The other two booklets are concerned mainly with emphasising the need for adequate lighting in the performance of various visual tasks, and giving theoretical and practical reasons to justify the statement that "every citizen should have good light as a matter of right."

CORRESPONDENCE

TONOMETRY

To the Editors of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

DEAR SIRS,—When I read the "correspondence" by Dr. John Foster in the March, 1944, issue of your journal, it came to my mind that the suggestion made by Dr. Foster about correlation of palpation performed by different members of a clinic has been carried out some 14 years ago in the Basel Eye Clinic, under the sponsorship of Prof. Brueckner.

H. K. Mueller of the University Eye Clinic of Basel, Switzerland, published the results of thousand palpatory estimations of intra-ocular pressure performed by five physicians of this infirmary in 1930. The estimated figures were compared with those obtained by the Schiötz tonometer on the same eyes at the same examination. Thirty-three per cent. of all estimations were either too high or too low in comparison to the tonometer reading. The average deviation was, for the values between 5 and 10 mm. Hg, 9.4 mm. Hg; for the values between 21 and 25 mm. Hg, the deviations averaged—amazingly low—4 mm. Hg; and between 51 and 90 mm. Hg, they were 18.3 mm. Hg. Usually, low pressure values were over-estimated, and high pressures were under-estimated. If there was a difference between the pressure in the right and in the left eye of the same individual the physicians miscalculated it in 36 per cent. of all estimations believing the softer eye to be the harder one. Still worse were the results obtained when, after a few hours interval, the same eye was examined by the same person.

Very truly yours,

K. W. ASCHER.

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NOTES

Council of
British
Ophthalmologists

AS announced in our last issue, the Council of British Ophthalmologists, in response to the invitation of the President and Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, submitted the names of six ophthalmic