

SYNTONOGRAM

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College of Syntonic Optometry

RILEY HAS A WORD

Dr. Sterzer has previously set forth the facts as he knows them relative to the origin of Syntonics. My writings have given other facts and now this is to be the LAST word I'll say to you on this subject.

Light therapy and the use of color for therapeutic purposes is not new. The earliest special mention is in "Kalendar and Compost for Shepherds", published in 1493. Of course there is the reference to the ocular use of variegated fixation objects in Genesis. Then there is Pleasanton and Babbitt here in America. I've owned a Babbitt since about October 1909, having picked it up in a second hand store in Battle Creek, Mich. Pleasanton's book, "Blue Light and Sunlight" was secured some years later in San Francisco.

I have affidavit from former patients in a Sanatorium directed by me in Kentucky proving that light and filtered light were used therein for therapeutic purposes as early as 1910. That use of light was predicated upon instructions given at Macfadden's Sanatorium in Battle, Creek by Drs. Zimmerman, Crane and Swingle, and upon the writings of Babbitt. Drs. Chenoweth, Engman and Rolleston were class members.

In the summer of 1919, during a post graduate course at Ohio State University, Dr. Francis P. Barr, an instructor, suggested the use of cobalt blue for relaxing accommodation during static retinoscopy. Later, during the same course, Dr. Charles Sheard suggested the use of amber light in static retinoscopy so that refraction might be nearer the range of maximum acuity of the eyes. Both of those suggestions were tried, but when tried together – well, that was something else. Then dawned the possibility of the application of filtered light for non-therapeutic OPTOMETRIC PROBLEMS.

In the summer of 1922 a paper was prepared for reading at an optometric association on the use of filtered light in optometric problems, particularly with reference to the preservation or improvement of vision in opacity cases.

I have an affidavit from Miss Rinck showing that she conducted a series of controlled experiments on fish under filtered light, at my direction, in the summer of 1925. Unfortunately, Dr. Wilcox is dead and cannot now testify as to experiments on rabbits, but there are many who know of that work.

In the autumn of 1925 while I was in California making arrangements for the AOA meeting at San Francisco, some of the phases of what is now known as Syntonics were discussed with Dr. Arthur Hoare.

In the winter of 1925-26, while Dr. Walter Kimball was president of the AOA, he was a guest in my home and some of this work was discussed with him.

In the summer of 1926, during the AO A meeting at San Francisco, phases of the work were discussed with Dr. Ernest Kiekenapp and Dr. Alex S Cameron.

Furthermore, Dr. Sterzer and Dr. Charles R. Brown, both of Dayton, Ohio, have known of my work along this line for not less than approximately sixteen years.

So, you see, that a lot – A BIG LOT of work had been completed along this line, fully authenticated, prior to the time that a well known “me-tooer” ever met or probably heard of me. Certainly, I foolishly worked for him at one time, and got a phoney unenforceable contract for my work on a dispersion outfit. But that is water over the dam and the statute of limitations is now operative. Dr. Sterzer has already told you about that.

You know Kimball, Kiekenapp, Hoare, Barr, Sterzer and perhaps some of the others. These are men of unquestioned integrity. They can verify the facts as stated above in so far as each is concerned. Furthermore, the facts ESTABLISHED QUITE CONCLUSIVELY THAT SYNTONICS WAS DEVELOPED BY ME. Syntonics is the use of filtered light for optometric purposes and optometric end results.

The technique, developed by me, includes the following new things in Optometry as practically applied:

- a. Disorganization of existing ocular reflexes.
- b. Use of controlled ocular reflexes for the emendation of departures from the normal, within physiological limits.
- c. Use of the shortest, most highly organized sensory pathway specifically designed as receptors of radiant energy in the photic range of the eye for the emendation of abnormal functions of ocular reflex origin.
- d. Use of ocular stimuli in the photic range to re-establish complacency of the autonomic nervous system, in so far as it may and does pertain to the associated and supportive functions of vision.
- e. The use of the relationship that the Kretchmer biotype has to optometric departures from the normal, due to dominancy of autonomic divisions therein.
- f. The selection of 19 new criteria and diagnostic signs for selection of optometric patients, or the determination of progress therein, never before taught to optometrists as such.
- g. The CORRECLATION OF ALL OF THE FOREGOING INTO A WORKABLE OPTOMETRIC TECHNIC.

THAT IS SYNTONICS. NOTHING ELSE IS. It was developed by my efforts.

Riley