
This little book sets out in a precise and condensed manner all the essentials of eye nursing, which apply not only to children as the title suggests but to adults. There are 12 chapters which are concerned with the anatomy of the orbit and its contents, the causes of ocular abnormality, methods of examination, common inflammatory conditions of the eye recognised by external examination, refractive errors, strabismus, injuries, ocular therapeutics, instruments and dressings, a brief description of the main surgical principles in the commoner minor and major operations of the eye and a chapter on the care of school children.

This work is lucidly written and is profusely illustrated (93 illustrations) including 4 coloured plates of external diseases of the eye and 2 fundus paintings.

The inclusion of a picture of an ophthalmic lamp on an anglepoise bracket might be useful in the next edition for many nurses in schools and factories may have to do ophthalmic work single handed with no one to hold a lamp.

This is a useful book for any nurse, ophthalmic or general, to possess and the author is to be congratulated on his presentation of this subject.

The printing and reproduction are admirable.

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To the Editors of The British Journal of Ophthalmology.

Dear Sirs,—In connection with Mr. Stallard's note on the use of rubber gloves, in the October issue; the answer to Dr. Simpson's query "What is there in eye surgery that renders it immune from the laws of asepsis?" is simple: "Nothing; but the laws of asepsis are not solely, or even mainly, concerned with rubber gloves."

I have yet to meet with serious intra-ocular—or, for that matter extra-ocular infection following squint or retinal detachment operations; and, if it did occur, there are many possible causes other than the omission of gloves. The extremely slight risk of infection attributable to not using gloves must be balanced against the disadvantages of their use. People have, to my knowledge, been run over in Harley Street; yet I also know that Mr. Stallard ignores this hazard daily.

Finally, the use of the (presumably) editorial "We" and of the description "Assistant Editor" is disquieting. One can only
assume that it is intended to add weight to the opinions expressed in the Note—and this, as far as I know, represents an important departure from previous Journal policy. Does it mean “The B.J.O. says so?” If it does not, this last sentence should read “I am grateful to Dr. Simpson for his candid comments, which I personally consider correct.”

Yours faithfully,
FRANK W. LAW.

36, DEVONSHIRE PLACE, W.1
October 10, 1948.

[We (editorial) are grateful to most of our correspondents, including Mr. Frank Law, for their “candid comments” and I thank him for his correction. Whatever may be the views of the Editorial Committee about the use of rubber gloves in eye surgery I will take personal responsibility for the opinion expressed in the last sentence of the note which I was instructed to write about Dr. Simpson’s letter].—H. B. STALLARD, Assistant Editor.

NOTES

Lectures at the Royal College of Surgeons by Foreign Ophthalmologists, 1949

March 29, 5 p.m.—Professor A. Franceschetti. Cataract associated with lesions of the skin.

March 29, 6.15 p.m.—Professor G. B. Bietti. Protein and amino-acid deficiencies in ophthalmology.

March 30, 5 p.m.—Dr. E. Hartmann. Psychosomatic symptoms in ophthalmology.

March 30, 6.15 p.m.—Professor H. J. E. Weve. Subject later.