CORRESPONDENCE

RHINOSPORIDIOSIS

To the Editorial Committee of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

SIRS,—Rhinosporidiosis of the conjunctiva is perhaps not so uncommon as your readers might gather from the article which appeared in your September issue (Sharma, Shrivastav, and Agarwal, 1958). My notes reveal that an average of about two cases per annum were seen at the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras; so that in my 18 years there I must have seen more than 25 cases, some no doubt associated with a lacrimal or nasal invasion. Certain of these are recorded in sundry places. One curious feature of the conjunctival growths is that when they are bulbar they nearly always show scleral thinning and staphyloma related to the seat of attachment of the pedicle. I only once saw a bulbar conjunctival growth not associated with scleral staphyloma: it was very small (2.5 mm. diameter) and flattened, and had not yet developed a pedicle. In the Annual Report of the above hospital for 1922, I discussed this staphyloma production and concluded that it was an atrophic condition associated with the mechanical effects of the constantly dragging pedicle. The sclera overlaid by a palpebral growth and subjected to the pressure of the little flattened tumour always appeared to remain normal. Your contributors mention male predilection, and this strange feature apparently applied to conjunctival invasion in the fairly comparable groups of children of opposite sexes to which I referred (Wright, 1922). The same report also mentioned the failure to transmit the parasite to monkeys in a limited trial carried out at the King Institute, Guindy, in association with Cunningham, the Director. *R. seeberi* as a human parasite shows a number of interesting characters and, as your contributors say, "should always be kept in mind as a possibility in India," especially by those who deal with diseases of the eye, ear, nose, and throat.

Yours faithfully,
R. E. WRIGHT.

33 CHURCH ROAD,
FLEET, HANTS.
October 5, 1958.

REFERENCES

- SHARMA, K. D., SHRIVASTAV, J. B., and AGARWAL, S. (1958). *Brit. J. Ophthalmol.*, 42, 572.
WRIGHT, R. E. (1922). *Indian med. Gaz.*, 57, 82.

BOOKS RECEIVED FOR REVIEW

The following books will be reviewed in *Ophthalmic Literature*, Vol. 12, No. 3, March, 1959:

The Blind Child. (L'enfant aveugle). By P. BAILLIART. 1958. Pp. 103. Doin, Paris. (700 Fr. frs).

Physiology of Vision in the Premature and in the Normal Infant. (Physiologie de la vision chez le prématuré et le nourrisson normal). By I. ESENTE. 1958. Pp. 127, 172 figs. Doin, Paris. (1,600 Fr. frs).

Ocular Pathological Anatomy. Second Series. (Travaux d'anatomie pathologique oculaire. 2^e séries). By F. HERVOUËT. 1958. Pp. 220, 452 figs. Masson, Paris. (4,000 Fr. frs).

Chronic Tetany or Spasmophilia. (Le téτανie chronique ou spasmophilie). By H. P. KLOTZ. 1958. Pp. 259, 23 figs, 380 refs. Expansion scientifique française, Paris.