LUMINOUS FRAME FOR RETINOSCOPY*

BY

E. NELKEN

From the Department of Ophthalmology, Hadassah University Hospital, Jerusalem, Israel

THE purpose of this device is to enable the precise angle of astigmatism to be read in the darkroom during retinoscopy. For this purpose the scale of the frame and the markings of the lenses are painted with a reflecting substance, which has the property of returning light directly back to its source. This substance will show up brightly in the dark, when illuminated with a weak light and viewed from behind the light source. This principle is the same as that used in some traffic signs which are visible in the dark to the driver seated behind the headlights of his car.

FIGURE.—Luminous trial frame with cylinder lens as the examiner sees it during retinoscopy. The axis of the cylinder lens is clearly visible at 180°.

The visibility of the scale enables the examiner to read off the angle of the astigmatic shadow band directly on the scale. The size of the numbers is such that they may be easily read by the examiner at a distance of one metre. The axis line of the cylinder lenses is also visible, so that it is possible to see and to check the position of the lenses during retinoscopy.

The numerical strength of all lenses, spherical as well as cylindrical, can also be checked during the examination in the darkroom.

The luminous frame and the lenses are manufactured by Theodore Hamblin Ltd., Wigmore Street, London, W.1.

* Received for publication October 20, 1958.