

This leads me, Mr. President, to the practical points of my paper. We can well understand that many a parent, if thus advised, would answer: "But I have neither the time nor the money to go to Toronto or Montreal." I answer it is not now necessary to do so. In all the cities of Canada are medical men who can attend to such cases just as well as those in a larger place. No family in Canada is out of reach of one of these places. Nor need time deter him. Three or four days should be sufficient to ascertain the refraction and prescribe proper glasses; then the patient could return home and be under the care of his own physician. For those who could not afford to pay for the examination, there are our hospitals—in large or small cities.

During the weeks that might ensue between the time when the case was first seen and when it went to be examined, the doctor would apply atropine, the prescription being:

- R. Sulphate of atropine..... 2 grains.
 Distilled water..... $\frac{1}{2}$ fluid ounce.
 Dissolve.
 S. One drop in each eye once a day.

This treatment may be continued for many weeks, and usually without the smallest detriment.

Summing up, then, the treatment from the standpoint of the general practitioner:

1. In a child aged three years or over, he would in every case (with the exceptions noted) advise a thorough examination of the eyes, so as to ascertain the refraction.

2. He would advise that this be done as soon as possible, but if some weeks must elapse before this can be done, he would use atropine drops once, twice or three times a day in both eyes, ordering that the drops be left off for at least two weeks before the child goes to be examined.

3. If it be reported to him that the child needs to wear glasses, he would exercise his influence with the parents to see that they were worn.

4. In case of any hesitancy on the part of the parents to attend to the matter, he would free himself from responsibility by pointing out some of the dangers of delay:

1. The child may be permanently cross-eyed.
2. He may be partially blind.
3. An operation may be needed in after years.
4. The operation, although it may straighten the eye, will not cure the blindness.