

“THE STONE THE BUILDERS REJECTED.”

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Ten years is a long time,
Then, again, it isn't so long.
Even so, a lot of things can and do happen in ten years.
Twenty-two years is, also, a long time.
Now let's see what all this talk about time may amount to.

Twenty-two years ago the concept which gradually evolved into what is now known as Syntonic Optometry “popped” into a head. Twelve years of thinking, mulling, trying experimenting, application and finally there was developed a method, a method which could be applied by optometrists to the ocular problems of human beings. It had been used as much as the then evidence indicated it could be used clinically, all during the time of its development. Some remarkable things happened. They were astounding to optometrists who heard of them. They wanted to know more.

Hence, in September of 1930, a group of them prevailed upon the developing source to undertake the teaching of the methods discovered and developed by him. The group assembled and went to work. The method was named by that group. How well they named it time has told.

The evidence of the truth of the principle, SINCE the first teaching of syntonics, has been accumulating at such a rapid rate that it seems to have been prophetic in that the word “Syntonics” was chosen to be applied to the teachings and to the method. Before this paper is completed we shall show you some of the things the so-called builders in optometry have rejected, only to have them seized in principle and in practice by others outside the profession of optometry, even by members of the medical profession, always the arch antagonist of things optometric.

“No achievement amounts to much that is accomplished without opposition”. How true. The corollary is also true, i.e., the value of any idea can usually be measured by the opposition thereto that is raised by the “builders”. Those who are already entrenched in positions of so-called authority often consciously or unconsciously use their positions to dampen the enthusiasms of those who offer ideas slightly away from the beaten path. The violence of their opposition is a measure of their feeling of insecurity in the face of this newer knowledge, and is not, as is usually believed, a measure of their superior knowledge. And therein lies the danger to the rank and file of our profession. Many having mistaken this violence of an “insecurity feeling” reaction for a display of actual knowledge.

All too often this "insecurity feeling" on the part of the "builder has taken the form of ridicule of some one or more phases of a newer concept. They have laughed. They have indicated that "such a thing is so ridiculous that it is funny, HA, HA, HA!" And their hearers have remembered that this is an authority who says thus, and so, hence the thing he opposes must be beneath consideration.

But ridicule is a dangerous weapon with which to play.

The future has a way of serving TRUTH. Facts have a way of accumulating. Things that were "funny" at the first time they were advanced by their discoverers have a way of proving themselves as time permits investigations by others who are competent to collect evidence. What was classed as "nonsense" at one time becomes the accepted fact of today. "The earth is round and not flat". "The time beat of a pendulum is constant for a given length at a given location on the earth's surface". "The blood circulates." "Antitoxin aids in the cure of diphtheria". ALL are facts today, but ALL were ridiculed as nonsense at the time they were first advanced.

Ridicule has taken some odd forms. Once a man who stands HIGH in research in both optometry and in medicine stooped so low in his efforts to ridicule syntonics, when mention had been made that rabbits had been used to perform certain experiments, as to say, "Now, don't you know that rabbits are not good laboratory animals"? The implication being that such experimentation was not proper, hence results could not be accepted. We have reason to believe that his conscience has since caused him trouble for having this once left his pedestal in an effort to ridicule the independent work of another. Particularly so, since his inept selection of a means for "discrediting" the then speaker was known to have been faulty to at least five men sitting in his presence at the time, to say nothing of the field of experimental biology generally the main reason why rabbits are not used as much as other experimental animals is COST, and NOT because of their biological or physiological unsuitability. And the questioner knew it at the time. It is almost a definition of a gentlemen to say that he is one who never afflicts pain intentionally.
Newman

At another time, in an effort to discount the value of syntonics in optometry, another man, leader of a research group, asked the question, "What has the shape of a fellow's face to do with his ocular problems"? The implication being that it had nothing to do with it. Perhaps no, as a face, but as an indicator if the type and kind of physiological reactions to be expected in a given individual it is all important. Race horses do NOT react like percherons. Manchester terriers do NOT react like English bulldogs. And MOST CERTAINLY it is possible to differentiate these wide differences in types by looking at their faces, yes, a blind man could make the differentiation by merely feeling the heads. And does nay one rise to say that a bulldog reacts

like terrier? Which has the greater power of sustained action? Which moves faster, the percheron or the race horse? Which “dodges” when one attempt to pat him on the nose? WHY ask more questions, you know the answer.

Why, even the “infallible” A.M.A. permitted press release during its annual meeting in the New York in which the “asthenic” and the “pyknic” biotypes were not only mentioned, BUT commented upon as to reaction, type and kind. And note, too, that this release as TEN LONG YEARS after biotyping had been taught to optometrists as a fundamental for the proper use of syntonics optometrically. But this use was the subject for ridicule by one of our own researchers. “The stone the builders rejected” was grasped and USED by the AMA. Who loses?

But facial shape, as a hereditary factor, accompanies a certain body-build and an accompanying endocrine and physiological pattern. On January 19, 1941, a Harvard University physiologist released thru the press this rather astounding question, “Does your figure decide your fate?” And then precedes to answer it in the affirmative with the help of his associated psychologists, anthropologists, medical men and sociologists. But over TEN years ago it had been taught as a basic concept of the syntonic principle. It was met by denials of the “builders” of optometry. Now it is a proved fact. “The stone the builders rejected” has become the stone accepted today by other.

A Cuban philosopher has said “KNOCKING MAY BE PROOF OF CARBON OR AN INDICATION OF ENVY”.

Syntonic has taken a lot of knocks, and since human beings are not susceptible to carbon accumulations, there can be but one conclusion. Psychologically we know envy to be a result of an inferiority feeling and an effort to raise ones-self by belittling others. Not an enviable position for the “builders”, is it?

When syntonics was first taught, over ten years ago, and all of the time since, it has been taught that light of different frequencies produces chemical effects in biological products. Sperti has abundantly proved this to be a FACT. Pure research has a way of finding its end-results eventually adopted by those industries which can make a profit by their adoption. Now witness that the knowing prevents deleterious chemical changes which would affect the flavor of the product. Bottlers of Bromo Seltzer use a cobalt blue bottle to prevent chemical changes which would alter the product. And hydrogen peroxide is bottled in amber bottles for the same reason. And now a diary is delivering milk in colored bottles because it preserves the fresh taste for a longer period of time. Sextant green, lantern shade yellow and signal red colors have been found to be the best for the preservation of the fresh milk taste. All of these are in the low frequency

end of the photic range of the spectrum. Then, too, many of the biologicals used in medicine now are delivered to the doctor in colored bottles, and even with this protection the physician is further cautioned to keep them in darkness. "Of course there can be no chemical affect of light of different frequencies on the biological substances in the human eye," said the "builders" of optometry. "It's too absurd to even consider". "The stone the builders rejected" has been proved and accepted by others.

Then, again when optometrists were taught that light of certain frequencies actually could and did alter cell growth and when these optometrists mentioned this teaching to the "builders", they were told that it could not be true. Then Brakeman prepared an experimental setup, following suggestions made by the developer of the syntonic principle and actually demonstrated to those present at an assembly of the College of Syntonic Optometry that when certain frequencies were played upon living cells that they actually increased their rate of growth, while frequencies in another portion of the photic range did retard cell growth. When the results of this demonstration were reported to the so-called builders, they remarked that it was some manner of fake. But, scientists at Smithsonian Institution, at Washington, D.C. demonstrated the same thing few years later, why, of course, then their first statements and admit that they were in error. Not so that any one has yet found out. "The stone the builders rejected" was adopted and used by others.

And yet again, when syntonists were taught years ago that even the irradiation of seeds before planting would alter the rate of germination and later growth it was another subject for ridicule. "Why, that's just not possible", said they. But under date of January 28, 1941, we find a release in the press to the effect that the Italians have evolved a method of boosting the yield of wheat by exposing seed to energy irradiation. And under the same date a release covering the work of Fling and McAllister of Washington, the former in the Department of Agriculture,, that irradiation of seeds with the high frequency end of the photic range retards germination, while irradiation with the low frequency end speeds up the process, but that the pure red also retarded germination, and was more effective in retardation than the high frequency end. Even a slight shift in frequency was all that was required to reverse the effect in the low frequency end. But, when this latter truth was taught in syntonics it was labeled as "Nonsense", by the head of mid-western college teaching optometry. "Why, it stands to reason that such slight shifts as are taught to syntonists could not possibly have any marked biological effects on living issues", said he. We wonder now that the fact has been proved by other scientists if he will correct his former statement, or will he proceed to cast aspersions? "The stone the builders rejected" has been proved by competent authority. It has been accepted and is being applied by others. And what of a purely optometric problem in the light of present proof? Let us speak of amblyopia. When optometrists were taught that amblyopia in many instances would respond with improvement in

vision by the use of selected light frequencies, the teaching was rejected by our so-called builders. But did the medical profession let it go at that? NO. It did its own investigating, and now we find Dr. Pascal, a renowned physician in New York, and formerly a teacher of optometry, who was “frozen out” by optometrists and laws sponsored and passed by them, and who later studied medicine, a profession in which brains are expected and accepted, stood upon his “hind legs” at a meeting of the Congress of physical therapy and, in discussing a paper which had just strabismus, both latent and manifest can be favorably affected by massage and LIGHTS OF DIFFERENT COLORS.” This was at the 18th annual congress of the A.M. body held in 1939. And this was NINE years after this fact had been taught to optometrists as a fact. “The stone the builders rejected” has now been found a place by ophthalmologists for the handling of conditions that are usually purely optometric problems.

But what of the field of actual pathology. Admittedly pathology is not in the optometric field, yet, never-the-less, there are a number of purely optometric causes for certain findings which might be termed pathological, but which quickly disappear when the purely optometric cause is corrected. SSHH, we hesitate to mention the name, but it’s Gifford of Northwestern Medical School, right “under the nose” of the famous optometrist who said syntonics was nonsense. But Gifford uses filtered light for a number of conditions and specifically mentions “uviol”, an approximation to θ , and “filtering thru a “copper sulphate solution”, a close approximation to ν . Not only that, but he mentions conditions in which these frequencies have proved to be effective. Oh, yes, this was published over his signature early in 1941. “The stone the builders rejected” has been picked up and used by others.

Much of the propaganda against syntonics has been quite adroit and most of it very silly. We’ve heard a lot of it. Real syntonists have NOT been fooled by it. They’ve considered sources and have recognized that these builders” had the “insecurity feeling” and were whistling in the dark to keep up their courage. ‘Twould have been better for them to have studied the subject. One leader, an eminent teacher, complimented the discoverer of the syntonic principle by saying to him, “Riley, your facts and your physiology are correct.” We know not if he ever said it to anyone else. He is no longer teaching optometry, he is too big a man to be kept tied to a group whose “builders reject the stones” upon which a worthwhile profession can be built.

“Whenever an individual or a group becomes to upset by criticism that person or group is basically unstable”, so says Kraines of the National Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, in London. We have kept our peace in the face of a lot of criticism and ridicule, ten years of it, and we believe we have proved ourselves to be stable. You, all of us, have been asked innumerable questions which implied that perhaps we were a little “teched in de haid”. We’ve

weathered that. Most of us can and do look at the record of accomplishment and overlook the slights.

BUT WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

Now that time has proved us to have been right in principle and in application, is it not time that we tightened our belts, spit on our hands and did something to tell the world-optometric world included – about the SYNTONIC PRINCIPLE, what it is, what it does and something of the whyfors?

You syntonists are almost a thousand strong. That is a rather high percentage of the active optometric profession. It is a high percentage. Should we choose one and all to raise our voices at the same time to tell the world about syntonics and our work, you may be sure of listeners. Of whom are we afraid? Or are we afraid?

Perhaps it's just a case of "Let George do it".

All right, let's let George do it. What happens then? The best answer to that is to point to what has happened in other instances where the mythical George has been permitted to do it. It has always in the past summed up to nothing.

President Elmgren let you in on something a few months ago. He told you about a proposal to set the optometric world on its heels and to make it listen. He told you of plans for the future. He told you that soon you'd see something to make your eyes pop. All right, that's what he said. But do you expect him ALONE TO DO ALL THIS? Is "George" to do it all? "the Lord helps those who help themselves." We all must help.

Syntonists are equal to the task. You have intestinal fortitude enough to do it. Some of the best minds in optometry are Syntonists. They are going to help your President to complete the plans he made some time ago. YOU, YOU and – all of you and us – are going to be asked to help show the world about Syntonics. We are going to do it because we know that the Syntonic Principle is right. It is true. Optometry needs to know it and to understand it. The so-called leaders must have some of you to talk "turkey" to them. They may, or some of them will, require a little "Dutch Uncle" tactics. Something like, "Say, here's a book on this subject, you just try to find a statement in it that can't be proved". These fellows will accept that challenge. It is up to you and to me to make that challenge and then to MAKE IT STICK.

You have your college building. You have your research equipment. You have a valuable library of over a thousand volumes. You have an indexed file of source material that it took over twenty years to accumulate. It is ALL yours. You Syntonists built the building and acquired title to all the other material. It is up to you to make use of your facilities. Any proper syntonic question is a matter which can probably be handled here. Darn it, fellows, YOU OWN THE PLACE. Use it.

You have planned an assembly for May 25 and 26 here at the college building. To make it a success depends upon YOU. We will need more papers on problems solved by you, color filed changes, effects of syntonics on scotoma, results in sub-normal vision cases, results in functional cases whether they be focus problems or other reflex problems. One of you has done some remarkable work on midship men and he should tell you about it. Another has some work on blind spot sizes and he should tell you about that. Yet another, up Minnesota way has a case to report, which you dare not miss. So, you men who have been doing things, will you please get busy and write about them, then send them to us here at the College before May 15. GET BUSY, this assembly depends upon you. "GEORGE" is not going to do it. You are.

Then you will hear Prexy Elmgren, Secretary Scott, the other officer. Hear THE PLAN to be OKayed, OK it and watch your smoke.

We will each of us look for all the rest of us.

Syntonically,

Riley

HRS

"That stone the builders rejected shall become the Keystone of the arch".