Correspondence

TO THE EDITOR, *British Journal of Ophthalmology*

Keeler award

SIR, It is now 10 years since the Keeler award for clinical study was founded by the generosity of Keeler Holdings Ltd, the parent company of C. Davis Keeler Ltd, and its then chairman and managing director, Mr Charles Keeler. The objects of the award were to enable British consultant ophthalmologists to travel to various parts of the world where new methods, techniques, and equipment were in use and to bring back first-hand information so that British ophthalmology might benefit. It was also envisaged that ophthalmologists from other countries might be enabled to visit Great Britain to demonstrate and speak about their particular expertise. A subsidiary purpose was to enable theatre sisters to visit other clinics in order to familiarise themselves with new equipment and methods. It was a condition of the foundation that the award's funds should be managed and disbursed entirely by the trustees, all of whom are ophthalmologists, and that the founders should take no

part in the decisions, so that it could be seen that they had no commercial interest.

Up to the present time some 85 ophthalmologists and 9 nursing sisters have obtained awards totalling some £15 500. Many excellent reports have been received by the trustees and much of the knowledge brought back has been disseminated by papers read at scientific meetings or published in journals. There has been a tendency in recent years, particularly amongst registrars, for the awards to be considered as a means of further education for individuals visiting 'prestige' clinics abroad prior to applying for consultant appointments. This is not the true objective of the award. It is, however, justifiable for a senior registrar who is likely to take up, or be put in charge of, a particular subspecialty to be sent for extra training.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found the details and guidelines for those wishing to apply.

Yours sincerely,

E. C. ZORAB,
Chairman of Trustees

London W1

Notes

Keeler Award for Clinical Study

Those ophthalmologists wishing to apply for an award in order to study some particular aspect of ophthalmology with a view to bringing to this country new ideas and methods from overseas should in the first instance write to: The Secretary, Keeler Award, Angus, Campbell & Co,

Metropolis House, 39-45 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0JL. They will then be sent an application form and details of the full purpose of the award. They will also receive the trustees' conditions and advice.

International Society of Geographical Ophthalmology

The meeting arranged in Tunisia in May 1977 has been cancelled, but a meeting will be held in Cagliari, Sardinia, during 25 to 29 September 1977. There will be symposia on the geographical distribution of ocular viral

diseases and congenital disorders. Free papers concerned with geographical ophthalmology will also be presented. Further details from Dr E. E. Cass, Box 688, Fort Smith, N.W.T., XOE 0PO, Canada.

Impaired Vision in Childhood

Jerusalem, 8 to 13 May

The main topics to be discussed are: (1) epidemiology of impaired vision in childhood; (2) cataract in infancy; (3) metabolic and genetic diseases; (4) congenital anomalies; (5) amblyopia: concepts, prevention, and treatment; (6) vitreous retinal vascular diseases including RLF; (7) congenital glaucoma; (8) tumours in infancy; (9) tapeto-retinal degenerations; (10) trauma in infancy and childhood, prevention and treatment; (11) refractive

errors in infancy; (12) rehabilitation of low vision and blindness in childhood; (13) inflammatory diseases and other subjects. The Ticho memorial lecture will be delivered by G. von Noorden during the congress on the subject 'New Research Aspects and their Application on the Prevention and Treatment of Amblyopia'. Further information on writing to the Congress Secretariat, POB 983, Jerusalem, Israel.