A similar relative comparison can presumably be made when dealing with the internal rectus in divergence.

If the muscle insertion is unusually far back an advancement may be expected to produce a still greater effect. In such cases, therefore, if a big reduction be necessary, I would suggest that advancement be the operation of choice. Again, where at the time of operation the muscle is found to be very poorly developed, an advancement would appear to offer a better chance of success.

REFERENCES

7. de Schweinitz.—"Diseases of the Eye."

ANNOTATIONS

The Qualifications of Ophthalmic Surgeons

In the columns of this Journal (March, 1918) we published an appeal that some degree or diploma should be open to ophthalmic surgeons commensurate with the position occupied by them in the medical profession. We then suggested that it would be useful in bridging the hiatus if ophthalmology were in part substituted for the final examination for the M.S. (Lond.) and the F.R.C.S. (Eng.). This would have far-reaching consequences, into which we need not enter at the moment. It is with satisfaction that we now learn that the Senate of London University has sanctioned the granting of the M.S. degree in two additional branches, one of which is ophthalmology. The regulations have been modified in accordance with the foregoing decision.

The Need of a New Eye Hospital in Calcutta

In our issue of May, 1919, we commented at some length on the apathy which has been displayed by the Government of Bengal
toward the question of the provision of a new Eye Hospital for Calcutta, and we expressed the hope that the matter would be taken in hand at an early date. It is, therefore, with some satisfaction that we have perused the columns of the Statesman's issue of June 21 last. A very prominent place is given to a long leader on the subject, in which our article is extensively quoted and warmly welcomed. On the same page the text of the annotation is quoted verbatim. It is to be remembered that the Statesman is the leading paper of Calcutta, the second largest city in the British Empire. India owes a very great debt to its ophthalmic surgeons, the great majority of whom have been officers of the State Medical Service, but that indebtedness has been very scantily acknowledged. No better illustration of this could be furnished than the fact that so able, zealous, and distinguished an officer as Colonel Maynard should have spent the best years of his life in the endeavour to get his Government to build an Eye Hospital suitable for the needs of the great Presidency he has served, only to see his work come to fruition when he himself has finished his labours in the land for which he spent his toil. We learn that money has been allotted for the site and for the building; but the question we would like to thrust home is this: Will suitable provision be made to staff and equip this institution in the right manner? The Indian student is backward; his initial standards are low; however high he is lifted, his tendency is to fall away to a lower plane as soon as he finds himself left to himself. General Booth used to say that if you aimed at the moon, you were likely to hit something higher than a gooseberry bush. This is an axiom that the teacher in any University, and especially an Indian one, should always keep steadily before him. The Professor in an Eastern University cannot aim too high himself, nor can he be too persistent in pressing the loftiest of ideals on the daily notice of his students. The opportunities for ophthalmic work in India are so immense as to demand that the very best possible men shall be selected for such posts as the superintendence of the big hospitals in Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, and Lucknow. Once the selection is made, money should be lavishly provided, and every encouragement should be given to all concerned, from the Superintendent downward, to turn out the best possible work. In the past, and we fear even at the present time, a man with large ideas is condemned as a nuisance. Men who have risen in the Civil Service to high administrative appointments as a result of having "kept in" with the powers that be, but who have no other qualifications for the execution of their office, only too often control the schemes of the earnest scientific worker. It is one of the weakest points of Indian administration, that in the Civil Service the best men so often fail to reach the top; their ideas are too
upsetting; they are considered a nuisance, and are therefore eliminated. The result is that the power too often lies in the hands of men whose petty parochial ideas are concerned only with the saving of money to Government, and with the increase of their own kudos thereby. India's great need, from a medical point of view, is rule by men with large and statesmanlike views on all questions connected with scientific medicine. To place a man of science in a position of large opportunity, and then to crush the soul out of him by thwarting his big schemes at every turn, is an act of hostility to the interests of the country he is striving to serve. We hope that the Bengal Government will lay this to heart, that the new hospital will be dealt with in no niggardly fashion, and that all who work for it will be encouraged to bring to their labours the best that is in them. This can only be possible if the treatment they meet with is both generous and sympathetic. Nor would we confine ourselves to speaking of Calcutta alone. The Government of India and the local Governments, one and all, have in the past failed most miserably to realize their responsibility to the vast hordes of blind people within their territories. There is a crying need for a wider view of their duties, and for a fulfilment of the obligations which press upon them. We welcome the action the Statesman has taken, and we know enough of the Indian Press to feel confident that this example will be followed; indeed, we are already assured that the leading medical journal of India, the Indian Medical Gazette, has turned its attention to the subject. We trust that both the lay and scientific press will keep up the campaign until something really large and worth doing has been done. Once again, we commend the matter very earnestly to the notice, not only of the Governments, but also of every one who is really interested in the welfare of our Indian Empire.

BOOK NOTICES

Scientific Communications (Communicaciones científicas.)
By Dr. Menacho, Barcelona, 1917.

The author of this little pamphlet groups together certain papers which have appeared in 1916-1917 in the Archivos de Oftal. Hisp.-Americ., and other Spanish periodicals. The papers are eight in number, and deal with the following subjects:—
1. Congenital pigmentation of the optic nerve.
2. Glaucoma consequent on needling of a secondary cataract.