May 10 saw the centenary of the death of Thomas Young, who ranks with Newton as one of the wonders of the world. It is fitting that a brief note of this anniversary should be made in an ophthalmological journal, for Young's contributions to ophthalmology, though perhaps undervalued in his lifetime, are recognized the world over to-day.

No better account of Young's ophthalmological contributions exists than that in the memoir contributed to the 19th volume of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital Reports. Here it is only necessary to recall his work which resuscitated and put the coping stone on previous work on the undulatory theory of light, his ingenious and far-reaching experiments in corpore vili which laid the foundation of the astigmatic side of human optics, and his work on colour vision, which, elaborated by Helmholtz, is known as the Young-Helmholtz theory. But besides his fundamental work for our speciality we may recall that in connection with the nautical almanac, and finally his epoch-making researches on the Rosetta stone. Champollion, the French savant, shares the honour of these researches into the hieroglyphics of ancient Egypt, but the priority belongs to Young.

Young's memory is truly one of the chief glories of English science: he was "a man alike eminent in almost every department of human learning."

COUNCIL OF BRITISH OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Annual Report

The Council presents its report for the Session 1928-29. At the first meeting the following were elected as officers:—President: Mr. J. Herbert Fisher; Vice-Presidents: Sir John Parsons, Sir William Lister; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. M. S. Mayou; Hon. Secretary: Mr. Frank Juler.

The following were appointed to serve on the Executive Committee: The President and Secretary (ex officiis) with Sir John Parsons, Sir William Lister, Mr. M. S. Mayou and Mr. W. H. McMullen.

A Committee enquired into the conditions under which children from extra-metropolitan areas are admissible into the White Oak Ophthalmia School at Swanley, Kent. The Council adopted the report of the Committee, and copies were sent to the Ministry of Health, the Board of Education and the Metropolitan Asylums
Board. Replies have now been received, and the Council is asking the Ministry of Health to receive a deputation.

A further interim report on Industrial Eye Diseases and Injuries has been prepared and presented to the Council by the Committee appointed to investigate this subject. The Council hopes that further useful information will be available in a year’s time; in the meantime permission has been given for some of the work done to be published, and this has been incorporated in a paper read at the Annual Congress of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom.

A Committee has been appointed to enquire into the constitution and working of the so-called Refraction Hospitals.

Certain questions of ophthalmic interest have been referred to the Council and have received due consideration.

With a view to enlarging its membership, the Council recommends that there be an increase in the number of members elected annually, and that the rules drawn up for the work of the Council be altered so that there shall be twelve members elected annually, five by the Council of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom, five by the Council of the Section of Ophthalmology, Royal Society of Medicine, and two by the Oxford Ophthalmological Congress. The Council also recommends an alteration of the rules so that the Executive Committee shall consist of eight members, instead of six, as heretofore.

The Council desires to thank the Council of the Royal Society of Medicine for the use of rooms for meetings, and the National Committee for the Prevention of Blindness (U.S.A.) for continuing to send copies of its publications.

As in former years, the expenses of the Council have been defrayed by contributions from its members.

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1929

The Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom held its Annual Congress in London at the House of the Royal Society of Medicine, from April 11—13, under the presidency of Mr. Charles Howard Usher.

The Transactions of the Society publish a full account of the papers and discussions: merely an indication of these is given here.

The first paper was read by Mr. Treacher Collins on "Formative fibrous tissue reaction in the eye." Mr. Treacher Collins classified the conditions giving rise to this reaction as follows: