

Optical Department.

In charge of W. E. HAMILL, M.D., Principal of the Canadian College of Optics.



Correspondents should note that for an intelligent answer to be given to their inquiries it is necessary in every case to give the following information relative to their patient: (1) Sex, (2) age, (3) occupation, (4) near point of distinct vision for small type with each eye alone, (5) how their eyes trouble them, *i.e.*, their asthenopic symptoms, (6) vision of each eye at twenty feet alone without glasses, (7) best vision obtainable with glasses naming correction.

Example.—J.S., male; age, 18; book-keeper; can read small type to within five inches of each eye; complains of much headache through the day and evening; eyes feel sore and water a good deal, look red and inflamed, etc., etc.

R.E.V. $\frac{20}{30}$ with + 1.50 = $\frac{20}{30}$
L.E.V. $\frac{20}{30}$ with + 1.50 = $\frac{20}{30}$

The above example is taken to illustrate about how we desire inquiries to be made.

I have not had the fortune or misfortune of seeing any issue for over six months of the "House Organ," known to some as the Canadian Optician—but the July and Sept. numbers were given to me by a friend and my attention drawn to various personal attacks therein upon myself—by Mr. E. Culverhouse. He, the stool pigeon of the combined optical companies and "the man behind the gun." I confess I do not know how to reply to Mr. Culverhouse. I do not know whether to pity his ignorance or despise his malice the most. Instead of criticizing my article either fairly or intelligently he dips his pen in gall and makes a personal attack on me—trying at the same time to be funny and slinging an amount of verbose mud, and which could only emanate from such a source, and no respectable journal would have published such stuff. I care nothing about the venom displayed, and am sorry that the man has neither sufficient optical knowledge nor logical exactness to assume to be a critic on an optical or any other question, and the only reason I have noticed his splenic onslaught

is for fear that some druggists may be misled by his ignorant and dangerous assumptions, as I am well aware that some graduate druggist opticians receive the "House Organ," whether they pay for it or not.

Why should they not receive *The Canadian Optician*, when out of 17 pages of advertising $11\frac{1}{2}$ pages are devoted to booming one or other of the combined optical companies, their schools or their own house organ? I am informed that the Dominion Optical Company applied for space to advertise in *The Canadian Optician*, and they were asked a price several times greater than some other advertisers pay—a price at once so great that it was prohibitory.

I wonder if it is not still "published by two wholesale houses," "edited by an ophthalmic college and an optical institute," "itself the property of two jobbing houses," and its columns ready for any vituperation or misrepresentation, so long as "the man behind the gun" and his purchased friends do not get hit. The optical companies are working both the "gun" and "the fellow behind it" for all they are worth, but when opticians really recognize their selfish and sordid tactics the "gun" will prove to be only a squibb, and the "fellow behind" is just as liable to injury as those in front.

W. E. HAMILL.

The next and last class for 1900 at the Canadian College of Optics will commence Nov. 6. This will allow students to return home in ample time for the holiday trade, which you can make much greater by knowing how to fit spectacles. Address W. E. Hamill, M.D., 38 Yonge St.

A Mammoth Puff Ball.

Mr. R. W. Williams has on exhibition in the window of his drug store at Three Rivers, Que., a puff ball (*Sycoperdon Protinus*) which measures 55 inches in circumference and is $10\frac{3}{4}$ inches high. Being picked when over-ripe it weighs only 19 ounces. He has also another which was plucked green and which although only about one-half the size of the other weighs over 4 pounds.

Business Tips.

A Good LINE—The Shoe Dressings manufactured by Whittemore Bros. & Co., Boston, Mass. They sell at sight, they pay good profit, they retain the customers.

One of the best selling confections on the market last season was **McGregor's Butter Scotch**. This year the demand is far in advance of supply, but all orders in will be filled in rotation as quickly as possible. The new (15c) size will be very popular.

A splendid article for druggists to handle is **Pratts Poultry Food**. It is being very largely advertised and druggists should be prepared to supply the demand.

For **Photographic Plates, Mounts and Papers**, the amateur or the professional cannot do better than use **Marion's**. They are reliable goods and can be depended upon for uniform excellent results.

A good warm store or office is always an attraction in cold weather. Night and day you can keep your rooms warm at a minimum of cost with **Meyers' Queen Stove**. A perfect heater, will burn any kind of wood. Read the advertisement.

Liquorice.

Notwithstanding the increasing use of lozenges, pastilles, jubes and confections of many kinds to relieve throat affections, the favorite demulcent of long ago is losing little if any of its prestige, judging, as one must, from the quantities purchased by druggists for fall and winter trade.

Messrs. Elliot & Co. have specialized this line for some years and now carry two exclusive brands with which to meet all demands. The "Vittoria" brand competes with and undersells the cheaper varieties while being at least equal in point of quality. Their special "E" brand extract, though sold at but a slight advance upon the prices of the cheapest goods, compares with the standard of the market, Solazzi. For quantity orders attractive prices are quoted.

Doctor—Did you shake well before using? Larry (who has had chills)—Phoy, Dochtor, Oi tuk' th' midicine to kape from shakin'.—*Chicago News*.