CORRESPONDENCE

WERNICKE'S PUPILLARY REACTION

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

SIR,—I had not read Mr. Fisher's description of the manner of determining the presence or absence of Wernicke's pupillary reaction until yesterday. When I sent you my note on this reaction, I was unaware that I was describing a new or recent mode of procedure. I had heard that the late Sir Henry Swanzy was wont to place a patient sideways at a window when observing Wernicke's reaction. But my interest lay chiefly in the vitiating influence of ametropia of the eye under examination in this connection.

DUBLIN,
October 5, 1923.

Yours truly,
J. D. CUMMINS.

"OPTICAL BENEFIT" AND PANEL PRACTITIONERS

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

SIR,—May I point out that insured persons applying to approved societies for optical benefit are being provided with forms for signature by the panel practitioner.

One form I have seen is a certificate that the patient is recommended "to consult an optician." By signing it the harassed practitioner is surely encouraging unqualified practice. Can you kindly bring this growing evil to the notice of your readers?

I am, yours faithfully,
GARTH AP THOMAS, M.D.

STOCKPORT,
October 20, 1923.

CONGENITAL MIOSIS AND THE NORMAL MUSCULUS DILATATOR PUPILLAE

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

SIR,—Will you allow me the following supplementary lines to the recent article by O. Berner and myself on "Congenital Miosis or Pinhole Pupils owing to Developmental Faults of the Dilator Muscle."

Before we began our work with the irides from patients with congenital miosis, Dr. Berner had microscopically examined the irides from 12 normal persons in different ages between 17 and 65 (depigmentation: Alfieri or hydrogen dioxide). In all cases the dilator muscle was found well developed from the pupillary margin to the ciliary border.

A report of our article in the *Lancet* (September 22, 1923, p. 614) objected to our anatomical explanation of congenital miosis that "the dilator muscle of the iris is normally so slight in development that for many years its existence was doubted." My reply to this criticism is given in the *Lancet*, October 20, 1923, p. 906.

Yours truly,
S. HOLTH.

CHRISTIANIA, NORWAY,
October 31, 1923.

NOTES

Deaths THE veteran T. PRIDGIN TEALE died on November 13, at the age of 92 years. We shall publish details of his life in a later number of this journal.

We regret to announce the death on October 2 of GEORGE LIVINGSTONE MITCHELL, of Redditch, at the age of 29 years. Dr. Mitchell was formerly eye specialist at the Royal Naval Hospital, Plymouth, and assistant surgeon to the Sunderland Eye Infirmary.

Appointment THE Secretary of State for the Home Department has appointed Mr. JOHN ROWAN, of Glasgow, to be an additional Ophthalmic Specialist Medical Referee under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, for the Sheriffdom of Lanark.

Alvarenga Prize It is announced by the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, that the next award of the Alvarenga Prize, which amounts to about three hundred dollars, will be made in 1924. Essays may be on any subject in medicine, provided they have not been previously published, and they must be received at 19, South 22nd Street, Philadelphia on or before May 1, 1924. Each essay must be typewritten and unsigned, but marked with a motto, and accompanied by a sealed envelope, bearing the motto outside and the name and address of the author inside.

British Journal of Ophthalmology THE Secretary of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY has a few shares for sale. Applications should be sent to Mr. W. T. A. Rayner, Moorgate Station Chambers, E.C. Applicants must be British ophthalmic surgeons, and by resolution of the Company the number of shares that can be held by one member is limited.