

suffering humanity by those who shamefully commercialize Christianity and disgrace Science, is nothing short of a crime.

Optometrist, Optometry.—These words are modifications of optometer, which is an instrument for detecting the distance of distinct vision, or the accommodative scope of the eye, and is used mainly for the selection of eye-glasses. The word is derived from the Greek and means a measuring of the eye. In the statutes of the United States optometry is defined as "The employment of subjective and objective mechanical means to determine the accommodative and refractive states of the eye and the scope of its functions in general." Surely this is blind view of ophthalmology. No knowledge here of general diseases and how they may affect the eye. It is not more scientific, and vastly more dangerous, than would be the custom of ignorantly handing out to every lame person a pair of crutches as the be-all and end-all of what medicine and surgery could do for these unfortunates. The immense background of general medicine to the diseases of the eye is of no moment to the optometrist.

TUBERCULIN TESTS.

From a study of the tuberculin reaction in Colorado children, G. H. Cattermole, Boulder, Colo. (*Journal A. M. A.*, Aug. 28, 1915), concludes that children who are infected with large numbers of tubercle bacilli such as those living in crowded tenements, or in close association with active pulmonary cases anywhere develop a hypersensitiveness which causes a positive tuberculin reaction. It is possible that all children are exposed to infection, and when the number of bacilli is small and the resistance good, as is the case in Colorado, they do not react, are not infected or are immune. In the patients observed by him in Colorado, where nearly every family contains some tuberculous member, and the children are thus abundantly exposed, he believes that many of them have become immune, but this will require further study for actual proof. Possibly from three-sevenths to six-sevenths of the population acquire immunity to tuberculosis in childhood while the others succumb to the more acute conditions of childhood or later show the chronic pulmonary type of adults, which he believes never occurs except in those who have been affected and rendered partially immune in childhood. In the prevention of tuberculosis we should endeavor to protect infants from all exposure and other children from massive infection. Moderate and gradual infection in older children probably insures immunity. Animal experiments as well as clinical observations by Cattermole would seem to indicate this.