- (3) Dupuy-Dutemps and Périn.—Transitory spasmodic myopia due to arsenobenzol. (*Myopie spasmodique transitoire arsénobenzolique.*) *Ann. d'Ocul.*, Vol. CLXIII, p. 123, 1926.

(3) Dupuy-Dutemps and Périn report two cases of the occurrence of a moderate amount of myopia—up to about 3 dioptries—within about twelve hours of the time of injection of an ordinary dose of arsenobenzol. The patients were aged thirty-seven and thirty years. This spasm of the ciliary muscle was unassociated with any action upon the pupil or its reflexes. The duration of the spasm was about forty-eight hours. In one case, one eye alone was affected after one injection, but both eyes suffered after the next injection. The onset of the spasm is heralded by headache and sometimes by nausea.

HUMPHREY NEAME.

CORRESPONDENCE

ANGIECTASIS

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

SIR,—In the BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY for February, 1928, Dr. Adalbert Fuchs describes a condition resembling inflammatory glaucoma under the heading of angiectasis of the eyeball. I was much interested, for I have seen two cases very much resembling his description. I looked upon it as a manifestation of a general condition and discovered that both had polycythaemia vera.

In the first case, a woman, aged 54 years, all ophthalmic veins must have been enlarged as the ciliary and retinal were; for the lids were tense and prominent, the globe protruding and set so tightly in the orbit that movement of the eyeball was limited. The dilated and tortuous ciliary veins suggested at once glaucoma, but with no evidence of inflammatory process. The discs were hyperaemic with well marked edges, and numerous very fine capillaries on the surface. The retinal veins immediately arrested attention by their beautiful dark brown mahogany colour, standing well up so that their full roundish contour could be seen. Barring the colour they resembled firemen's hose in action. The full choroidal veins gave the fundi a rather rich, reddish brown appearance; nothing else pathological in the fundi. The retinal blood picture was extreme, for haemoglobin was over 116 per cent.,

volume of blood was not estimated but 45 oz. were removed at the time with an improvement in the general condition and recession of proptosis and swelling in the lids.

The second case was a man, aged 48 years. He fell in a fit when going to work. Examination of eyes and eye grounds resembled the first case but in a moderate degree, full anterior ciliary and full rich brown mahogany retinal veins like firemen's hose, well cut disc but hyperaemic reddish brown choroid, no pathological fundus changes. Haemoglobin 110 per cent., red blood cells 7,000,000.

I have seen several cases of polycythaemia vera since and feel that their fundi have a pathological entity of their own.

Yours very truly,

E. H. SAUNDERS.

VANCOUVER, B.C.,

March 15, 1928.

NOTES

North of England
Ophthalmological
Society

AT the annual meeting of the North of England Ophthalmological Society, the following officers were elected for the year 1928-1929 :—President, J. D. Wardale (Newcastle-on-Tyne); Vice-President, Thomas Snowball (Burnley); Council, A. T. Paterson (Newcastle-on-Tyne), J. A. Ross (Carlisle); Treasurer, W. H. Kiep (Bradford); Secretary, Percival J. Hay (Sheffield).

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Appointment

WE note with pleasure that Mr. A. H. SINCLAIR has been appointed Honorary Surgeon Oculist to His Majesty's Medical Household in Scotland.

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Corrigenda

DR. GEORGE YOUNG'S appointment as Hon. Ophthalmic Surgeon on page 174 to the Clacton and District Cottage Hospital, should have been that of Hon. Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon.

In Dr. McCurry's paper, published in our last issue, on p. 184, the second line should read: "E. Holn⁽²⁰⁾ after seeing Löhlein's article, which confirmed Finlay and Carvill's finding, made independent investigations."