anterior single lens of the photographic lens corresponds with the refractive system of the cornea while the posterior compound lens is represented by the crystalline lens enclosing a denser nucleus.

I desire to express my gratitude to Professor Filatow for the suggestion of this comparison.

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COUNCIL OF BRITISH OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Annual Report

The Council of British Ophthalmologists presents its report for 1923-1924.

The Council deeply regrets the loss it has sustained through the deaths of two of its members—Sir John Tweedy and Mr. Sydney Stephenson.

At the first meeting of the Session the following officers were elected:—President: Mr. Treacher Collins; Vice-Presidents: Sir George Berry, M.P., and Mr. J. Herbert Fisher; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. J. Herbert Fisher; Hon. Secretary: Mr. M. S. Mayou.

The following members were elected to serve on the Executive Committee.—Messrs. Fisher, Lawford, McMullen, Sir John H. Parsons, with the President and Secretary, ex officiis.

The Committee which is engaged on the Standardization of Test Types has not yet issued its report.

The Committee which was appointed to deal with the Standards of Vision of Scholars and Teachers in Council Schools has presented its report, which has been published.

The Imperial College of Science and Technology invited the Council to nominate representatives to serve on its Technical Optics
Committee. The invitation was declined because instruction to opticians in diseases of the eye is sanctioned by the Technical Optics Committee at the Northampton Polytechnic Institute.

An interim report has been published by the Council on the administration of medical (optical) benefits by Approved Societies. The Ministry of Health has been requested to meet a deputation of the Council to discuss the matter.

The Council has had its attention drawn by certain ophthalmic hospitals in London to the fact that applications are made to them for certificates of visual capacity by candidates for public carriage police licences. The Council is of the opinion that provision of these certificates is not part of the duties of the medical staffs of such charitable institutions. A conference to discuss this question has been arranged with the traffic authorities of Scotland Yard.

A Committee appointed to inquire into the advisability of establishing Institutional Treatment for Interstitial Keratitis has presented its report.

Correspondence between the Council of British Ophthalmologists and the General Medical Council, on the question of Teaching and Training of Medical Students in Ophthalmology has been published.

The expenses of the Council have been defrayed as in former years by its members.

The Council has to thank the Council of the Royal Society of Medicine for the use of its rooms for its meetings.

The above report was read at a meeting of British Ophthalmologists held at Glasgow, in connection with the Annual Congress of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom, on May 2, 1924, and its adoption was carried unanimously.

The President then informed the meeting that since the report was written an interview had taken place between representatives of the Council, and Sir Arthur Robertson, the Secretary of the Ministry of Health, and Sir Walter Kinnear, the Controller of its Insurance Department, with reference to the Council's report on the administration of optical benefits by Approved Societies (vide British Journal of Ophthalmology, Feb., 1924, page 61). The representatives of the Ministry of Health expressed themselves as desirous of having these optical benefits established on a satisfactory basis, and if possible in accordance with the schedule issued by it and quoted in the Council's report. They drew attention to the arrangements and scale of fees which had been agreed upon for the administration of dental benefits, and asked the Council's representatives if they thought that there were sufficient medical men trained in ophthalmology to carry out such work in connection with the Approved Societies, if a similar
arrangement and scale of fees were agreed upon for the administration of an ophthalmic benefit.

The President told the meeting that he had already received assurance, from a body of medical men skilled in refraction work in London, that they were prepared to carry out such work there, and would do so for members of Approved Societies at a reduced fee.

Representatives from the following towns: Bristol, Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds, Manchester, and Wolverhampton, who were present at the meeting, stated that in their districts they considered similar provision could be made. It was pointed out by some of the speakers, that if provision could be made for refraction work in this way, great relief would be afforded to the at present over-crowded out-patient departments in hospitals.

Finally, the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Harrison Butler, and seconded by Mr. Clegg, was agreed to:

“That this meeting of ophthalmic surgeons considers that there are sufficient numbers of medical practitioners competent to carry out ophthalmic work in connection with the Approved Societies, and approves of the line of action which is being adopted by the Council of British Ophthalmologists in the matter with the Ministry of Health.”

The meeting further requested the Council to confer with the Ophthalmic Committee of the British Medical Association, which also has the subject under consideration.

ANNOTATION

Miners' Nystagmus and the Compensation Act

A lengthy letter on this subject was published in the British Medical Journal of March 23, 1924, over the signature of Mr. A. S. Percival of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Mr. Percival has had a long experience in one of the most important coal mining areas of this country and his views on the matter cannot be overlooked. The object of these remarks is not "to take coals to Newcastle," but to open a correspondence in this journal, in order to place our readers in possession of the opinions of all ophthalmic surgeons who have special knowledge of the disease, for outside the mining districts, ophthalmic surgeons see very few examples of this condition.

Mr. Percival has been indefatigable in collecting and tabulating information; thus, in the British Medical Journal (May 8, 1923) he gave statistical evidence based on the condition of 43,684 under-