where such admirable work has been done with the simple instruments favoured by the author it may seem almost invidious to suggest any others. Not all ophthalmologists, however, are gifted with the skill and patience of Mr. Traquair, and if new methods of field-taking make the task any easier or more accurate in less practised hands than his, they are to be welcomed, but not until they have been tried and tested by a master of the art.

Towards the end of the book, there is an interesting new paragraph on the scotoma of amblyopia ex anopsia which did not appear in the fourth edition, and gives the means of distinguishing what is really a functional scotoma from the organic one, due say to a small patch of central chorido-retinitis, which is occasionally the cause of the supposed amblyopia.

In advertising a well-known tobacco, the firm concerned distributed trays bearing the legend, "You cannot have too many ashtrays," and after reading Clinical Perimetry, one feels inclined to plagiarise and say "You cannot take too many fields."

Mr. Traquair has, we hope, made the English-speaking world field-conscious, and conscious not only of the necessity for taking fields but also of the necessity for using quantitative methods in doing so.

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**CORRESPONDENCE**

To the Editorial Committee of

**THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY**

**DEAR SIRS,—**Dr. Lewis Németh states in his article on the use of anti-histamines locally in allergic conditions of the eye (B. J. O. November, 1949), that Antistin Privine drops have proved of great value in several conditions. In my experience the symptomatic relief which has been obtained in most of these conditions is due entirely to the Privine content of the drops. Messrs. Ciba very kindly supplied me with samples for clinical trials of Antistin drops alone and I found these, when used without oral administration of an anti-histamine, to have no action whatever in the relief of symptoms or in the cure of the condition. In one bad case of hay-fever I switched the drops from Privine only to Antistin only, two or three times with the patient's knowledge. The first drops gave immediate symptomatic relief, the second gave no result whatever. I believe that in Privine we have a most useful therapeutic weapon, and a most pleasant form of drops for the patient to use (very different from adrenalin in this respect). In welder's flash, reflex congestion from eyestrain, and in hay-fever (in this latter condition it should be used in conjunction with anti-histamines by mouth), it is superior in every way to Adrenalin or like compounds.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

**BIRMINGHAM, November 8, 1949.**

L. H. G. MOORE.