

February 1942 Bulletin

FLASHES FROM THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Last month I called your attention to "New Findings in Color-Blindness" by Steelman. This time I wish to call your attention to an article by Lepper "Reconditioning the Color Blind", Optical Journal and Review, February 15th., page 20.

WE ARE AT WAR. We are vitally interested in reconditioning the Color Blind for National "Offense" as well as "Defense", so if there is any method or technique which can be developed whereby the desired results can be accomplished, it is our duty to do so.

There is nothing new under the sun, so wrote the wise man Solomon, three thousand years ago. Ryer and Hotaling in their book "Optometric Procedure" state, "It can readily be shown that to coordinate and extend the use of colored illuminants to all phases of clinical practice is but a logical step toward the development of greater precision in bringing the defective binocular apparatus into harmony with its environment by adapting the yellow of sunlight to the retina."

For several years I have been experimenting by using colored test cards or the near findings and for the past year or more, I have used a yellow card as my standard, instead of the orthodox white card, using green, red, blue and white cards for occupational or environmental tests.

The hues used by me were based upon the following filters as used in the syntonizer: α , μ , δ , θ , ν .

It has been very interesting to notice the patient's reaction to the colored cards, the outstanding discovery was that the patient appears to be less fatigued when the tests are made with either yellow or green cards than when white cards are used. Probably, the ideal hue is a yellow-green card. In the meantime, clinical research is needed to determine which are the most acceptable.

I recommend to all Optometrists to use a yellow test card for all near findings instead of the "Orthodox White." Patients respond better, findings are more accurate.