deposit on capsular remnants, and to aid materially in the absorption of cortex. On the day following operation, aluminium shields, one for each eye, are substituted for the dressing. The shield belonging to the eye which had been operated upon, is furnished with a window of amber glass, the other being merely a skeleton, as it were, intended mainly to keep the first shield in position. Patients are not confined to bed after the second day.

Of the 133 eyes trephined during the year, 17 were blind and painful from glaucoma, and the operation was successful in lowering tension and relieving pain in 14 of these cases.

Details are also included of 22 eyes which had been trephined for upwards of two years. Two eyes in a patient operated upon six years before, had excellent vision after removal of the cataractous lenses. Of four eyes, operated upon five years previously, one showed marked improvement, two were blind prior to operation and remained so, but with low tension, and one obtained fair sight after the lens had been extracted. Of six eyes of four years’ duration, three had failed from irido-cyclitis, one had excellent vision, one obtained good sight after extraction of a cataractous lens, and one remained blind. Among nine of three years duration, vision failed to improve, but tension remained low, in two the glaucoma was cured, but the eyes were blind from diabetic retinitis, two were very much improved, and in one good sight was obtained after removal of a cataract. Finally, in one eye examined two years after trephining, the operation had failed from chronic iritis.

It is of interest to note that 12 eyes were trephined for retinitis pigmentosa, and that the results, upon the whole, were encouraging. For instance, five of the eyes were improved, three being markedly so. Seven eyes were unaltered, but four of these were blind before operation.

S. S.

OBITUARY

Theodor Leber
(1840-1917)

The unexpected death of Theodor Leber, formerly professor of ophthalmology in the University of Heidelberg, is announced. The loss of this most distinguished scientist will be widely and deeply deplored.

Leber was born on February 29, 1840, at Carlsruhe, and died on April 7, 1917, at Heidelberg.
In 1865 Leber published his first important work dealing with the blood-vessels of the human eye, the material for which he had gathered in the laboratory of Karl Ludwig in Vienna. For some years he was assistant to R. Liebreich, in Paris. By a somewhat curious coincidence the last work from Leber's pen was an account of the life and work of Liebreich, which was published in the same number of the Klinische Monatsblätter für Augenheilkunde that contained his own obituary notice.

Leber worked with Albrecht v. Graefe for nearly four years, and in a very real sense may be said to have continued the life-work of his master. Much of his work dealt with physiological and pathological problems. In Britain he was perhaps best known as an authority upon inflammation of the eye, a subject he took for his address when he delivered the Bowman Lecture of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom, on June 10, 1892. That address ("On the present position of our knowledge of inflammation with especial reference to inflammation of the eye") was of a comprehensive and most scientific nature. It took up the
subject of inflammation generally, and set forth clearly the influence of micro-organisms and their products in the process. It brought into prominence the fact that certain pure chemical substances had capabilities of calling forth purulent inflammation similar to that due to the products of micro-organisms. It was shown that in the eye some chemicals, as mercury and copper, had the power of inducing aseptic inflammation. It insisted upon the essential difference between this kind of suppuration and that set up by micro-organisms, namely, that suppuration in the former had not the same power of extension as in the latter. In other words, "the inflammation caused in the eye by chemical agents remains more or less limited to the affected area."

Leber's activities, however, were by no means confined to subjects of pathological importance. He was an inspiring teacher and a most acute clinical observer. His name is well-known in connection with leucæmic retinitis, the ocular complications of diabetes mellitus, conjunctivitis petrificans, and especially with hereditary neuritis and atrophy ("Leber's disease"). Abundant evidences of his clinical acumen are to be found in Leber's contributions to the Graefe-Saemisch Handbuch, the Heidelberg Ophthalmological Society, and to the Archiv für Ophthalmologie, of which he was one of the editors. In 1896 he was presented by the Ophthalmological Society of Heidelberg with the Graefe Prize in recognition of the value of the work he had accomplished in ophthalmology.

A list of Leber's scientific contributions, which number upwards of one hundred, may be found in Klinische Monatsblätter für Augenheilkunde, Bd. LVIII (1917). A sympathetic account of his life and work by A. Wagenmann was published in the Archiv für Ophthalmologie of June 25, 1917.

For the following we are indebted to Mr. Priestley Smith:—

Through the death of Theodor Leber we lose a scientific leader to whose work during the last fifty years modern ophthalmology is heavily indebted.

Born in 1840, he became in due time a student at the University of Heidelberg, and thereupon elected to devote himself to natural science. Botany was at first his chief interest, but offered no substantial prospects. Chemistry he was advised against, and so he turned to medicine. He was fortunate in his opportunities. Helmholtz, then Professor of Physiology at Heidelberg, was one of his teachers; Hermann Knapp introduced him to ophthalmology; his examinations over he studied under Ludwig in Vienna, and under Virchow in Berlin. By the time he was 24 years of age he had done original work of lasting value. In 1865 a communication to the Heidelberg Ophthalmological Society on the blood-vessels of
the eye attracted general attention and brought him an invitation from R. Liebreich to come to Paris as his assistant; he held that post for several years. An assistantship under Helmholtz he declined, having gone so far in ophthalmology, and when, on leaving Paris, he went to Berlin as assistant to von Graefe, the influence of that inspiring teacher confirmed his devotion to ophthalmology, then rapidly developing on scientific lines. From 1871 onwards, as a Professor, and a Director of a University Eye Clinic—in Göttingen for nearly 20 years and thereafter in his own University of Heidelberg—he had those enviable opportunities of combining clinical work with original research which he desired. In 1910 he resigned his position as a teacher to devote himself entirely to scientific work. Though latterly in failing health he was clear and keen to the last. Only 14 days before his death he completed a long obituary notice of his one-time teacher, Liebreich. His death came suddenly and unexpectedly through a heart attack in April of the present year.

His life and labours have been described by two of those who were for a long time his assistants in the Heidelberg Clinic (see von Graefe's Archiv and Klin. Monatsbl. f. Augenheilk.). The present writer knew him through meeting him many times in professional and social gatherings, and through visiting his Clinic and enjoying the hospitality of his home in Heidelberg.

The quality of Leber's work reveals the nature of the man. A large part of what we know of the circulation, nutrition-processes and changes of fluid in the eye we owe to him. To this subject he returned again and again, testing and retesting his own conclusions, devising new methods of experiment, and carefully considering the work of others. His first comprehensive work dealing with the whole matter appeared in the Graefe-Saemisch Handbuch in 1876. Elaborated in many directions it reappeared in the second edition of the same work in 1903. Only three years later he had re-investigated a number of subordinate points on which doubts had been suggested (see his "Fresh Experiments on the Change of Fluid in the Eye," von Graefe's Archiv, Vol. 64, Part I). He took immense pains to arrive at correct results. He had no exceptional eloquence as a speaker or facility as a writer, but when himself convinced he stated his results with confidence devoid of self-assertion. Leber's conclusions in this field of work are not universally accepted, and of course they are not final, but those who dispute them will be wise to elaborate their researches with equal care.

Though devoted to ophthalmology, Leber's outlook was not that of a specialist. He used the eye as a field for the study of physical and pathological processes of a general nature. In his classical work on the Causes of Inflammation (see abstract in Ophthalmic Review
of 1891 and 1892, and Bowman Lecture of 1892) he confirmed Cohnheim's doctrine of pus-formation by migration of white blood corpuscles, demonstrated chemotaxis, and explained the occurrence and importance of toxins. His work in this field has largely influenced practice.

In view of its quality, the amount of original work he did is truly astounding. The titles of his papers would fill half a dozen of these pages. Yet he was an energetic clinician, keen as to detail in every case, transferring his responsibility unwillingly to others, and of untiring patience. The explanation is that his work was the one absorbing interest of his life. The care of his garden appears to have been his chief recreation and even on his holidays he spent the half of each day among his papers and books. Since the death of their founder, Leber edited von Graefe's Archiv. The re-writing of the chapter on Diseases of the Retina for the second edition of the Graefe-Saemisch Handbuch was begun after his seventieth birthday, and after nearly six years of work, he had the satisfaction of seeing it completed.

What Leber did for ophthalmology lies not only in his published work. His example influenced a large number of pupils and assistants. He was no stern task-master; his rebuke for careless work was to take it upon himself and to do it thoroughly. He encouraged those who worked with him, and rejoiced in their success. He had no children but was happy in the help and sympathy of a devoted wife.

The events of the last three years have placed a bar between our race and his, but they have not diminished our indebtedness to him. It is at once a duty and a grateful task to pay a tribute to his memory in these pages.

The deaths of the following ophthalmic surgeons are announced from the United States:

W. J. Neill, Chicago, 66 years; O. W. A. Schirmer, New York, 52 years; C. G. Reilly, Los Angeles, 58 years; A. C. Posey, Hanford, Cal., 68 years; E. M. McCabe, New Haven, Conn., 53 years; and S. R. Robinson, Sturgis, Mich., 65 years.

Pedro Lagleyze, who died on August 1, 1916, was of French extraction, and was born in Buenos Ayres in 1855. He studied medicine in his native place and graduated in 1882. From 1889-1916 he was professor of ophthalmology and chief of the ophthalmological clinic in Buenos Ayres, having served for five years previously to 1889 as assistant professor to Aguine. Lagleyze took part in many congresses; amongst others he represented Buenos Ayres in medicine at Washington in 1893, and he represented the
Argentine University at the second congress in 1904. He was present at the Congress in Monte Video in 1907, and at that held in Naples in 1909. He was founder and first president of the Society of Ophthalmology of Buenos Ayres, and a corresponding member of various foreign ophthalmological societies; in 1911 the high honour was accorded him of being elected president of the Academy of Medicine in his native city. His writings were numerous and covered a large field. He has been succeeded by Demaria.

Professor Boleslaus Wicherkiewicz, director of the University Eye Clinic in Cracow, died in Vienna, aged 67 years, on January 7, 1916. The son of a medical man, he was born at Kcynia (Exin) on July 7, 1847. He studied in Berlin. Wicherkiewicz served as assistant surgeon in the Franco-Prussian War, and on the conclusion of peace returned to Berlin and took his medical degree. He soon decided to devote himself to ophthalmology, and first settled in Breslau. He studied in London under Critchett, senior, Couper, Bowman, and others, and after that worked in Paris with Panas, Wecker, and Sichel. He then opened a private clinic in Posen. In 1895 he was transferred to Cracow. He founded the Postep Okulistyczny, belonged to numerous ophthalmological societies, and was the correspondent of many foreign eye journals.

We have also to announce the death of E. Pergens, who was born, practised, and died at the Belgian town of Maeseyck. He made many investigations dealing with optotypes, and wrote extensively on the historical aspects of general medicine and ophthalmology. He was a foundation member of the Oxford Ophthalmological Congress, and attended at least one meeting of that body. He possessed an important library of ophthalmological books.

Heinrich Schiess, of Basle, has died at Grebs, at the age of 81 years. He studied at the Universities of Basle and Würzburg. Inspired by A. von Graefe, he took up ophthalmology in 1861 at Basle, where in 1864 he founded the eye institute with the modest number of six beds. His last years were saddened with threatened blindness.

Dr. Guiata, director of the University Eye Clinic in Florence, and for many years editor of the Annali di Ottalnologia, is dead.

Friedrich Loeffler, the noted bacteriologist, has died at the age of 63 years.

Another famous bacteriologist, Paul Ehrlich, has died at a comparatively early age at Bad Homburg. His name is inseparably bound up with the discovery of salvarsan.

v. Prowaczek, who first described the inclusion bodies of trachoma, has succumbed from typhus at the age of 40 years.
The deaths of the following German and Austrian ophthalmologists are announced:

Professor Hermann Schmidt-Rimpler died, at the age of 77 years, in September, 1915. He had been closely associated with Albrecht von Graefe. To begin with, he was a military surgeon, but later became for a time chef de clinique to Graefe. He was attached to the Berlin Charité. Schmidt-Rimpler afterwards went to Marburg, and then to Göttingen and to Halle. He finally retired owing to the disabilities entailed by cataract. His published communications were both numerous and important. Their titles occupy some eight pages of the Klinische Monatsblätter für Augenheilkunde (January, 1916), in which a notice of him appears by Axenfeld.

Professor R. Ulrich, of Königsberg, aged 67 years, known for his researches on the exchange of the intra-ocular fluids.

Conrad Froelich succumbed to pneumonia, in Berlin, at the age of 67 years.

Adolf Nieden, of Bonn, at the age of 70 years. He was once assistant to Saemisch. In 1874 he settled in Bochum as an ophthalmic surgeon, and left for Bonn in 1902. His investigations upon miners' nystagmus are well known, as are also his several publications upon occupational diseases of the eye.

Professor Birnbacher, of Graz, at the age of 64 years. Specially noteworthy was his investigation of the vortex veins in glaucoma, published jointly with Czermak.

Professor Goldzieher died, at the age of 67 years, on June 15, 1916. He was born at Köpcsény (Hungary), studied in Vienna and Heidelberg, and acted as assistant to O. Becker in the last-named city. He took part in the campaign of 1870-71. He settled in Budapest in 1875. He wrote the first Hungarian textbook of ophthalmology (1890) and edited the Szemészeti Lapok. He was a gifted clinical observer, and was probably the first to describe the affections now commonly known as "Parinaud's conjunctivitis," "Retinitis circinata," and "v. Hippel's disease."

Emil Bock was born in 1857 in Galicia, and worked under v. Stellwag-Carion for several years. In 1889 he settled as an ophthalmic surgeon in Laibach, where he died recently. He was prolific writer and deeply interested in music and the fine arts.

Arthur von Hippel, of Göttingen, died immediately after he had attained his seventy-fifth birthday. On the recommendation of Arlt, he became an eye surgeon, and in 1869, then being aged 38 years, he was called to Giessen, where he became director of the clinic. He succeeded Jacobson as professor of ophthalmology in Königsberg in 1890, but two years later he went to Halle as successor to Alfred Graefe. He was widely known for his work on corneal transplantation, for the performance of which he devised a clock-work trephine.
During the last ten years he devoted much attention to tuberculous affections of the eye, and the principles of treatment by tuberculin laid down by him have been widely adopted. The last few years of v. Hippel's life were clouded by trouble, both of a domestic and a personal nature. He was succeeded in the Göttingen chair by his son, E. v. Hippel, the present incumbent of the office.

Professor W. Schoen, of Leipzig, at the age of 69.
C. Hirsch, of Prague.
Dr. Krüger, of Frankfort.
Max Schur, who was born at Kitzingen, in 1885, and who died at Neu-Gaiseanka (Roumania) in 1916, had been for a long time assistant in the eye clinic of Tübingen.

Professor Treitel, of Königsberg, well-known for his researches into the light-sense.
F. Ritter v. Arlt, of Vienna, the son of a celebrated father, whose name is familiar to every ophthalmologist.
Adolf Weber, of Darmstadt, at the age of 86 years. The son of a medical man, he was born in Giessen. In 1848 he attended the local University, where he at first pursued the study of chemistry, but later took up medicine. Owing to the influence of v. Graefe, Weber decided to devote himself to ophthalmology. In 1855 he settled as an ophthalmic surgeon in Darmstadt, and in 1860 erected a private clinic. His name was closely associated with the treatment of lacrimal affections, of corneal ulcers, and of high myopia, while he did pioneer work as regards the aetiology of glaucoma.
Jacob Stilling, of Strassburg, at the age of 72 years. The son of a celebrated medical man, Benedikt Stilling, he was born at Cassel. He studied in the Universities of Göttingen, Marburg, Würzburg, and Berlin. Stilling wrote extensively upon colour-vision, myopia, and glaucoma. He took much interest in the therapeutic properties of the anilin dyes.
Clemens Harms, of Tübingen, was killed on July 23, 1915, on the Polish front. He was born in September, 1875, at Kloster Weinharsen, near Celle, Hanover, and worked for two years with Uthhoff, in Breslau. He settled at Tübingen in 1905, and shortly before the outbreak of war was appointed extraordinary professor.

NOTES

TEMPORARY SURGEON-GENERAL M. T.
YARR has been granted the K.C.M.G.
William T. Lister, C.M.G., has been appointed Hunterian Professor for the ensuing year by the Royal College of Surgeons of England.