

A NEW INSTRUMENT FOR COLOR FIELDS

Many authorities agree that before a course in orthoptics is prescribed for a patient an accurate and dependable study of the form and color field of the eye should be charted. Field studies are essential in cases where the patient's visual acuity cannot be brought up to normal with the aid of correction lenses; when the refractive error does not justify the complaints attributed to ametropia; in cases of suspected pathology; when a high muscular imbalance is present; and in every case before orthoptic training is instituted.

It was a recognition of these factors that moved Doctors Ferree and Rand, of the Wilmer Institute at Johns Hopkins Hospital in the design of an instrument that would permit every practitioner to make accurate charts of the perimetric and campimetric fields, eliminating the irregularities obtained between these two fields when two different instruments are used.

The virtues of the Ferree-Rand Perimeter lie in four essential factors. Field studies are of value only when taken under a standard of illumination of correct intensity. This instrument uses 7-foot candles of daylight illumination, which Doctors Ferree and Rand found dependable after exhaustive field records with standard Heidelberg Test Objects. Second, the instrument permits both perimetric and campimetric records to be made providing accurate records of the color and form fields. In taking perimetric fields, the only adjustment necessary is that of regulating the height of the fixed chin rest. While in tangemetric field charting, the head and chin rest is merely moved to its outermost position and the Campimeter Slate put in position. A third feature of the instrument is that it is semi-self recording, aiding in rapid and accurate perimeter field recording. Fourth, the pre-exposure technique developed by Doctors Ferree and Rand is very desirable because accurate perimetric field limits can always be reproduced with similar results by different operators.

By means of field records on a Simplified Ferree-Rand Perimeter many of the troublesome grief cases are eliminated, particularly those cases of excessive toxemia, along with tobacco and alcoholic amblyopia.

TO SOLVE A MYSTERY

BAUSCH & LOMB HELP.

A group of American scientists are going to Siberia next June in the hope of solving one of the major mysteries of science. They hope to establish the nature of the mysterious "conorium" which exists in the sun.

On June 19 an eclipse of the sun will be observable in a narrow track across Siberia. During the eclipse, the corona of the sun, a great pearly halo, will be visible. In order to study it, a large spectrograph, with a special telescopic extension, has been constructed by Gustave Fassin and Harold W. Straat in the Scientific Bureau of the Bausch & Lomb Optical Co. With this gigantic 7000 pound spectrographic camera, Dr. Donald H. Menzel, of the Harvard College Observatory, who heads the Siberian expedition, hopes to determine whether "coronium" is really a chemical element unknown on earth, or whether it is a chemical element already known which exists under extraordinary conditions in the sun.

A record of the spectrum of the corona will be taken throughout the progress of the eclipse, the spectrograph being suspended in a special cradle for this purpose.

Dr. Menzel, and his assistants, Dr. Joseph C. Boyce, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Henry Hemmendinger, of Harvard, hope to discover the important secret which the corona is believed to contain.