Future Work.—It will be seen that very satisfactory results, both as regards cause and prevention, have already been obtained. The research cannot, however, be regarded as completed. Further investigation of the effect of heat radiation upon the eye is needed, especially with the object of producing cataract experimentally by this means. For this purpose further research on the chemistry of the crystalline lens is required. It is also most desirable that the exact method of action of the radiation, whether direct or indirect, as explained above, should be settled.

Further, the difficulties of manufacturing glasses which absorb the heat radiation have not yet been completely overcome, and it is very important that this work should be carried out.

COUNCIL OF BRITISH OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

A Report on some Public Authorities who are in the habit of referring Ophthalmic Cases to Hospitals for Examination, Treatment and (or) Report.

The following Report was passed at the meeting of the Council of British Ophthalmologists on July 5 last:—

The Committee has enquired into the medical service of the following Public Authorities:—


Post Office.—The Committee has ascertained that the Postal Authorities provide medical treatment for those of their employés whose pay is under a certain wage limit, with the object of ensuring their efficiency for the performance of their duties, and that they appoint medical officers for this purpose. The Committee notes that no ophthalmic surgeons or other specialists are officially appointed.

The cases requiring advice, treatment and report (by ophthalmic surgeons) are so numerous that the efficiency of the service cannot be maintained without such assistance; the result is that the medical service of the post office is being supplemented by the services of the honorary staffs of the special ophthalmic hospitals and of the eye departments of the general hospitals.

The Committee recommends that the Council should report to the Postal Authorities that their medical service cannot be adequate unless it includes the service of ophthalmic surgeons whose duty it should be to examine the eyes of recruits, to treat employés, and when necessary, to furnish reports upon which official action can legitimately be taken.
Army Pensions. Old Age Pensions for the Blind.—The Committee finds that the authorities have made arrangements for the examination of the eyes of army pensioners, and of blind claimants for the Old Age Pensions. In consequence, it is now outside the duties of the medical officers of any hospital to make examination or report for either of these purposes.

ABSTRACTS

I—TUMOUR OF THE FRONTAL LOBE OF THE BRAIN WITH OCULAR SYMPTOMS


Knapp's patient, a man of 36 years, suffered from atrophy of the discs, a central scotoma in each eye, and defective sight (R.V. 20/50; L.V. 2/200). Wassermann reaction positive. The condition failed to improve under treatment, and the man became apathetic and mentally slow, and numbness of the right side of the face developed. Examination by X-rays, which showed excavation and bone rarefaction in the anterior and the middle cranial fossa, suggested pressure by an unusual mass in the sellar region. The patient succumbed to haemorrhage after an exploratory operation on the skull.

At the autopsy a firm tumour, measuring 2 by 2½ inches, was found in the right frontal lobe, springing from the dura on the convexity and from the adjoining part of the falx. The right frontal lobe was greatly enlarged at the expense of the left, so that the median line ran obliquely in the left half of the skull. The cortex of the right lobe was much reduced in size. The bone covering the ethmoidal and sphenoidal cells was very thin. The optic nerves were flattened. Posterior to the chiasma there was a rounded bulging mass, a distended tuber cinereum, which had crowded the optic tracts apart and had hidden the mammillary bodies. The walls of this distended area were so thin as to be translucent. The dilatation of the third ventricle was limited to its lowest part, forming a sacculated diverticulum. The hypophysis was enlarged and displaced backwards. The dural covering of the pituitary fossa was intact, and the infundibular opening was not enlarged. The tumour was an endothelioma.

Briefly, the brain showed a frontal tumour in an enormously enlarged right lobe which had produced a sacculated distension of the third ventricle and pressure atrophy of the underlying bone in