ANOTATION

RABBIT 18.
RIGHT EYE. Iris marked atrophy. Retina only minute fragments present.
LEFT EYE. The iris shows atrophic changes, as also the retina. There is considerable debris in the vitreous cavity.

RABBIT 20.
RIGHT EYE. Some vascularisation of the cornea peripherally.
LEFT EYE. No changes seen with the exception of a healed scar of the cornea.

RABBIT 22.
RIGHT EYE. Shows a healed corneal scar. The only other change observed is some superficial pigmentation of the iris and possibly a minor degree of atrophy.

RABBIT 23.
RIGHT EYE. Sections show the whole eye to have been very much shrunken and distorted. The cornea is vascularised and shows a fibrous plaque on the surface at one point. The iris is completely distorted with numerous adhesions of the proliferated epithelial and vascular process. Some inflammatory exudate is present in the margin of the remains of the lens and an organised exudate is also present in the choroid. The retina shows complete degeneration.

ANOTATION

Tobacco Amblyopia and the Budget

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in framing this year's Budget, would seem to have adopted the maxim of Mr. Biggs in Mr. Midshipman Easy who said that duty came before decency. It will be interesting to see whether the increased cost of tobacco will have any influence on the number of cases of tobacco amblyopia in Britain. Doubtless substitutes will be found. We have already heard of husbands who have raided the tea caddy to the despair of the prudent housewife. We have known small boys attempt to smoke blotting paper, and both coltsfoot and hay have been recommended. In passing we may ask whether those who use hay will have to obtain a permit from the War Agricultural Department, sub-section, supply of animal food-stuffs?

The non-smoker sees no virtue in tobacco just as alcohol in any form is anathema to those who have taken the pledge. The writer has smoked tobacco ever since his school days, and was not brought up like the "Infant Bond of Joy," Alfred Pardigle, who "was pledged never, through life, to use tobacco in any form." Like most other things tobacco can be abused, but used in moderation it never seemed to us to do any harm, and it has a distinctly soothing effect. We find it easier to compose an annotation with a pipe in one's mouth than without it. Burton, Anatomy of Melancholy,
Part 2, Section 4, commends its use in moderation, but "as it is commonly abused by most men, who take it as tinkers do ale, 'tis a plague, a mischief, a violent purger of goods, lands, health, hellish, develish and damned, the ruine and overthrow of body and soul." Here is a sentiment to put in our pipes and smoke.

AMERICAN OPHTHALMOLOGICAL MEETINGS
June, 1947.

America surely still remains the land of comfort and of plenty and the home of exuberantly kind and hospitable people. I have just had the happy experience of attending the annual meetings of the American Ophthalmological Society and the American Medical Association, two occasions which deserve putting on record.

The 83rd annual meeting of the A.O.S. was held at The Homestead, Hot Springs, Virginia, from June 5—7. Hot Springs, a delightful resort in the heart of the Virginian hills is an ideal location for such a meeting. It consists of a luxury hotel at a rail terminus in the heart of beautiful country where everything pleases except the taste of the warm sulphur spring water—but there are other things aplenty to taste. The Society takes possession of a section of the hotel and works and plays for three days. It is an exclusive Society, limiting itself approximately to 200 members (there are some 8,000 ophthalmologists in the U.S.A.), embracing all that is good in American ophthalmology; practically everyone attends (three consecutive absences from meetings without valid excuse implies expulsion) and all the world brings his wife. The morning is devoted to scientific papers; the afternoon to tennis, golf, swimming or walking, and the evenings to happiness: sleep comes tardily.

The meeting was under the genial presidentship of John W. Burke of Washington and the scientific papers covered a wide field of interest; the subsequent discussions are usually prepared and are more formal than the spontaneous give-and-take we are accustomed to in England. Two cases were reported by Maynard C. Wheeler (N.Y.) of discolouration of the lids from the use of yellow oxide of mercury sustained over many years. Reports of delayed mustard gas keratitis were presented by Walter S. Atkinson (Watertown) — the condition is apparently rarer (or less frequently spotted) than in England. Two cases of an exceptionally rare tumour of the orbit—granular cell myoblastoma—one simple and one malignant, were reported by John H. Dunnington (N.Y.). The occurrence of papilloedema with cerebral oedema in the manifest form of parathyroid deficiency was described by Donald Lyle (Chicago.)