NEWSLETTER
OF THE
OPTOMETRIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY
(243 North Lindbergh Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63141, U.S.A.)

Vol. 15 April 1984 Number 2

Yes, you are lucky:

This is one of the shortest issues of NOHS. It will therefore not be a burden to read. The explanation for its brevity is simple. When I pulled the O.H.S. folder out of my file I found that considerably less than the usual number of prepared items had accumulated during the last three months.

Because I include virtually every accumulated item of interest in each quarterly issue, some issues are long and some are short. I do not retain a backlog of prepared material for subsequent issues. Therefore it is quite possible that the occasion may come when a single-page issue will result. The shortest to date is the first number of 1971, two pages.

What determines the number of items that are accumulated? The answer to this is also simple. I have no production plan or preparation schedule other than an assumed deadline a few days prior to the firsts of January, April, July, and October. The deadline may vary slightly when I am committed to an out-of-town engagement in the last week of December, March, June, or November. Each accumulated item therefore is one prepared more or less immediately upon my receipt of a letter, document, tearsheet, clipping, announcement, picture, or other article of historical interest from someone like yourself, or upon my coming across a point of optometric historical significance in my own rather haphazard day-to-day exposure to periodicals, books, brochures, social contacts, exhibitions, displays, etc. Mostly my findings are the result of a kind of continuous alertness, or history sensitivity, an attribute which is somewhat less finely tuned during basketball season and tax return preparation time.

Most such promptings are gratifying and stimulating. The frustrating ones are items with no clue whatsoever as to origin, date, circumstance, maker, or creditable source of reference. I do not give up easily. Three libraries that I use frequently for documentation purposes and leads are the Indiana University Library System, our local Monroe County Public Library, and the International Library, Archives, and Museum of Optometry, Inc. Supplementary correspondence, interlibrary loans, and other forms of communication sometimes involve weeks or months of patience, which I do try to exercise.

Immediately, or eventually if there are necessary delays, I prepare, edit, or myself compose each newsletter entry in rough form in painful longhand. A day or two later a typist puts it into legible double-spaced, easily correctable, form. Upon rereading it I typically make a few minor revisions and grammatical changes. If

it still seems to be of historical significance and of possible interest to a historically minded person I file it in my O.H.S. folder and place it temporarily out of mind, even out of memory.

About a week before the next aforementioned quarterly deadline, usually on a Friday, I take the O.H.S. folder home and pore through the accumulated items, especially to check occasional redundancies, revise uninterpretable expressions, and eliminate split infinitives, dangling participles, and my Germanic excess of adverbs. Once in a great while I discard an item at this stage as entirely too insignificant and dull. However, if I think even one reader will appreciate the item, it stays.

Then I select a lead item or, as in this instance, write one. Next I identify two or three short entries which lack timeliness and arrange them at the end of the series to be held for a subsequent issue if the total paging comes out grossly uneven. The remaining items, the great majority, are then placed in essentially random sequence in between. I have not formulated any logical basis for their sequence, merely because I cannot think of any.

The typist then types up the newsletter master sheet according to some style instructions which I prepared quite empirically many years ago.

Oh yes, I do reread the whole thing once again in what is almost invariably the final form. On one or two occasions I have indulged in some rearranging at this stage by cutting and pasting, mainly because two incidentally complementary items ought to have been nearer each other. The only pleasure I get at this editorial stage is the occasional discovery of a typographical error. If I find many typos it is not a pleasure.

That is normally the last time I will read any part of each issue unless a month or more later a reader writes me about an entry. My immediate response is usually the preparation of an item for the next issue. That is how this serial continues. Now you know.

William Jerome Heather, O.D., 1894-1984:

Known to thousands of optometrists by personal contact, the late "Jere" Heather will long remain a legend in the memories of even thousands more. His annual lectures to the graduating classes of every American optometry school for many years during the fifties were classic, remembered especially for his suitcase full of big wooden varicolored blocks which he used to portray certain principles of professional optometric economics. For several years he was a member of the Optometric Historical Society, and his name is recorded at least six times in our annals.

OHS member Andrew Fischer suggested that memorial notice of Jere's passing should be in this newsletter. Indeed, it should, but one can hope that a detailed obituary will appear in a more broadly distributed journal in due time, as Dr. Heather's many faceted personality represented so much more than history. He was a symbol of the contemporary optometric era.

What we can accomplish more effectively in terms of our OHS objectives is the inclusion of personally remembered experiences in future issues of the N.O.H.S. as they may have involved Dr. Heather. OHS members and other readers are invited to sit down immediately to pen a paragraph or two or more to relate what they (you!) remember as a Heather contribution to, or involvement in, optometry's history.

Do so before you forget!

John Reuben Levene, 1929-1983:

A glowing obituary by Dr. Mark R. Flora and a personal eulogy in the form of a letter to the editor by Dr. Philip A. La Haye serve to memorialize the late John Levene in the December 1983 issue of the American Journal of Optometric Medicine, Vol. 3, No. 4, pp. 98-102 and 103-104 respectively. Included is a picture of Dr. Levene, who is credited, among numerous other roles, as a prime figure in the optometric medicine movement.

Also announced as an editorial footnote is the establishment of the John R. Levene Memorial Fund at the Southern College of Optometry where Dr. Levene served as the Dean of the Faculty.

An early correspondence course:

The now presumably defunct Philadelphia Optical College flourished notoriously for several decades as a correspondence course leading to a mail-order doctorate degree. Circumstantially gullible were many optometrists and would-be optometrists outside of the U.S.A. who could not know the long inadequate control of educational standards in variously chartered American institutions. Thus, as illustrated in the example below, we find that even as recently as 1954, long after the demise of its founder, Dr. C.H. Brown, the "chartered" college was carrying on a grossly outmoded correspondence course for many an international subscriber.

One such subscriber was Alfredo Horta Coronel, a Spanish-speaking optometrist in Lima, Peru. He kindly sent me copies of 12 of 26 lessons and examinations which he had diligently completed in English in 1954 and which were graded and returned to him with mostly A's and a few B's.

MAILED
AUG 1 1954
ANSWER QUESTIONS IN INK ON THIS SHEET.
ANSWER FROM MEMORY--DO NOT COPY FROM TEXT BOOK

Matriculation No. .....

The Philadelphia Optical College
INCORPORATED CHARTERED
DR. C. H. BROWN, IN CHARGE.

Personal Extension Course

Examined and Approved
11-15-54
Average B ....%

LESSON No. X. Numbering of Lenses.

The transition period in the nomenclature of the numbering of lenses is over, and we note the passing of the old inch system, and the adoption of the newer and better Dioptric System. This adds to the difficulty of the subject, because the optometrist must have knowledge of both systems, and a clear understanding of the method of converting one into the other.

The handling and prescribing of lenses being the optometrist's chief work, it is just as essential for him to comprehend the System by which they are ground and their refractive power or focal distance measured, as it is to be familiar with their proper adjustment.

Answer Briefly. Examination Paper No. 10 Write Plainly.

226. By what two systems are lenses numbered?
Arbitrary measurements set by the makers, by degree, by inches and diopters.

227. Upon what does refracting power of a lens depend?
It depends on the index of refraction of the glass, according to the kind or quality that is used.

228. How does index of refraction of glass vary?
From 1.526 to 1.534.

229. How does refracting power compare with focal distance?
Knowing the refractive power of the glass it is easy to compare the focal distance.

230. What is the standard or unit of the inch system?
One inch lens with the refractive power of 1-1

231. Is this unit weak or strong?
It is the strongers.

232. How must the weaker lenses be represented in inch system?
By means of fractions.

233. What is the chief difficulty with the inch system?
When it is neccessary to combine lenses because it needs the use of fractions, a mental exercise which is not simple.

234. Add 80 and 20-inch lenses together by inch system?
$\frac{1}{80}+\frac{1}{20}=\frac{20+80}{1600}=\frac{100}{1600}=\frac{1}{16}$.

235. Subtract 40-inch lens from 16-inch lens by inch system?
$\frac{1}{16}-\frac{1}{40}=\frac{40-16}{640}=\frac{24}{640}=\frac{3}{80}$ approximately $\frac{1}{26}$ o mejor.

Lesson No. X is shown here, selected partly because it was the most legibly reproduced copy but also because it is implicitly dated by identification with the "transition period in the nomenclature of the number of lenses," which had occurred at least three quarters of a century before 1954.

The 12 lessons and examinations which Dr. Horta sent me are as follows:

Lesson	I. Anatomy of Eye	questions 1-25
Lesson	II. Mechanism of the Eye	questions 26-50
Lesson	III. Physiology of Vision	questions 51-75
Lesson	IV. Dioptrics of the Eye	questions 76-100
Lesson	V. Laws of Light	questions 101-125
Lesson	VI-VIII. (missing)	
Lesson	IX. Further Study of Lenses	questions 201-225
Lesson	X. Numbering of Lenses	questions 226-250
Lesson	XI. Presbyopia	questions 251-275
Lesson	XII-XXII. (missing)	
Lesson	XXIII. Method of Examination	questions 551-575
Lesson	XXIV. The Ophthalmometer	questions 575-600
Lesson	XXV. Theoretic Optics	questions 601-625
Lesson	XXVI. Theoretic and Practical Optometry	questions 625-650

In the prefatory remarks for the lessons and examinations the only references specifically recommended were the two volumes of Dr. C.H. Brown's "Optometrists' Manual" or "Opticians' Manual" published at the turn of the century. Otherwise it was occasionally suggested that the student consult "standard books" on a given topic, or simply "other test books" and "cyclopedias".

In spite of the abuses attributable to the later owners of the "chartered" college, it must be said that those who seriously followed through on the lessons and did indeed study Brown's remarkably solid books of the day must have benefited. I daresay, for example, that there may be several practitioners today who would have considerable difficulty solving questions 234 and 235. Or even "o mejor," as Dr. Horta inadvertently expressed himself in his own language in answer to no. 235.

The Lionel Topaz Memorial Library:

Lionel Topaz (1875-1942) was born in Russia, emigrated to England at the age of 22, and to America at the age of 28. He married in 1904, graduated from the Northern Illinois College of Optometry in 1905, and started The Optometric Weekly in 1910. He founded The Professional Press in 1919 to edit and publish several ophthalmological, optical, and optometric journals and books. Upon his death in 1942 his children Mae, Oscar, and Martin Topaz made a substantial permanent endowment to the Sheard Foundation for Education and Research in Vision of The Ohio State University to assist in the development of a visual science library, especially to recognize the close friendship which existed for many years between their father and Charles Sheard.

The high regard in which Lionel Topaz was held by his contemporaries is documented by the pages of testimony from dozens of nationally prominent figures in the two issues of The Optometric Weekly immediately following his death, Vol. 33, Nos. 25 and 26, July 30 and August 6, 1942, pp. 693-696 and 734-737.

"Pop" Sigmund Lubin, "O.D.":

In at least four previous issues of this Newsletter optometrist Sigmund Lubin has been mentioned as a prominent figure in the motion picture industry. A recently received flyer of the National Museum of American Jewish History includes a picture with the caption, "Lubin's daylight studio in Philadelphia was a flagship of his giant film company in 1912." Also received was a press release headlined EXHIBITION RECREATES LOST WORLD OF FILMMAKER LUBIN which reads as follows:

> The early days of the motion picture industry will be the focus of a major exhibition, PEDDLER OF DREAMS: SIGMUND LUBIN AND THE CREATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY, scheduled to open May 23 and to run through December, 1984, at the Museum of American Jewish History in the heart of historic Philadelphia.

Rare Lubin film footage, posters, photographs, costumes and other artifacts, supplemented by the personal reminiscences of those who knew and worked with Lubin, will be used to recreate the lost world of early filmmaking "when Hollywood was in Philadelphia," and to trace the career of film pioneer and movie mogul "Pop" Lubin. The Museum is continuing to seek additional artifacts and information for this exhibition, and those with memories to share or artifacts to loan should contact Deenah Loeb, assistant curator, at the Museum of American Jewish History, Independence Mall East, 55 N. 5th St., Philadelphia, PA 19106; (215) 923-3811.

A young immigrant who came to America in 1876 to seek his fortune, Lubin came to be known as "the Rockefeller of the Movies." At the start of his career, Lubin was a skilled and highly successful optometrist who listed President Grant among his clients. In 1896, he began to experiment with lenses of a different sort--with "Life Motion Pictures" and projectors--and by 1904 had established one of the world's most extensive networks for the manufacture, distribution and exhibition of motion pictures.

Before World War I, the Lubin studios at Twentieth Street and Indiana Avenue in Philadelphia and at the Betzwood Estate near Valley Forge were among the largest, most technologically advanced in the world. Thousands of films poured from these and other studios which Lubin established in Jacksonville, Florida, Phoenix, Arizona, Newport, Rhode Island and San Diego and Los Angeles, California. Among the still-remembered stars to appear in Lubin films were comedian Oliver Hardy, Marie Dressler, the famed Jacob Adler and the notorious Evelyn Nesbit Thaw. A tragic film vault explosion in 1914 destroyed all of Lubin's films, and in the process, virtually burned the Lubin studios from the pages of history.

The exhibition at the Museum of American Jewish History is co-sponsored by the Philadelphia Free Library's Theatre Collection, Lubin Archive, and is being developed by the Museum in cooperation with Lubin archivists and biographers Joseph Eckhardt and Linda Kowall.

The planned honors for Lubin were mentioned also in a news item of August 10, 1983, issue of Variety, page 6, which included the following paragraphs:

In a little known footnote to Hollywood history, Lubin became the man who saved the "Squaw Man" for Cecil B. DeMille. After running into rain in Phoenix, DeMille brought the production to the west coast where it became the first shot in Hollywood. However, when the film was completed, DeMille and producers Sam Goldwyn and Jesse Lasky were shocked to see the images dancing crazily upon the screen.

Goldwyn, then an upstart in the industry, took a reel of the film to the well-established Lubin who quickly spotted the trouble and showed Goldwyn how to fix it by pasting on new strips of perforations to match projector sprockets.

N.S.P.B. Diamond Anniversary:

The National Society to Prevent Blindness dates its founding in the year 1908. It was started in New York City by Louisa Lee Schuyler and F. Park Lewis, M.D.

The Indiana Society to Prevent Blindness celebrated the national organization's diamond jubilee with a gala dinner and a review of its own history as the first state affiliate. Among the participating patrons were our own O.H.S. Vice President J.J. Abrams, O.D., and Mrs. Abrams.

The Indiana group was formed in 1950 and affiliated with the national organization as the "Indiana Committee of the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness." Among its founders were Mrs. Maude Ward, Mr. Thomas C. Hasbrook, and Mrs. Eugene C. Pulliam. The first statewide meeting was on October 17, 1951. Charter members included optometrists John Davey and Robert Tubesing, with Henry Hofstetter added upon his arrival in Indiana in 1952. In 1956 the committee was chartered as a chapter with the title Indiana Society for the Prevention of Blindness, later changed to Indiana Society to Prevent Blindness, its present title.

The Indiana group takes significant credit for a wide variety of eye-saving projects throughout the state, including three additions to Indiana state law. One is a mandatory visual test of all school children in certain grades. Another is the visual test for an Indiana driver's license, and a third was a requirement that eye glasses be made shatterproof.

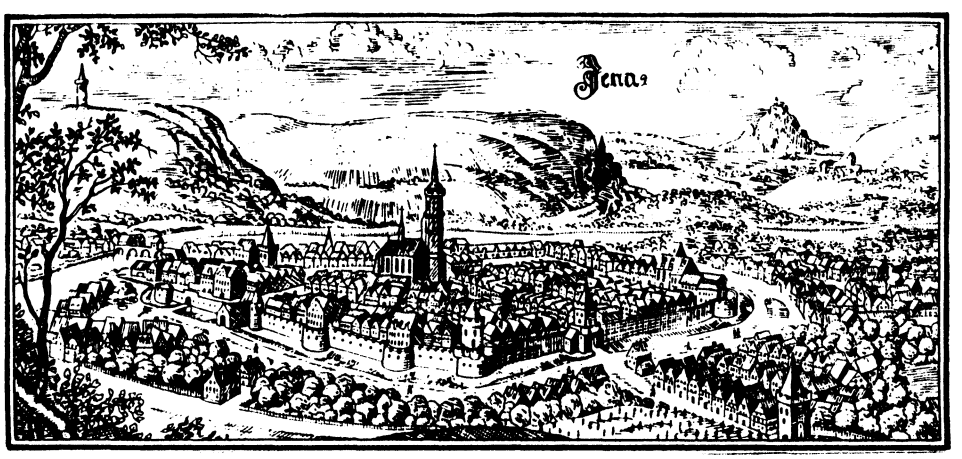
The I.S.P.B. offices are located at 1425 East 86th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240.

Jena, an ophthalmic optical birthplace:

By no means the earliest optometry school, but one which may have had the greatest single international academic impact during optometry's emergence from handicraft status, is the optometry school founded in Jena, Germany (now East Germany), in 1918. The city of Jena itself, located on the Saale River and nestled in the hills at the wooded fringe of the Harz mountains, has a long optical history as the former world center for lens-making. It was, and still is, a major center for the manufacture of optical instruments and glass. The first planetarium was built there, and some of

the greatest names in ophthalmic lens technology, Abbe, Zeiss, Henker, and others, did their research here. The Jena Optical Museum may be the world's most complete collection in ophthalmic optics. The long famous German student organization, Burschenschaft, had its origin in Jena in 1815 at the university founded there in 1588. The town still has remains of its original fortifications, an 11th century church, and a 14th century town hall, and is mentioned in 9th century records. Jena was the scene of the famous victory of Napoleon over Prussian and Saxon armies on October 14, 1806.

Probably the earliest sketch of the town is an engraving print in the Deutschen Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin (East Germany) which is recopied in miniature below. It is reduced from a New Year's greeting card received from O.H.S. member Dr. Günter Ueberschaar, Director of Studies at the "Fachschule für Augenoptik 'Hermann Pistor' Jena" and his colleague Oskar Kiel, the Administrative Head.



On the labeling of colors:

The relative rarity of words designating colors in early and primitive languages is frequently noted. In that connection etymologist Robert Devereux of Falls Church, Virginia, points out that we have at least borrowed words from the American Indians to denote certain colors. The following is quoted from his article "More Than Just Manitou" on pages 5-6 of the Winter, 1984, issue of VERBATIM, The Language Quarterly, Vol. 10, No. 3: "There are at least four Amerind loanwords that denote color. The first is persimmon, an Algonquian word, akin to Cree pasiminon 'dried fruit,' and Delaware pasimenon. The word is relatively well known as the name of a fruit, but it also denotes a moderate reddish-orange color that is yellower and duller than crab-apple or flamingo, or a strong brown that is redder and deeper than average russet and duller than rust. The other three color terms are

tribal names that have been pressed into English service as color names:

catawba, a very dark to blackish red and, of textiles, a dark purplish red that is bluer and paler than dahlia purple and bluer and duller than pansy purple.

mohawk, a Tuscan brown.

navaho, a strong to vivid orange that is redder and darker than orpiment orange and slightly redder and darker than Big Four yellow"

Who was Captain Chester Knowles?

In occasional reminiscing I have mentioned the fact that in about 1938 while I was an optometry student at The Ohio State University a visiting lecturer who was introduced to my class as Captain Knowles gave a talk and demonstration of contact lenses. A few of us tried on a lens and were happy to remove it quickly. I can remember no more about the occasion except that we understood that Captain Knowles made similar presentations of the primitive state of the art in several optometry schools.

Recently O.H.S. member Dan Hummel told me that the Captain's first name was Chester and that he had studied under the guidance of Dr. Wm. Feinbloom. He could not give me any further details about the man from memory though he hopes he may find something in his files.

Morris Steinfeld, O.D., 1877-1964:

One who helped to organize the American Academy of Optometry and who initiated the first Academy meeting was Dr. Morris Steinfeld, a Paducah, Kentucky, optometrist. His picture and a few highlights of his career are published in the July 1983 issue of the American Journal of Optometry and Physiological Optics, Vol. 60, No. 7, page 644, authored by O.H.S. President James P. Leeds, O.D., with the assistance of Steinfeld's son Maurice, an optometrist too.

Jewish involvement cited:

O.H.S. member Israel Dvorine, O.D., authored a paper on "Optometry" in the June 1983 issue of Generation, Vol. 4, No. 1, pp. 41-47. Generation is a semi-annual publication of the Jewish Historical Society of Maryland.

Dr. Dvorine traces optometry's Jewish connection back to the era of Spinoza, the philosopher and lens grinder.

More on Le Conte (1823-1901)

A biography entitled "Joseph Le Conte, Gentle Prophet of Evolution" by L.D. Stephens, Louisiana State University Press, 1982, was reviewed by Dr. Jay M. Enoch as a historical vignette in the December 1983 issue of the American Journal of Optometry and Physiological Optics, Vol. 60, No. 13, p. 1003.

Some of our readers will recall that Le Conte's own 1881 book entitled "Sight" was reviewed in the January 1973 issue of N.O.H.S., Vol. 4, No. 1, pp. 67.

Dean Enoch tells us that "Each year, the graduating students of the School of Optometry at the University of California, Berkeley, line up on the steps of the entrance to the John and Joseph Le Conte Building on our campus for their class picture, before marching to the commencement exercise. This has been a tradition of the School, which had its origin in the attic of that building in 1923."

Optometrists in community leadership:

Much of the history of individual optometric personalities is recorded only in local newspapers, possibly because optometric practice is typically a service which by its nature tends almost exclusively to be local in its application. So, one repeatedly finds optometrists prominent in local community and civic affairs above and beyond their professional roles yet relatively unknown nationally or internationally.

A recent example is an extensive write-up of D Russell Reed, O.D., by area editor Marcia C. Porter of the LaPorte (Indiana) Herald-Argus, November 25, 1983, page 8, under the caption "People profile." According to the article Dr. Reed's life history began with a family controversy over naming him, which led to his given first name being a D without a period. Then followed details of his early education, problems precipitated by the Great Depression, interim jobs, optometry school, marriage, military service, professional accomplishments, civic contributions, retirement, and current dedication. Few persons of national prominence are really more noteworthy.

For similar reasons, optometric history is largely recorded in local documents rather than in major archives.

Gullstrand accused:

In an article entitled "Neue Verfahren zur Bestimmung des Augenastigmatismus," in the October 1983 issue of Deutsche Optikerzeitung, Vol. 38, No. 10, pp. 26-27 & 30-31, Prof. Dr. Josef Reiner gives a brief historical review of the use of the Stokes

variable cylinder lens and Jackson's crossed cylinder lens for the subjective measurement of astigmatism. The more than a century's delay of acceptance of Jackson's crossed cylinder technique in the Germanic area of Europe is attributed to the contrary expression of opinion by Gullstrand, whose authority was so great as to make his word unchallenged.

Heritage displays available:

The Deutsche Optikerzeitung, Postfach 104443, Schloss-Wolfsbrunnenweg 15, 6900 Heidelberg, West Germany, is offering reproductions of five copperplate and woodcut engravings of old masters hand-etched in copper or pewter, in leaded stained glass, as printed facsimiles, or in greeting card form. The five are selected from the "Historischen Bildarchiv Adolph Kayser" for their ophthalmic history significance. The earliest is No. 107 by Jost Amman (1568) showing a spectaclemaker with calipers in hand and his affluent-appearing customer holding a pair of medially hinged lenses in front of his eyes. No. 62 by Jan Luyken (1711) shows an ophthalmologist inspecting the eye of a patient with an attendant holding the patient's head steady, an aide about to pour some fluid into a vial, and a dog underfoot. No. 67 of the same date and artist shows the spectacle peddler at the front of his shop helping an elderly scholar select a pair of glasses for reading. No. 207 by A. Ostade (1743) shows the itinerant vendor with a display basket of spectacles offering his wares to a housewife at her doorway with two other members of her family looking on curiously, all portrayed in a very humble if not quite deprived setting. No. 239, undated, by J. Stradamus, shows a central village market area with a spectacle seller's stall in the left foreground, a book printer's shop at the right, and a shoemaker's place immediately beyond, with village center buildings in the background and a number of shoplooking pedestrians here and there, several attracted by the spectacles.

The prices are as follows.

Copper 23 x 29 cm. mounted (aufgeblockt)	48 DM
Copper 32 x 42 cm. mounted (aufgeblockt)	72 DM
Copper 24 x 30 cm. framed border (im Profilrahmen) . .	58 DM
Pewter 23 x 29 cm. mounted	52 DM
Pewter 32 x 42 cm. mounted	78 DM
Pewter 24 x 30 cm. framed border	64 DM
Leaded stained glass 23 x 29 cm with linked chain. . .	122.50 DM
Printed facsimiles, monochrome, 25 x 32 cm.	28 DM
Printed facsimiles, hand colored, 25 x 32 cm.	34 DM
Greeting cards, per hundred	120 DM

(Extra charges for supplementary printing)

The German Mark (DM) at the time of this writing is bout $0.37. The pictures are illustrated in the October and November, 1983, and perhaps subsequent issues, of the Deutsche Optikerzeitung.

Binocular Refraction: Who started it?

This is the title of an article by Deryck Humphriss on page 712 of the November 5, 1983, issue of the Ophthalmic Optician, Vol. 23, No. 22. Having asked the question in the title Dr. Humphriss then outlines what, with his limited access to archives in South Africa, he believes may be a fair account of the invention of techniques to determine refractive errors monocularly during the patient's binocular fixation.

Perhaps technically the first, suggests Humphriss, was L.A. Swann's use of dynamic retinoscopy in the early 1930's. He mentions the aperture described by Aldersley in the later thirties, and then Turville's "infinity balance" technique published in 1946. Other contributors mentioned for later years were Cowen, Lyons, Erskine, and Grolman, but without reference citations, as the article seems to have been written largely, and probably necessarily, from personal memory.

In a recent letter Humphriss expressed his disappointment that no one responded to his request for any added or corrective information that readers might be able to supply. This prompted me to go back to a Master's thesis by my former student Kathy T. Lim entitled, "A comparison of the Humphriss binocular technique with a similar monocular technique for the subjective determination of the spherical refractive error of the human eye," Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, June 1967.

In her historical introduction she quotes the following from William Porterfield, A Treatise on The Eye, the Manner and Phenomena of Vision, Vol. 1, Edinburgh, 1759, p. 421, as his description of the importance of binocular vision for purpose of getting valid results with his optometer: ". . . the eye does frequently mistake the distance of the object seen thro' the Slits; for when its Distance lies betwixt the Limits of distant vision, to which the Eye can accommodate itself, it would never appear double did not the Mind mistake its Distance. And this is the Reason why, when both Eyes are open and directed to the object; it appears single at all Distances within the Limit of distant vision, by Reason the Eye is then accommodated to its Distance;"

J.H. Lucas tells more:

As a sequel to a previous bit of reminiscence mentioned in our last issue, page 9, ophthalmic optician Lucas recalls his four year optometric stint in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) beginning January 1, 1922. He had contracted to provide the optometric services for

a well established optical firm in Colombo with periodic services in other towns on the island. The enterprise served all of the various ethnic groups in the area.

Lucas's report is in the January 21, 1984, issue of the Ophthalmic Optician, Vol. 24, No. 2, pp. 44 & 46.

Spectacles out for bids:

Bonhams Works of Art Department in Knightsbridge, London, announced the auctioning of over 300 pairs of old spectacles and related optical items in their autumn Bygones Sale scheduled for last October 14. The collecting of spectacles is a rapidly expanding field. It was anticipated that some of the spectacles would bring as much as £150. More details were reported in the September 24 issue of the Ophthalmic Optician, Vol. 23, No. 19, p. 615.

Appreciated:

O.H.S. member D.G. Hummel, O.D., of North Royalton, Ohio, writes, "I use these subscriptions as small gifts. They have been enthusiastically received."

He enclosed a check to cover membership dues for his friend J.E. Fitzgerald, O.D., of nearby Parma, Ohio.

H. W Hofstetter, Editor