ophthalmologists, the ophthalmic nursing organizations, and those concerned with the care of the blind, the ophthalmic medical social workers, the orthoptists, opticians, the armed forces, the British Red Cross Society, and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

Academic and official robes were worn by all entitled to them, and the representatives moved in procession to their places in the Abbey, each party being led by a resident surgical officer of Moorfields Eye Hospital, twelve of whom acted as stewards. Fanfares were played by trumpeters of the Royal Military School of Music, and the staff band of the R.A.M.C. played before and after the service. Nurses from Moorfields took a retiring collection at the doors of departure, and the record sum of £430 received from the very large congregation will be devoted to the appeal funds of the Institute.

When all were in place, the representatives of the churches and those of the archbishops, together with the chaplains of Moorfields, entered in procession, and the Lord Mayor of Westminster was conducted to his seat; the procession of the Church of Westminster entered, and the most impressive service began, opened by a fanfare of trumpets and the national anthem. The first lesson was read by Professor Derrick Vail, Past President of the International Council, and the second by Sir Tudor Thomas, President of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom. The sermon was preached by the Archdeacon, the Venerable E. F. Carpenter, who gave an inspiring and cogent address, all the more valuable because of his close personal connection with ophthalmology—he is, indeed, a member of the Institute's Appeal Committee. All too soon the service drew to its close. The blessing was pronounced, the splendid "Amen" of Gibbons was sung by the choir, who throughout had given of their glorious best, and with perfect timing the Abbey bells rang out in exultation. It was a moment which will remain forever in the memory of those who were there.

The prime instigator and organizer of the concept was Professor Norman Ashton, to whom the whole united body of ophthalmology in this country has need to be grateful, and particularly those who were privileged to be present at a great and unforgettable experience.

F. L.

**COURSE ON PHOTOCOAGULATION**

*October 2–6, 1967*

A course (in English) on photocoagulation is to be given by Prof. G. Meyer-Schwickerath at the new clinic at Essen. All those interested are advised to contact Prof. Meyer-Schwickerath, at:

43 Essen-Holsterhausen,
Städt. Krankenanstalten, Hufelandstrasse 55,
W. Germany.

**OBITUARY**

**JAMES NISBET TENNENT, 1897–1967**

The sudden death of J. N. Tennent on April 28, 1967, deprives Scotland of one of her more senior ophthalmologists. Educated in Glasgow, he qualified in 1920, having previously served for 2 years as a house-surgeon in the Glasgow Eye Infirmary, a somewhat unusual arrangement necessitated by the shortage of staff caused by the First World War. The remainder of his professional life was spent in private practice and in academic activities; he joined the staff of the Ophthalmic Institution of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary where he served for some time as pathologist; he also acted as professor of ophthalmology at the Anderson College of Medicine in Glasgow, gaining all the postgraduate qualifications available in that city.

Tennent will be remembered for two things—ophthalmic politics and religion. He acted as Chairman of the National Ophthalmic Treatment Board Association from 1950 to 1959, taking a firm view on the advisability of the prescription of spectacles by ophthalmologists; he also took a prominent part in the work of the Baptist Church, acting as chairman of the Baptist Union in 1935 and doing an immense amount of work both in Scotland and abroad for the Baptist Missionary Society of which he was also chairman. Indeed, it was at a committee meeting of the Church that he collapsed and died, leaving a widow to whom we extend our sympathy.