

BOOK NOTICES

Transactions of the American Ophthalmological Society. 1936.

The 72nd annual meeting of the American Ophthalmological Society was held at Hot Springs, Virginia, on June 1, 1936.

The transactions fill nearly 400 pages and besides recording the proceedings include obituary notices of several eminent American ophthalmic surgeons.

It is liberally illustrated and contains much of interest. We hope to abstract some of the more important papers in due course.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editors of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

DEAR SIRS,—May I be permitted to draw your readers' attention to an omission occurring in my paper on Doyne's Choroiditis, which appeared in the February issue of the *Brit. Jl. of Ophthal.*

I should have liked to call attention to the fact that the original fundus paintings of cases 3, 4, 6 and 7 are part of the University of Oxford Collection of fundus pictures, and may be seen at the Oxford Eye Hospital.

Yours faithfully,

M. TREE.

81, AMHURST PARK, N.16

February 11, 1937.

TRAINING IN ORTHOPTICS

To the Editors of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

DEAR SIRS,—It may interest your readers to know something of the work of the Orthoptic Board which was formed in 1934 and upon which many hospitals both in London and the Provinces are already represented. We are working under the auspices of the Council of British Ophthalmologists and have introduced a syllabus for the training of orthoptic students in the associated hospitals. The Board holds examinations twice a year, and upon its recommendation the Council of British Ophthalmologists is issuing certificates of proficiency to successful candidates. Students must, before commencing study, have passed the school certificate, the

senior certificate of the College of Preceptors or have matriculated at one of the senior Universities. They must be not less than 18 years of age. The course of training is for one year.

Those who are properly trained in the principles of orthoptics can develop the faculty of binocular vision to a surprising degree in patients in whom it is deficient, and many ophthalmic surgeons will agree that the results of treatment of squint cases can thereby be greatly improved. Unfortunately, it is also true that considerable harm can be done when training is carried out by those who do not fully understand the principles involved and the whole subject is thus brought into disrepute.

The Board is anxious that it should be as widely known as possible that there are a number of trained and qualified Orthoptists of good standing available for service.

Yours truly,

CHARLES LEONARD GIMBLETT,
Chairman.

NOTES

SOME facts about this man are to be found in Henry Blackburne, Charlatan Sloane MS. 3801, transcribed in the History of Ophthalmology in England prior to 1800, p. 54. It may be of interest to note that he received the Archbishop of Canterbury's licence to practise on August 9, 1605. Register Bancroft, fo. 133 b. The licence is of the usual type and is in Latin, the relevant parts of which are as follow:—

Henry Blackburne *in arte chirurgie Professor*. He was vouched for by certain doctors of medicine and his licence runs: *Ad practicandum igitur et exercendum in arte chirurgie et presentim in arte sive facultate curacionis morborum circa oculos incidentium.*

His licence allowed him to practise throughout the Province of Canterbury, with the exception of the diocese of London.

We are indebted to His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury for permission to record this note.

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AT the time of his death last year Dr. J. A. Wilson, of Cambuslang, who was one of our contributors, was preparing a History of Lanarkshire for publication. The first volume has recently been published by J. Wylie & Co., of Glasgow. It deals with the subject

History of
Lanarkshire