Royal College of Surgeons or by the Conjoint Board of the Royal College of Physicians and Royal College of Surgeons. The first suggestion is more in keeping with tradition than the second, and it would not be a difficult task to devise a modification of the fellowship examination which would meet all the requirements. If such an F.R.C.S. in Ophthalmology were instituted it would retain all the high reputation of the present F.R.C.S., and would soon become the recognized qualification for the ophthalmic post on a hospital staff.

The Pennsylvania University Graduate School of Ophthalmology

On October 1st of this year the University of Pennsylvania, which gave a preliminary course in Ophthalmology in 1919, entered upon its first year of the full course of instruction. The Graduate School of Medicine is the outcome of the taking over by the University of Pennsylvania of the Medico-Chirurgical College and the Philadelphia Polyclinic, the latter institution having been for many years devoted to graduate teaching.

It will be seen that these recommendations are in complete accordance with those made by the British Council of Ophthalmologists. (B.J.O., December, 1919, p. 558.)

Two courses are offered. First, a ten months' course, eight months of which are devoted to graduated systematic teaching by laboratory work, didactic and clinical lectures, demonstrations, clinical work, operative clinics and conferences, and two months devoted to purely clinical work. At the end of the course examinations will be held, and the successful candidates will be given certificates of attendance, or will be permitted to enter upon a second year of work as candidates for a degree.

The second year is devoted to advanced studies, practical clinical work as clinical assistants to the departmental chiefs, and to research work.

The classes are limited to sixteen students and are sectioned so as to admit of personal supervision and instruction by each of the chiefs of the departments.

The Ophthalmological Staff consists of Dr. George Crampton, in charge of the Physiologic Optics and Refraction; Dr. L. Webster Fox, Surgical Clinics; Dr. Thomas B. Holloway, External Diseases and Neuro-Ophthalmology; Dr. Luther C. Peter, Ocular Muscles and Perimetry; Dr. William T. Shoemaker, Surgery of the Eye; and Dr. William Zentmayer, Ophthalmoscopy and Medical Ophthalmology. The Department of Pathology and Bacteriology is under the supervision of Dr. John Kolmer.
In addition to the Ophthalmological Staff there are other departmental heads and assistants, totalling in all about forty instructors. This large corps of teachers enables the School to offer to the students a most comprehensive course in which the fundamentals of Ophthalmology as well as the relation of Ophthalmology to allied branches of medicine are largely emphasized.

The Registration of Sight-Testing Opticians

An interesting contribution to the perennial question of the registration of sight-testing opticians was made in the presidential address given by Dr. A. L. Kenny, of Melbourne, before the Section of Ophthalmology at the Australasian Medical Congress, recently held in Brisbane. The claims of opticians for Government registration are urged upon laymen, many of whom have obtained satisfactory reading glasses from opticians. They are accordingly in favour of the last-named. To argue before these men that opticians are not competent to test and to correct sight, because of their want of knowledge of the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the eye, is to court an adverse verdict, since such of the opticians as have obtained the highest diplomas of the British Optical Association and similar bodies are in a position to produce sets of examination questions that would convince laymen that “such studies enter into the equipment of examination of candidates for these higher diplomas.” The preliminary education and the training, general and special, of the candidates, it is true, cannot bear comparison with those of the medical student, if investigated by medical men, but under ordinary circumstances it would be impossible to persuade lay enquirers that the difference is so great as it really is. Dr. Kenny agrees that it is as impossible to prevent opticians from acting as sight-testers, as it is to suppress “counter prescribing” in the case of chemists. We must, however, never cease to oppose by all means in our power the Government of any State registering opticians as sight-testers, and in that way certifying to the public that these men are competent to test sight and to prescribe glasses. The fact that the bodies which issue diplomas to opticians forbid the use of drugs to paralyse accommodation, proves that the diplomates are not competent, for in many cases a test under cycloplegia shows a result different from that obtained by any subjective method of examination. Hence it is quite unjustifiable for any Government to certify to the public that a man who is forbidden by his diploma (and in the case of Queensland by the State law) to use cycloplegics is competent to test sight and to prescribe suitably. It is not