something about the fields and the corrected visual acuity before saying very much."

These scrappy references and quotations require that the reviewer should apologise to the author, though, in the former's favour it may be said that, since nearly thirty columns of closely reasoned matter in the *Lancet* are involved, a book notice would be more suitable and distinctly more easy to write. And will not a book notice ultimately be required?

**Ernest Thomson.**

**BOOK NOTICES**


This report carries a step further the reports of similar but not identically constituted committees published by the Medical Research Council in 1922 and 1923; but that step is a very important one. The earlier committees had arrived at the conclusion that the factor of primary importance in the prevention of Miners' Nystagmus was the supply of adequate illumination, particularly for workers at the coal face. Measures based upon the recognition of this factor have, however, had no success in diminishing the amount which is being paid by coalowners in compensating sufferers from the disorder.

The present report confirms the previous findings as to the importance of adequate lighting if the physical jerking of the eyes is to be avoided, but points out that this feature may never have been noticed, or may have subsided, in many cases in which severe psychological symptoms of the disease exist, while on the other hand nystagmic jerking of the eyes is quite frequently present in miners still engaged in their work and in whom the incapacitating psychoneurotic symptoms may never develop.

The conclusion is reached, and it is a very important advance, that in Miner's Nystagmus we have to deal with a psychoneurosis allied to disabilities of this class in other industries, and to shell-shock. Accordingly, that the affected miner needs to be encouraged to do such work as he is capable of performing, and not allowed, or as at present even practically compelled to remain idle.

That, for patient or observer to concentrate on the cure of the physical manifestation of eye jerking is unjustified, and impedes recovery.

The report ends with the words: "The Committee are strongly of opinion that the practical treatment of the disease from an administrative point of view, should consist in the elimination of a hopeless
dependence on compensation by the provision of opportunities for work of some kind, the end in view being complete restoration to full work underground, under conditions of proper illumination, even if this has to be preceded by a period of work in daylight."


The 52nd volume of Transactions contains the papers read at the congress in Edinburgh last year, with Professor van der Hoeve's Bowman Lecture on "Ocular Movements," together with the report of the Oxford Ophthalmological Congress and the meetings of affiliated societies. It forms a volume of 604 pages and contains much that is of interest. We hope to notice some of the papers at greater length in future numbers.

The council's report shows that the membership of the society is 559, and the balance sheet and treasurer's report shows that the finances are in sound order.

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OBITUARY

F. A. C. TYRRELL

Francis Astley Cooper Tyrrell died on New Year's Day in London. He had not been well for some weeks, but his decease following a severe asthmatic attack was quite unexpected. It has come as a shock to his friends, who mourn his loss as that of a hard worker of proved ability and sound knowledge. With quiet unassuming modesty he got through a vast amount of work which was of real value to Londoners, concerned as it was with the ophthalmology of school children.

Tyrrell was 62 years of age. He was a student at Clare College, Cambridge, and at St. Thomas's Hospital, where he held a resident post under Mr. Lawford. He graduated M.B.(Camb.) in 1897, and took the F.R.C.S.(Eng.) in 1901. From 1904-1910 he worked as chief clinical assistant at Moorfields to Mr. E. Treacher Collins, whose memorial service he attended a few weeks before his death. His association with Collins persisted for many years, for, after being oculist to the London School Board, he was appointed one of the visiting surgeons under the Metropolitan Asylums Board in 1905 to the newly started trachoma schools at Swanley and Brentwood, where he attended daily for some years. Brentwood school was given up during the war, but Tyrrell continued as a surgeon to White Oak, Swanley, to the end of his life.