CORRESPONDENCE**CHOROIDAL MELANOMA**

To the Editors of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

DEAR SIRs,—Mr. Foster Moore has very kindly shown us his letter (p. 46). The question of a congenital patch in the pigment epithelium was considered; but we had not thought such a patch could enlarge. The letter relieves my mind very much. Pritchard and I got to know and like the patient, and we had an unpleasantly guilty feeling that perhaps we were failing in our duty in not removing his eye. After Mr. Foster Moore's letter we shall watch the case with diminished apprehension.

Yours sincerely,

L. H. SAVIN.

LONDON,
December 16, 1942.

UNUSUAL CASES OF CONJUNCTIVITIS

To the Editors of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

DEAR SIRs,—I am grateful to Dr. J. Ruszkowski for pointing out the obvious omission of "artefact" in the differential diagnosis of the four unusual cases of conjunctivitis which I recently described in the *Brit. Jl. of Ophthalm.*, Vol. XXVI, p. 467. The possibility of a self-inflicted condition was, in fact, considered in each of these cases and was regarded as improbable.

As Dr. Ruszkowski notes, the localisation to one eye and the marked involvement of the lower fornix are highly suggestive. On the other hand the injection was not confined to this site but was also present beneath the upper lid and in the region of the canthi. Again, the superficial keratitis in two of the cases was of a type commonly associated with prolonged conjunctivitis, while in the two other cases the corneae remained unaffected throughout; in neither were there at any time the multiple grey opacities in the corneal epithelium which I have noted, particularly in the lower half of the cornea, in several cases where the diagnosis of a self-inflicted condition seemed reasonably sure.

I had each of these men under my care as an in-patient for many weeks. At no time was there any indication of trauma to the skin of the lids and it seemed difficult to suppose that such severe reaction could have been maintained without some such result. It is possible, of course, that soap or some other irritant was introduced

into the conjunctival sac, but of this, again, no suggestive evidence was forthcoming. Finally, each man happened to be of a particularly straightforward and direct type and I found it difficult to associate a self-inflicted disability with either.

I am, etc.,

E. F. KING.

Major, R.A.M.C.

December, 1942.

NOTES

Death

WE regret to record the death of William Herbert Lowry, of Toronto, on July 13, 1942.

An obituary notice appeared in the October number of the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* and from it the following facts are abstracted with the usual acknowledgements.

Born in 1880, the son of a doctor, he graduated M.D. at Toronto in 1901. Almost immediately he decided to practise ophthalmology, and after post-graduate study in London and Birmingham he was appointed to the staff of the Hospital for Sick Children, where, in 1919, he became chief ophthalmic surgeon. Ten years later he succeeded MacCallum as Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Toronto. Resigning the post in 1941 through ill-health he was elected Emeritus Professor. He served in the last Great War in England and Salonika and rose to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Lowry was a good sportsman, a fine shot, and he played golf and tennis well. "In the operating room he was deft and sure, with a conservative but hopeful outlook which meant much to his patients who held him in high esteem." He was also an earnest and painstaking teacher, particularly interested in undergraduate training.

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Royal Society of Medicine

THE meetings of the Section of Ophthalmology during the session 1942-43 will be held as follows:—

Friday, March 12, at 2.30 p.m.

Friday, April 30, at 5.0 p.m.

Friday, June 11, at 5.0 p.m.

Cases and specimens will be shown half-an-hour before the advertised times of the meetings.

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Special Notice

WE are asked by the Ministry of Information to state that the fact that goods made of raw materials in short supply owing to war conditions are advertised in this journal should not be taken as an indication that they are necessarily available for export.