

The Canada Lancet

VOL. LIII

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1920

No. 6

EDITORIAL

THE STATUS OF OPTOMETRY.

From the lay press we take the following information, which sets forth what is being done by the optometrists under the new legal enactments governing them:

"The Board of Optometry, which was appointed under the provisions of the Optometry Act just before the late Government went out of office, has prepared regulations for the registration of optometrists and opticians and these have received the approval of the Government.

"The regulations provide for three classes: 'Optometrist' who measures the refractive condition of the eye and prescribes or fits glasses for the correction of any visual error; 'Optician,' who supplies lenses, mountings, etc., in accordance with prescriptions of an optometrist or medical doctor; and 'manufacturing optician,' covering those engaged in the manufacture of lenses, mountings, etc. The regulations provide for a stated course of study for optometrists of not less than one thousand hours, with a maximum of five hours a day in a school approved by the Board. The course of study must include: Elementary mathematics, geometrical optics, physical optics, anatomy and physiology, physiological optics, theoretical optometry; practical optometry, diseases of the eye, eye hygiene, manufacture and grinding of lenses, weekly clinics.

"For those desiring to enter practice as prescription or dispensing opticians, the course must be not less than four hundred hours, covering: Elementary mathematics, geometrical optics, practical optics, manufacture and grinding of frames.

"The above provisions apply to those hereafter desiring to commence business. For persons who have been carrying on business provision is made for the issuing of licenses where the applicant satisfies the board of his qualification. This exemption from study requirements also applies to persons who served with the military or naval forces