CORRESPONDENCE

RETINAL MICRO-ANEURYSMS

To the Editorial Committee of the
British Journal of Ophthalmology

Dear Sirs—May I be allowed to congratulate Dr. N. Ashton on his excellent paper on retinal micro-aneurysms in the non-diabetic subject (British Journal of Ophthalmology, 35, 189). I should like to make the following comments. Miliary aneurysms are very often found on the retinal capillaries in cases of advanced angiosclerosis*. The anatomical work of Wergert and Krückman would explain the predominance of the lesion on the venous side—the arterial one is supported by three glial membranes. Foster Moore has pointed out the danger of a sudden release of an angiospasm and the consequent flooding by blood of the more peripheral segment of the vascular tree. I have been able to provide without difficulty two drawings of a micro-aneurysm seen ophthalmoscopically, one on the disk, and another—an arterial one—on the retina, where a large vein crushed a small arterial twig and so probably injured the nutrition of the vascular wall with the formation of an arterial aneurysm on the proximal side (Pines, 1929, British Journal of Ophthalmology, 13, 97, Figs 30, 32, etc.).

Yours faithfully,

N. A. Pines

Dinora House,
41, Philpot Street,
London, E.1

June 2, 1951.