which a similar notation is employed for each eye, the zero lying at the observer's left side and the scale being read below the horizontal with $90^\circ$ at the bottom and $180^\circ$ at the right side."

We know that a surgeon often hesitates to change the method he has become accustomed to, but the Council points out sound reasons for the general adoption of one standard and we would like to draw the attention of practitioners to the advantage of following their advice. If it was adopted at the hospital clinics it would soon become universal, and we venture to think the inconvenience to those at present in practice would soon disappear.

The method suggested is now the standard notation of opticians who usually transcribe all prescriptions given them into it before sending them into the workshop. The most important point of all is to get everyone to use the same method, and it would help to hasten this event, if some of the leading London clinics would send a note for publication in this Journal to say that it was the method that they advised and used.

The White Spot Disease of Salmon

The severe drought of this summer has caused the appearance of a disease in salmon called the white spot disease. The name is derived from a white spot that appears in a depression over the brain and is accompanied by complete blindness. The disease was also noted in the severe drought of 1880 in the Lews by Captain Newall. The Fishing Gazette of September 24 publishes a letter from Mr.

From the Fishing Gazette.

W. L. Calderwood, Inspector of Salmon Fisheries for Scotland, in which he states that fish do go blind from the effects of bright light from which they are unable to escape. He had also examined several affected fish in 1905. He gives a drawing of the head of an affected fish, and adds that in bad cases the blotches may extend...
for four or five inches down over the vertebral column. Although he states that the central nervous system in fishes is powerfully disturbed by bright light he unfortunately gives no account of any pathological examination. It is also known that fish kept in aquaria may suffer in the same way, and it is of importance to provide them with plenty of shade. The editor adds in a footnote that Professor Hofer in his work on "Diseases of Fish" does not mention light as a cause of blindness, but draws attention to the curious fact that a healthy fish placed on its side does not turn its eyes with its body, but that the eye sockets turn round the eye so that the pupil is hidden by the orbital margin. An examination of the brain and eyes of some of these fishes would be of considerable interest in comparative pathology.

ABSTRACTS

I—ACUTE CEREBRAL AMAUROSIS OF INFANCY (GAY)


A remarkable series of cases was described by Nettleship in 1884 (Trans. Ophthal. Soc., Vol. IV, p. 243), where in young children cerebral symptoms associated with blindness were followed by recovery of the usual bodily health and of sight. In 1893 Dr. William Gay (Roy. Lond. Ophthal. Hosp. Reports, Vol XIII, p. 404) described six cases of this peculiar condition, to which he gave the name of "acute cerebral amaurosis of infancy." In 1902 the reviewer (Reports Soc. for the Study of Dis. in Children) described six instances of the disease under the title of "fleeting amaurosis," adopted by Sir James W. Barrett in the communication under abstract. His case in a female child of 7 years is unusual, since the disease commonly occurs in children of a much tenderer age. A month after an attack of so-called influenza, on her return to school, the patient found that she could not see the blackboard, and that her sight was better in a dim than in a bright light. The pupils were widely dilated and fixed, and the fundi and media were normal. R.V., with ametropia corrected, 6/36; L.V., corrected, 6/60. Complete recovery took place within eight days after the first examination.

S. S.