very questionable whether such works as Wilbrand and Saenger's "Neurologie des Auges," and Graefe Saemisch "Handbuch der gesammten Augenheilkunde," which were in course of publication in 1914, when the war broke out, will ever be completed on our shelves unless it be through the generosity of private members. The same applies to modern English textbooks. Is it too much to ask the authors of such works to be good enough to present a copy to the Library on the publication of their books? Of recent books I can only recall a copy of Foster Moore's "Medical Ophthalmology," which we owe to the generosity of Sir John MacAlister, and one of Lagrange's "Treatise on Glaucoma and Hypotony," which was kindly presented by Sir Anderson Critchatt, who also very kindly gave us the memorial volume of Brisseau.

The collection of photographs of former Presidents of the Society is now complete.

I opened this paper with an extract from Swift's writings. Perhaps I may be allowed to close it with one from Charles Lamb's Essay on "Oxford in the Long Vacation": "What a place to be in is an old library. It seems as though all the souls of the writers that have bequeathed their labours to the Bodleian were reposing here as in some dormitory or middle state."

**ANNOTATION**

**German Ophthalmological Literature since 1914**

It has often been stated that science is independent of race, nation or creed. So far as it is truly science, it is universal. Prejudice, however well-founded in the political sphere, cannot blind us to the fact that Germany has in the past contributed in rich measure to the advancement of science, and ophthalmology in common with other branches of science owes much to her. Until the outbreak of war in 1914 German scientific publications were readily available to all students at reasonable prices. Some of these, such as the various Jahresberichts, were unsurpassed for completeness, accuracy, and general utility of reference. The characteristics of German mentality are peculiarly adapted to the painstaking sorting, abstracting, and arranging of large masses of literature. Nagel's *Jahresbericht für Ophthalmologie* was unique, unrivalled, and irreplaceable. Shortly before the War the *Zentralblatt für die gesamte Ophthalmologie und ihre Grenzgebiete* was started. It showed the same features of accuracy and utility as the Jahresbericht. It was not to be expected that these publications could withstand unmoved the shock of the War. Nagel's *Jahresbericht* eventually succumbed. In spite, however, of the
permanent drainage of the vitreous in glaucoma


The writer holds the opinion that direct decompression of the vitreous would be of great advantage in glaucoma. The excavation of the optic nerve, and the pressing forward of the lens and iris furnish evidence that the seat of the hypertonus is in the vitreous. The anterior chamber is shallow in glaucoma because the communication between it and the posterior chamber is more or less completely obstructed. Earlier researches have convinced the author that even in normal conditions the communication...