the views of representative bodies, and less to the opinions of individuals, however eminent. The State was now, more and more, assuming the *rôle* of parent, and, like other parents, would be all the better for sound advice. He would like to see ophthalmology made a compulsory subject of the medical curriculum, a matter on which we were much behind other civilised countries. At present a man receiving the minimal qualifying medical diploma could at once take up the practice of ophthalmology, and if the proposed Committee should do no more than *insist that men should not take up this work without special training, it would fully justify its formation.*

Supporting speeches were made by Mr. Grey Clegg (Manchester), Sir George Berry, and Dr. G. Mackay (Edinburgh), and the resolution was carried unanimously.

It was further decided that the Council should consist of all the past and present Presidents of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom and of the Section of Ophthalmology of the Royal Society of Medicine as permanent members, four members nominated annually by the Councils of each of these Societies, and one representative from the Oxford Ophthalmological Congress.

H. DICKINSON.

(Approved by the Chairman.)

[We congratulate the British ophthalmologists and suggest that British oto-laryngologists follow their good example].

A SIMPLE NASAL "SPLINT."

In a case with synechiæ of the nose recently under my care I tried, after division of the adhesions, the wearing of a "splint" made of a piece of rubber taken from the palm of an ordinary rubber glove. It was put in between the opposing surfaces in a vertical position and, being very flexible, required some care in adjustment. But it was comfortable to wear and answered perfectly. The patient only had to wear it about a week, and the adhesions did not re-form. I cleaned it and re-inserted it daily. DAN MCKENZIE.

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER'S "SHIPWRECK CURE" FOR DEAFNESS.

The death is announced of Mr. William Isaac Iliffe, head of the firm of Iliffe and Sons, printers and publishers, of London and Coventry, at the age of seventy-four.

Mr. Iliffe had not for some years past taken much active part in the management of the business, spending his days quietly at his home at Coventry, where he died.

His firm owned the *Midland Daily Telegraph*, which is published at Coventry.

Mr. Iliffe was one of the passengers on the steamship "Stella," belonging to the London and South-Western Railway Company's Channel Island service, which was wrecked off the Casquets on the afternoon of March 30, 1899, when about ninety lives were lost.

He used to tell how he managed to keep afloat by clinging to a furniture van until he was rescued. At the time of the disaster he suffered from partial deafness, but the shock of the accident restored his full hearing for a long time, and it was one of his little jokes to recommend anyone whose hearing was defective to try a shipwreck as an infallible remedy.

A patient with malignant disease of the throat went many years ago to consult a surgeon who had devoted much attention to laryngeal disease. The surgeon examined the case, gave his diagnosis, and recommended removal of the larynx. The patient expressed a fear that the operation was very dangerous. "Oh, no," said the surgeon, "you are sure to recover." "But," said the patient, "I understood that the operation was very serious indeed." "Well," said the surgeon, "my reason for saying that you are sure to recover is this: the mortality is 19 out of 20 and I've had 19 deaths already."

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Studies in the Anatomy and Surgery of the Nose and Ear. By *Adam E. Smith, M.D. New York. 1918. Price $4.00.*

Eye, Ear, Nose, and Throat: A Manual for Students and Practitioners. By *Howard Charles Ballenger, M.D.*, and *A. G. Wippern, M.D.* New Second Edition. Lea and Lebiger, Philadelphia and New York. 1917.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0022215100018545 Published online by Cambridge University Press