

RANZCO Museum

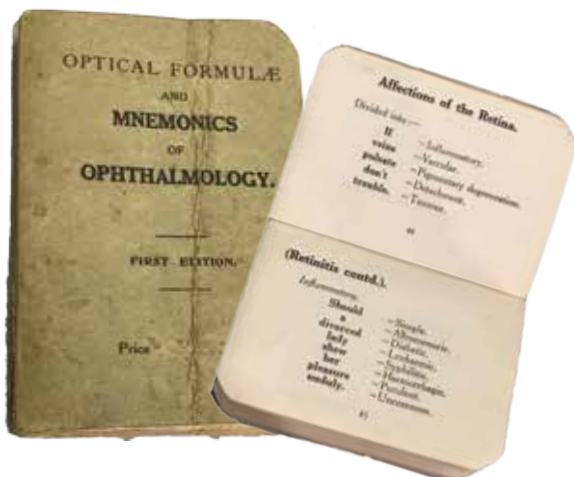
Ian Mcallister from Perth has a wonderful collection of ophthalmic antiques. Among them is an ingenious **New Way Optical Company Optometer from 1920**. This simple and cheap device was posted out. The recipient measured their reading distance and spectacle dimensions. Once mailed back, the spectacles were made to order.



New Way Optical Company Optometer from 1920

The Book of Mnemonics is a curious reflection of attitudes from the 1930s.

The Book of Mnemonics (which I always remembered the mnemonic but not the subject) includes the ever present syphilis and cautions against divorcees showing undue pleasure!



Affections of the Retina from the Book of Mnemonics



Case draft by Dr William (Bill) Box in 1935

With copperplate script and gonioscopic painting, this case draft was submitted for publication by Dr William (Bill) Box in 1935.

Preparations are well under way for the exhibit at RANZCO's 49th Annual Scientific Congress to be held in Perth in October 2017. An extraordinary display of the history of the ophthalmoscope, optometers and teaching models will be featured.

The Tragedy of Gas Warfare, on the Museum website (search 'RANZCO Museum Presentations'), was recently presented at the 14th Biennial Conference of the Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine, which was held in Sydney from Tuesday 30 June to Friday 3 July.

Many thanks to donors of new and fascinating artefacts to the RANZCO Museum.

Dr David Kaufman
RANZCO Museum Curator