

must be capable of doing the refraction and prescribing for its correction.

Refraction, too, might be raised to a higher status if it were studied from a medical standpoint. Our present empirical method of ordering glasses for treatment of headaches, with but scanty or no investigation of the cause of the headache, is not to our credit, and brings us into competition with the prescribing optician, who does but little less than we do.

There are often refractive problems depending on the physical condition, urgently requiring the investigation of the physician.

My suggestion of the means of bringing the physician into closer touch with ophthalmology by appointing him on the active staff of ophthalmic hospitals, may not be the best or simplest, but of the *need* of the physician there can be but little doubt, if any true advancement in our science is to be obtained.

Yours faithfully,

RAYNER D. BATTEN.

LONDON, W.

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## A METHOD OF IRIDOTOMY

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*To the Editor of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.*

SIR,—The method of iridectomy (not iridotomy) described by Mr. Mayou in the March number of the Journal was shown to me by the late Mr. Nettleship more than thirty years ago, and I have always assumed, though without any other evidence, that he had devised the operation. I have found this procedure very effective in cases (more common then than now) of updrawn iris after extraction of cataract.

I am, etc.,

J. B. LAWFORD.

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## NOTES

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### Deaths

WE regret to say that A. Reginald F. Evershed, of London, died from complications following influenza on January 25 last at Parkstone, aged 55. He joined his father, the late Dr. Arthur Evershed, at Hampstead, but soon started practice in Penzance. He then went to London, where he took up eye work. He was at first in the City and afterwards in Harley Street. He was oculist to the Cripples' Home, Winchmore Hill, to the Stock Exchange Benevolent Fund, and to the Brixton Dispensary. He was for many years

clinical assistant to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital. In November, 1919, a breakdown in health necessitated his retirement from work. He was well known in the photographic world.

James Pinkerton, once surgeon to the Birkenhead Eye and Ear Hospital, died at West Kirby on February 16, 1920.

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**Appointments** JAMES A. ROSS has been appointed consulting ophthalmologist to the Education Authority of Cumberland and consultant oculist to the Education Authority of Dumfriesshire. James Fison has been appointed assistant ophthalmic surgeon to Harrogate Infirmary.

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**French Ophthalmological Society** THE next meeting of the French Society of Ophthalmology will take place on May 3, at 8.30 a.m., at 51, Rue de Clichy. Dr. Gonin, of Lausanne, will open a discussion dealing with the pathogeny and pathological anatomy of retinal detachment (excluding traumatic, neoplastic, and parasitical detachments).

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**Council of British Ophthalmologists** A MEETING, which all British ophthalmic surgeons are invited to attend, will be held at 4 on Friday, April 30, at the rooms of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W., to receive a report of the work done by the Council of British Ophthalmologists.

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**Oxford Ophthalmological Congress** THE Oxford Ophthalmological Congress will assemble at Keble College, Oxford, on the evening of Wednesday, July 14th next, and the meeting will be held on Thursday, the 15th, and Friday, the 16th. On the Thursday a discussion on "Perimetric Methods" will be opened by Dr. Luther C. Peter, of Philadelphia, Pa. The Doyne Memorial Lecture will be delivered on July 16 by Mr. F. Richardson Cross, the subject being "The Nerve Paths and Centres concerned with Sight." A General Meeting will be held during the Congress upon a time and day to be announced in the final programme. We understand that several distinguished foreign guests are expected to attend this meeting of the Congress. Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. Bernard Cridland, Salisbury House, Wolverhampton.

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