

### OXFORD OPHTHALMOLOGICAL CONGRESS, 1918.

THE Oxford Ophthalmological Congress held its Ninth Annual Meeting at Oxford on Thursday, July 11, and Friday, July 12, last.

As in former years, members enjoyed the hospitality of Keble College, whilst the meeting proper was held in the Department of Human Anatomy, kindly lent for the purpose by Professor Arthur Thomson.

The proceedings opened at 10 a.m. on Thursday with an address by the Master, Mr. Sydney Stephenson, on "The History of the Congress."

The subject chosen by the Council for the annual discussion was "Ophthalmology and the War," the breadth of the title being such as to allow of both civil and military points of interest being introduced.

Sir William Job Collins, K.C.V.O., M.P., who had been invited to become the Doyne Memorial Lecturer for the year, opened the discussion, and in preliminary remarks, paid a just and sympathetic tribute to the late Robert W. Doyne, Founder of the Congress.

The address on the subject commanded the closest attention of the meeting, and a full discussion followed, in which the following took part: Lieut.-Col. R. H. Elliot (London), Capt. E. H. E. Stack, R.A.M.C., T., Miss Marion Gilchrist (Glasgow), Dr. T. Harrison Butler (Leamington Spa), Capt. P. H. Adams, R.A.M.C., T., Capt. Percival J. Hay, R.A.M.C., T., Capt. Thomson Henderson, R.A.M.C., Mr. R. J. Coulter (Newport, Mon.), Major A. C. Purchas, N.Z.M.C., Staff-Surg. Hanson, C.B.E, R.N.V.R., Capt. Whittington, R.A.M.C., Mr. J. Gray Clegg (Manchester), Dr. George Young (Colchester), and Mr. Bernard Cridland (Wolverhampton).

At the conclusion of the discussion, Sir William Collins was presented with the Doyne Memorial Medal.

A contribution by Lieut.-Col. R. H. Elliot on "Some useful devices in operative and other work" concluded the proceedings of the first day.

On Friday, July 12th, Sir William Barrett, F.R.S., read a valuable paper, accompanied by demonstrations and slides, on "Entoptic Vision." Sir William Barrett's work is well known on this subject, one which has since the introduction of the ophthalmoscope been far too much neglected by ophthalmologists, but as presented by him to the Congress is likely to be productive of valuable assistance to the practice of ophthalmology in the near future.

Col. Hanford McKee, C.M.G., C.A.M.C., followed with a paper entitled, "Some aspects of Military Ophthalmology," in which the

conclusions of a wide ophthalmic experience gained during the war from its beginning were given, and which should be of value to the highest administrative authorities.

The morning session concluded with two papers by Capt. Percival J. Hay, R.A.M.C., on:—(a) "Implantation of cartilage after excision or evisceration of the eye"; (b) "Vulcanite casts as a support for protheses," illustrated by slides, photographs of operative results, and radiograms.

In the afternoon cases were shown at the Eye Hospital by Captain P. H. Adams, R.A.M.C., T., and Dr. Orr, after which a paper by Lieut.-Col. Elliot on "Herpes Zoster Ophthalmicus" was read, followed by another, on "The Results of Cataract Operations," by Dr. T. Harrison Butler, both of which were discussed.

In the Scientific Museum, Sir William Barrett gave demonstrations with the entoptoscope and an optometer, Mr. Sydney Stephenson and Lieut.-Col. Elliot showed interesting microscopic sections, Capt. Thomson Henderson showed sections of monkeys' eyes with special reference to Descemet's membrane, and Captain Adams showed sections of horses' eyes with reference to a hitherto unknown disease causing blindness.

Capt. T. Henderson showed photographs of gun-shot injuries of the eyes and orbital regions, and also of contracted sockets improved by a suture operation which he described.

Captain Stack showed a combined perimeter and scotometer together with useful novelties.

Mr. R. J. Coulter showed improved test-types.

In the Commercial Museum various novelties were on view.

The contributions to the Congress will appear in the *Transactions of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom*, to which Society the Congress is now affiliated.

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## ANNOTATIONS.

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### The Welfare of Blinded Soldiers and Sailors

The splendid work carried out for blinded soldiers and sailors at St. Dunstan's Hostel is reviewed by Sir Arthur Pearson in the third annual report for the year ended March 31, 1918. The courage of these men admits of no doubt: it was shown on the field of battle, and since they have lost their sight they have to fight the battle of life in darkness, a form of heroism that needs to be renewed almost every hour of every day. St. Dunstan's is above all things a place of hope. There tragedy is turned to content and helplessness to capability. There courageous resolution overcomes seemingly