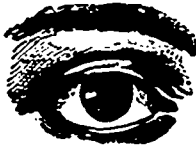


Optical Department.

In charge of W. E. HAMILL, M.D., Toronto.



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. $\frac{20}{20}$ with +1.50 = $\frac{20}{20}$
 Z.E.V. $\frac{20}{20}$ with +1.50 = $\frac{20}{20}$

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

Question: S.A.R.—I have a young lady, aged 20, who gets $\frac{20}{20}$ V. in the right eye with -3.50 sph. -3.00 cyl. ax. 180. It takes for the left eye -10.00 sph. -3.00 cyl. ax. 180 to produce best vision, which amounts to only $\frac{20}{60}$. What glasses would you prescribe? She never wore glasses before.

Ans.—I would give full correction in right eye and half the sphere and all the cylinder in the left eye. It would be no use to give full correction in left eye because the difference in the two glasses is so great the eyes would not tolerate them, and it is best to give one eye all the vision possible and make the other as good as you can without interfering with the good eye. As the case never wore glasses before she will not be able to stand the correction advised above very long at a time for reasons given too often to be repeated; hence you ought to give here for R. -3.50 sphere for L. -6.00 sphere to put on when the eyes tire with the full correction glasses. By thus having the two pairs she will much sooner be able to bring the eyes to tolerate the stronger glasses. It would be wise to avoid near vision with the eyes as much as possible the first few weeks, for you are practically

making the eyes emmetropic and for the first time perhaps for many years asking the ciliary muscle to act which, owing to its weak condition, will only be able to respond slowly and gradually.

Question: R.B.L.—Young man aged twenty-three, jeweller. R.V. $\frac{20}{20}$ with +3.00 sph. -3.00 cyl. ax. 90. L.V. $\frac{20}{20}$ with +3.50 sph. -3.00 cyl. ax. 90. With both eyes together he can read nearly all of $\frac{20}{20}$ and the astigmatic chart looks equally plain and clear, but he cannot wear the glasses longer than half an hour at a time, and complains that things look slanting. What would you advise?

Ans.—The probabilities are that you have obtained the correct glasses for each eye, but it is seldom the eyes will stand such a change without coaxing. In these cases I would order full correction to be worn as much as possible, and when they must be taken off, replace them with a +3.00 sphere for an hour or so, and in a few weeks the full correction will be tolerated continuously and with comfort. The slanting appearance of objects will also disappear as soon as the ciliary muscle becomes accustomed to the new order of things.

Dr. Hamill, 88 Yonge street, wishes us to inform our readers that he has about twenty drug stores for sale all over Canada. Some of the offers are very inviting, and prospective purchasers can have full information of these free of cost, thus making much saving both in time and money. Vendors cannot do better than to send for his blank to register their offers at his office where quick and satisfactory sales are often made.

The Optical Institute of Canada has just closed another nice class in optics. Among those attending were, A. McTaggart, M.D., London; John McLeister, Alexandria; Fred. Perkins, Essex; E. H. Hunt, Lanark; R. C. Smith, Aurora, all of whom passed the examination successfully.

The Uses of Maize Oil.

This oil, which constitutes some twenty-two per cent. of the entire weight of the seeds of maize, makes a very useful burning oil, giving a bright, nearly white light, unaccompanied by any unpleasant smell. It is also a good wool-softening oil, and makes an excellent lubricant for

bearings and other working parts in machinery.

For soapmaking this oil seems—according to recent experience—to be well adapted, since when boiled alone to curd soaps it forms a soft, yellowish product with a very agreeable odor and a yield of 1.45 per cent., which in the case of soft soap is increased to 235 per cent. It is, however, chiefly suitable as an adjunct in the preparation of dark and second quality curd soaps, its color being difficult to wash out, and it is too soft to employ along with resin in colored, settled curd soaps.

On the other hand, maize oil is especially useful as an adjunct in the manufacture of soft soaps, particularly smooth linseed oil soft soaps, which it renders very light in color and hard enough with the usual proportion of resin. For natural grain soaps, too, it is admirable, without having any influence on the grain, but is less suitable for white soft soaps, silver soaps, ammonia-turpentine soaps, or smooth olein soaps, when these are required to be white. The presence of an albuminous, unsaponifiable constituent renders this oil little suitable for textile soaps.

When converted into fatty acids maize oil yields four to five per cent. of very good crude glycerine. The fatty acid is darker than the oil, but is very useful for linseed oil soft soaps, to counteract the softening tendency of the resin.—*Der Seifenfabrikant*

Dr. W. E. Hamill, the optical instructor at the Optical Institute of Canada, has been requested by several from the Province of Quebec and Eastern Ontario to give a class of instruction in Montreal some time during the coming months to accommodate those living so far east. He has consented to do so if he can get a class of ten students, and requests those interested in the matter to write him as soon as they see this local. His address is 88 Yonge street, Toronto.

"Oh, my friends, there are some spectacles that one never forgets!" said a lecturer after describing a terrible accident he had witnessed.

"I'd like to know where they sell 'em," remarked an old lady in the audience, who is always mislaying her glasses.

The difference between a porous plaster and a lottery ticket is that the plaster draws something.