CORRESPONDENCE

INCOMPLETE SEX LINKAGE AND DYSTROPHIES OF THE MACULA

To the Editors of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

DEAR SIRs,—The paper by Mr. Arnold Sorsby and the genetic note by Dr. Hans Grüneberg on Dystrophies of the Macula which appear in your current number are of the greatest interest. The account of the M. Family suggests to me the presence of incomplete sex linkage. Incompletely sex linked factors are transmitted by a heterozygous parent to those children who are of the same sex as the affected grandparent. If we accept the chart on its face value this has occurred thirteen times out of a possible fourteen. Thus the doubtfully affected great-grandmother has ten affected female grand-children, assuming irregular manifestation in the deaf female in generation III. Her three sons in turn have four affected grand-children, three boys and a girl. Detailed study of the M. family may not confirm this suggestion, although as stated in the genetic note, incomplete sex linkage has been observed in retinitis pigmentosa. This peculiar mode of inheritance is not widely known amongst ophthalmologists.

Yours faithfully,

W. J. B. RIDDELL.

GLASGOW,
October 10, 1940.

RIBOFLAVIN

To the Editors of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

DEAR SIRs,—I am offering this brief note about riboflavin now, for two reasons—it has seemed to me to be of considerable value in certain cases, and present circumstances prevent me from making further trials. I hope that other ophthalmic surgeons will experiment with the product and test its usefulness further. Riboflavin is a derivative from vitamin B. It has no effect in the cure of pellagra but the want of it is attended with certain symptoms among which photophobia and superficial vascularisation of the cornea are marked. Several papers in American journals have drawn attention to this, and in one the authors stated that they had