COUNCIL OF BRITISH OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Annual Report

The Council presents its report for the year 1931-32. At the first meeting the following were elected as officers:—President, Mr. J. Herbert Fisher; Vice-Presidents, Sir J. Herbert Parsons, Mr. Bernard Cridland; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. M. S. Mayou; Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. Affleck Greeves. The following were appointed to serve on the Executive Committee: The President and Secretary, (ex officiis) with Mr. Mayou, Mr. Juler, Mr. Levy, Mr. Williamson-Noble and Mr. Neame.

During the past year the chief item in the work of the Council of British Ophthalmologists, has been the preparation and issue of a report on the Certification of Blind Persons. It was a particular pleasure to be able to announce this in Edinburgh, in view of the fact that the Scottish ophthalmic surgeons have been, and still are, pioneers in this matter. The Committee which prepared our report received the most willing and valuable assistance from Dr. Ballantyne and Dr. Marshall, and it is on the system already doing such valuable work in Scotland that the recommendations are based. The report has been published in the Brit. Jl. of Ophthal. and received favourable consideration in all quarters. As the result of its transmission to the Ministry of Health, the President of the Council of British Ophthalmologists was co-opted on the Prevention of Blindness Committee of the Union of Counties Associations of the Blind, while it has formed the text upon which has been based a very exhaustive report by that Committee. It is to be hoped that in due time if the system for Examination and Certification of the Blind of the United Kingdom which has been adopted is put into operation, a reliable and scientific classification of the whole Blind Population will result in the solution of many anomalies and difficulties which exist, and indicate the steps which are necessary for the efficient treatment of eye disease and injury, and thus for the diminution of blindness.

Within the last few weeks a Sub-Committee has reported to the Council on Compensation for Eye Injuries. This report has been considered and after amendment received the approval of the Council: it will shortly be published in the Brit. Jl. of Ophthal.

The Council desires to thank the Council of the Royal Society of Medicine for the use of rooms for meetings.

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