

THE  
Canadian Medical Review.

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Original Communications.

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The Care of the Eyes in Newspaper Work.

BY G. STERLING RYERSON, M.D., C.M., L.R.C.S., EDIN.

*Professor of Eye and Ear Diseases in Trinity Medical College, Toronto.*

[Abstract of paper read before the meeting of the Canadian Press Association.]

As far back as the time of Francis I., an imperial patent went forth concerning "the books of the Holy Roman Empire and the commission by royal grace thereto appointed." The patent read: "Seeing that we have heard with displeasure that, to the hindrance of literarie, many printers and publishers use paper that is much too bad and letters that are hard to read, and that this has already been commanded by our predecessors to be changed as a most mischievous thing, which command has up to this day been ill-obeyed: We, therefore, graciously decree, in order to avoid the withdrawal of privilege in respect of any such badly printed book, that every publisher and printer shall henceforth use good paper and readable type."

The complaint made so long ago by royal decree has been constantly reiterated by the oculists. They have had to complain of ever diminishing type, especially in dictionaries and school geography maps. Javal was the first to study the subject scientifically.