ANOTATION

Spare copies of the earlier volumes of the Transactions of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom.

We are informed by the Council of the Society that the printers have a large number of the earlier volumes of Transactions in stock. We understand that of the first 10 years (1880-89) there are more than 100 volumes. The younger members of the fraternity should embrace the opportunity of completing their sets. Only those who in the past have endeavoured to make good gaps in a long set of periodicals will know the difficulties and appreciate the excitement when a volume that at first sight seemed unobtainable comes in. The writer was once speaking on this subject to the late Mr. Treacher Collins and was told by him of the struggle he had to acquire the first volume of the Ophthalmic Hospital Reports, and of the high price he had to pay for it. Very early in our career we were lucky in purchasing vols. 2-7 of the Ophthalmic Hospital Reports at a reasonable price. We never saw a copy of the first vol. for sale but when our senior colleague retired from hospital he gave us his copies of vols. 1 and 2 which he had acquired for a shilling the pair at a sale of books at the beginning of the present century! In such a way do values and prices vary.

If the younger members of the Society do not rise to the bait the Council, in our opinion, would be well advised to consider either selling at a nominal figure or making a present of the earlier sets to such University Libraries among the allied countries of Europe as suffered damage and loss in the last world war. There must be many in Russia, France, Holland, Belgium, Norway and Denmark that would be glad to accept such an offer.

[The name and address of the printers is Headley Bros., The Invicta Press, Ashford, Kent. London office, 109, Kingsway, W.C.2. Telephone, Holborn 3309].

OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. ANNUAL CONGRESS

The 67th Annual Congress of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom was held in the Department of Zoology, Glasgow University, on March 27, 28 and 29. The President of the Society, Professor A. J. Ballantyne was in the Chair. He delivered an address of welcome to the members of the Society and to visitors
from abroad, in particular, Dr. P. Merigot de Treigny (Paris), Dr. E. Godtfredsen (Denmark), Dr. J. Van Caneyt (Belgium), Professor W. H. Melanouski, Madame Schiss-Wertheimer and Madame Dallon. One hundred and eleven members attended the Congress.

The Presidential address, "De Senectute" was a clever and entertaining survey of the organic and functional changes that come to most of us whom the relentless march of time carries on to old age. Professor Ballantyne gave a general view of the tissue changes that occur with advancing years and in particular the familiar ocular disorders of cataract and presbyopia. The President gave useful advice about the explanation of these disorders to patients and the help this gave in their adjustment to such defects. He discussed the limitations of treatment and the possibility that new therapeutic agents might in the future postpone senile degenerative changes.

The subject of the Discussion was "Rhinology in Relation to Ophthalmology." The openers were Dr. J. Marshall, who dealt with the ophthalmological aspects of the subject, Mr. G. H. Howells described the part played by the Ear, Nose and Throat surgeon and Dr. R. McWhirter showed some admirable radiographs to demonstrate the importance of these in the diagnosis of inflammatory disorders, neoplasms and injuries of the orbit and adjacent structures. The openers had agreed not to discuss nasal sinusitis as a possible cause of retro-bulbar neuritis and intra-ocular inflammation.

The trend of the discussion was in favour of referring cases of orbital inflammation to the rhinologist. With his co-operation sulphonamide and penicillin therapy is carried on. It is preferable to drain into the nose an abscess originating from an infected sinus. If drainage is indicated through the orbit then it is best to do this in a plane between the orbital periosteum and the bone and not to open the orbital fascia.

The value of radiotherapy in the treatment of malignant neoplasms which have originated in the accessory nasal sinuses and have invaded the orbit was described and this treatment is preferred to surgical removal, particularly in the case of malignant neoplasms of the antrum.

For the exploration and removal of neoplasms deep in the orbit the relative merits of the trans-frontal approach and the lateral orbital access through Krönlein's operation were briefly discussed. There is no doubt that the former is indicated in cases when it is likely or possible that the neoplasm has extended beyond the confines of the orbital cavity and the latter is well justified when it is certain that the neoplasm is probably innocent, such as a cavernous haemangioma, neuro-fibromatosis and a cyst.

Opinion was more in favour of Toti's operation, dacryocystorhinostomy, or a modification of this for naso-lacrimal duct obstruction than of West's intra-nasal operation.
Orbital and ocular injuries as a result of nasal sinus operations were mentioned. Such calamities as penetration of the eye, orbital cellulitis, total ophthalmoplegia and division of the optic nerve are among these.

The subject rhinology in relation to ophthalmology afforded much material for discussion.

Other papers of interest were keenly discussed. These were:—


A Clinical Meeting was held at the Glasgow Eye Infirmary. Twenty-seven interesting cases were shown and discussed.

The Annual Dinner of the Society was held in the Hall of the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons. Sir Andrew Davidson proposed the toast of the Society and the President replied. In a pleasing and witty speech Dr. S. Spence Meighan proposed the toast of the Guests. Dr. P. Merigot de Treigny and Professor Geoffrey B. Fleming replied to this.

Sir Stewart Duke-Elder’s speech about the President was an admirable survey of Professor Ballantyne’s qualities as a man and an ophthalmologist of international repute.

At the Annual General Meeting the Secretary read the Annual Report of the Society’s activities. It is evident from the Treasurer's report that the Society’s finances are in a sound and flourishing state.

A Trade exhibition of Ophthalmological Instruments and Appliances was held during the Congress.