A CORNEAL NEEDLE*

BY

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FOR some years British ophthalmologists have had to import from abroad the most delicate corneal needles. Apart from the high cost involved it seems regrettable that this should be so, seeing that many of the finest surgical needles are made in Redditch, Worcestershire.

I was therefore glad of the opportunity to draw the attention of one of the manufacturing firms to the situation. They gave their full and skilful co-operation and have now produced an excellent stainless steel needle, which I believe to be the equal of the best produced by the Swiss firms, and costs about a quarter the price.

The manufacturer's specification is as follows:

Special Square-Bodied Corneal Needle

Length 8 mm. (measuring round the needle).

Made from .014" wire: stainless steel.

Shape— $3/8$ circle.

Body—rectangular.

Short point, triangular in section, with three very sharp cutting edges, that forming the apex being on the outside of the curve.

The eye is well within the body of needle (no swell), the aperture being highly finished for easy threading.

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The distributing agents from whom these needles may be obtained are: Philip Harris Ltd., Surgical Instrument makers, 144 Edmund Street, Birmingham, 3.