Recently I ran across a striking statement while doing research for an upcoming publication. It appeared in a 1967 article, and it reads as follows: “With an almost insatiable appetite for self-improvement, optometry has progressively raised its educational and professional standards and continues to do so today.” Although this statement was written more than fifty years ago, it is as true today as it was then.

We can see examples of optometry’s appetite for improvement over the full extent of its history from the times before the term optometry was in common usage and those providing optometric services referred to themselves by terms such as optician, opticist, or sight-tester. Examples can be found through the twentieth century and up to the present. We hope you enjoy the examples in the articles and the book review in this issue – the work of the McAllisters, the happenings in optometry a hundred years ago, efforts to achieve recognition and licensure legislation both in the U.S. and internationally, George Crow’s drawing up basic principles of vision therapy, and Israel Dvorine’s dedication in his adopted country.

REFERENCE