most recent contribution, to my knowledge, is my paper, "The Mechanism of Aqueous Secretion in Mammalia," which appeared in the British Journal of Ophthalmology in January, 1941. Your reviewer has obviously not made himself acquainted with the demonstration presented there, for his criticisms and strictures are not only ill-judged but illuminated by prejudice and not by the light of reason.

I am, etc.,

THOMSON HENDERSON.

15, THE ROPEWALK,
NOTTINGHAM.
January 15, 1943.

MACULAR HOLE.

To the Editors of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

DEAR SIRs,—May I report another case similar to that described by Lieutenant Commander Pittar?

R. A., aged 13, attended a school clinic on Nov. 4, 1942, complaining of a black spot in his right vision. Vision was 6/12 6/5, the eyes emmetropic. There was oedema of the right macula. Thinking it might be an early central choroiditis I treated him with atropine and rest. The oedema gradually subsided, being replaced by an appearance of abnormal redness. About this time the boy's mother suggested that the trouble might be due to his having looked at the sun without protection.

On Dec. 30, there was a definite macular "hole" with clean cut edges, though vision was 6/18. This retention of fair vision is surprising, but one occasionally meets it in cases of old central choroiditis in which the ophthalmoscopic appearance suggests a total loss of central vision. No doubt it will deteriorate further.

Yours truly,

H. DOUGLAS SMART.

18, WIMPOLE STREET, W.1

SYMPATHETIC OPHTHALMITIS

To the Editors of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

DEAR SIRs,—On p. 572 of your Journal for December, 1942, a letter from Mr. T. Harrison Butler is published in which is described a case supposed to be one of sympathetic ophthalmitis. The interval of time between the date of excision of the exciting eye and that of the first signs of inflammation in the sympathising eye was

3½ months (April 10 to July 23). Improvement followed treatment by the end of August. In November recrudescence of inflammation occurred and glaucoma supervened. Excision of the eye was advised.

Surely this is a case above all others in which facts, if obtainable, are required. If enucleation of the eye has been carried out, I am sure that many of your readers would like to know the result of the histological examination. If this is unobtainable, I expect that many besides myself will prefer to regard "Mr. T. L., aged 69, a feeble, worn-looking man," whose doctor gave his opinion that he was "completely worn out and has been a heavy drinker" as the subject of irido-cyclitis with secondary glaucoma, due to some undefined cause other than sympathetic ophthalmitis. In support of this view, may I quote Mr. Harrison Butler's original article:— on p. 548 he says "before we can make a diagnosis (of sympathetic ophthalmitis) we must satisfy ourselves . . . that there is no other extraneous cause for the inflammation in the sympathising eye."

I am, Sirs,

Yours faithfully,

HUMPHREY NEAME.

21, DEVONSHIRE PLACE, W.1
February 1, 1943.

OBITUARY

PERCIVAL JOHN HAY

OPHTHALMOLOGISTS throughout the world will read with regret of the death of Dr. P. J. Hay, of Sheffield.

Percival John Hay was born on June 28, 1875 at Basle, Switzerland. His father was John Hay, a Scotsman, who became Professor of English in Basle University, and his mother was from the Manchester district of Lancashire. Hay was educated at Basle and before commencing Medicine at Edinburgh he was for a year an undergraduate at Basle University. He graduated M.B., Ch.B. Edin. in 1901, and M.D. with high commendation three years later. He held Resident appointments at the Birmingham and Midland Ear and Throat Hospital and the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital, after which, in 1908 he started practice in Sheffield as an Ophthalmic Surgeon, and for a time acted as Clinical Assistant to the late Simeon Snell at the Sheffield Royal Infirmary. He was appointed Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Beckett's Hospital, Barnsley, in 1910, Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Sheffield Royal Hospital in 1916, and at about the same time, Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Sheffield Education Committee.