty which the Services and the Ministry of Health are experiencing in obtaining spectacle lenses to supply their urgent needs, and it has been suggested that the situation could be helped by a simplification of the prescriptions supplied by civilian ophthalmic surgeons.

The Council has considered the question and makes the following recommendations:—

1. That the prescribing of lens powers in steps less than 0.25 D. (which is to say, lens powers commonly referred to as "eighth sights," e.g., 0.87 D.) be discontinued.
2. That the prescribing of prisms be reduced to a minimum.
3. That in the higher ranges, say above 4 dioptries, the prescribing of lens power in steps less than 0.5 D. be reduced to a minimum.

The above recommendations were adopted by the Army some time ago, and the Council is assured that their wide adoption in civilian practice would materially aid the situation.

I have the honour to be, Sirs,

Your obedient servant,

FRANK W. LAW.

*Honorary Secretary, Council of
British Ophthalmologists.*

36, DEVONSHIRE PLACE,
LONDON, W.1

March 23, 1943