that after sensitising guinea pigs to catgut, about one third showed disruption of wounds and another third abnormal healing. In a control series of twenty-six animals, all but one healed normally. It is only fair to say, however, that these results are disputed by other authorities. Important points in the use of silk are that it should be twisted rather than braided, untreated or only lightly waxed, should be of the finest material possible and be used as interrupted rather than continuous sutures.

It would be interesting to know the views of ophthalmic surgeons on the issue of silk versus catgut for buried sutures in squint operations. The experience of the writer makes him favour the use of white silk as causing less post-operative reaction and a firmer union of the parts sutured.

---

COUNCIL OF BRITISH OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Annual Report, 1944

The Council presents its report for the year 1943-1944. Owing to the intended reorganisation and reconstruction of the Council, no change in the personnel of its officers was made at the first meeting of the new session.

The Council records with regret the death of Mr. Leslie Paton, an original member.

The Council has completed its deliberations over the Draft Articles of Association of the British Orthoptic Society, and the Articles, Memorandum, and Bye-Laws have now been approved in their final form.

The sub-committee of the Council appointed to consider the question of reconstitution of the Council of British Ophthalmologists completed their deliberations and presented their report which has been accepted by the Council. They have been instructed to consider details.

A sub-committee was set up to consider the Draft Scheme for a National Eye Service drawn up by the British Medical Association. Its representatives attended a Joint Meeting held at the B.M.A. House to discuss the Scheme.

Representatives of the Council attended a meeting with the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, to discuss the institution of a higher diploma in Ophthalmology. A sub-committee was appointed and drew up a scheme, which has been accepted by the Council and will be forwarded to the Royal College of Surgeons.

The Sub-committee appointed to consult with the Joint Committee of the three Royal Colleges over the question of Consultant status and Assumption B of the Beveridge Report met and, after discussion, appointed their representative in the person of the Honorary Secretary, who has attended the Joint meetings.
The Council decided to participate in a scheme for a Joint Secretariat and Office Accommodation arranged by the Royal College of Surgeons.

The Council has appointed a representative to serve on a Committee of the Royal College of Physicians for the revision of "The Nomenclature of Diseases."

A sub-committee was appointed to draw up a report upon the Regionalisation of the Ophthalmic Services of London. This report has been modified by the Council and will be forwarded to the Association of the Ophthalmic Hospitals of London.

A sub-committee has been appointed to draw up a report upon the Ophthalmological aspects of the White Paper, which report after approval will be submitted to the Joint Committee of the three Royal Colleges.

The expenses of the Council have, as in the past, been met by contributions from its members.

OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Annual Congress of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom was held at the Royal Society of Medicine on Friday and Saturday, March 31 and April 1, 1944. Considering the difficult circumstances there was a very good attendance, especially of visitors, the latter consisting mainly of ophthalmic surgeons of the American Armed Forces. The President, Dr. H. M. Traquair, M.D.; F.R.S.Ed., opened the proceedings with a short address of welcome to members and visitors, and followed this by the Presidential address upon "The Nerve Fibre Bundle Defect," an illuminating discourse upon an aspect of the subject of which the President is an acknowledged master. The discussion which followed was upon "ocular psychoneuroses" (excluding Miners' nystagmus), opened by Mr. R. C. Davenport and Squadron Leader J. H. Doggart on general lines. The subject was developed along special lines by many members and visitors, the former including Professor Riddell, Mr. O. Gayer Morgan, Major Stenhouse Stewart, and Squadron Leader A. G. Palin, and the latter, Air Commodore R. D. Gillespie, and Dr. D. W. Winnicott, who enlarged upon the children's aspect.

The first part of the afternoon was devoted to a joint clinical meeting with the Ophthalmological Section of the Royal Society of Medicine. A large number of very interesting cases of all kinds were examined, and subsequently described and discussed. After the discussion Dr. Andrew Paterson read a paper upon "concentric restriction of vision from unilateral cerebral lesion," which was well