give for hyperopic astigmatism a correlation coefficient of $+0.144 \pm 0.01$ and for myopic astigmatism a coefficient of $+0.148 \pm 0.02$; the cylindrical increase for unit spherical increase being reduced to 0.25 D. The modal value of the non-astigmatic eye found by Brown by arithmetical methods was $+1.25$ D. The mathematical method gives $+1.35$ D., the discrepancy being of no importance.

Errors of refraction considered as material for the study of variation may serve to draw attention to the unexplored field of clinical anthropometry.

COUNCIL OF BRITISH OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Annual Report

The Council presents its report for the year 1933-34. At its first meeting the following were elected as Officers:—President, Mr. Leslie Paton; Vice-Presidents, Mr. P. H. Adams, Mr. A. C. Hudson; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. M. S. Mayou; Hon. Secretary, Mr. M. L. Hepburn. The following were appointed to serve on the Executive Committee:—The President and Secretary (ex-officio) with Mr. Greeves, Mr. Levy, Mr. Mayou, Mr. Neame and Mr. Russ Wood.

The Council has to record with great regret the death of Mr. J. B. Lawford. He was Treasurer of the Council when it was originally founded, and later he became President for the years 1920-23. He showed in the affairs of the Council the same conscientious thoroughness and high idealism which characterized his work in all other branches of Ophthalmology, and many important public matters were dealt with during his presidency.

Mr. Juler and Mr. Mayou were again asked to represent the Council on the Ophthalmic Committee of the British Medical Association; and Mr. Paton was appointed as representative on the Prevention of Blindness Committee which was rendered vacant owing to the death of Mr. Fisher.

Regarding the work of the Council during the year, several subjects have occupied their attention.

As a result of the Council's persistent efforts, the London County Council has granted permission for the students of all the London Hospitals to attend St. Margaret's Hospital for instruction in the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of ophthalmia neonatorum, and advantage has already been taken of this offer to the extent that 180 students have attended the Institution during the three months, October to December, 1933.
A Sub-Committee was appointed to enquire into and report on Dr. Roche's recommendations for the prevention of Miners' Nystagmus. The Council, having considered the report, made a few modifications, and it is proposed to forward the recommendations, as amended, to the proper quarter, if they are found to be helpful.

The Sub-Committee, which was appointed last year to investigate the question of qualifications considered necessary to render an Ophthalmic Surgeon eligible for appointment to the Staff of a Hospital, have presented their report, but no definite decisions have yet been arrived at, and the matter is still under the consideration of the Council.

Difficulties have arisen in working the National Ophthalmic Treatment Board scheme in some parts of the Kingdom, and have been brought to the notice of the Council. It has been in correspondence with the Medical Secretary of the British Medical Association in an endeavour to have these difficulties removed. The Council is still giving this matter their consideration.

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

The expenses of the Council have, as usual, been defrayed by contributions from its members.

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ABSTRACTS

I.—RETINA


Lindner describes interesting experiments which he has performed with a model eye in order to find out something about the mechanics of retinal detachment. The model consists of a round glass flask lined with a layer of celloidin containing enough aluminium powder to render it visible and slightly adherent. The flask in the first series of experiments is filled with fluid. If a hole is made in the celloidin in such a manner that the margin remains flat and does not protrude, nothing happens on rotating the flask. If, however, the hole is made so that its margins protrude, then on rotating the flask, the celloidin becomes detached. The application of this to the living eye is obvious, when one realizes that the majority of tears have a tag of retina pointing inwards towards the vitreous, and detachment could be prevented