

# SOCIETY of DISPENSING OPTICIANS of OHIO

Preston Sadler, Secretary-Treasurer

518 JEFFERSON AVENUE  
Toledo 4, Ohio

July 8, 1955

## LEGISLATION REPORT

Dear Member:

Reporting on results of our legislation efforts regarding the licensing of dispensing opticians of Ohio.

While we feel we have accomplished a great deal, we nevertheless were stymied in the rules committee, the last committee before presentation to the Senate floor for vote.

We have learned a lot regarding our hidden enemies of this licensing bill and believe at our next try we will be successful.

If you were following the legislation reports you will realize that out of some 3000 or more bills we did accomplish a great deal by getting it through the public health and welfare committee where a lot of the bills were pigeonholed.

Speaking today with Harry Davis, our President, we plan to have a meeting of the entire membership in September at Columbus. You will be notified as to the Sunday and date.

I hope each member will be present at this meeting as a complete report will be given regarding our licensing bill.

Wishing you a happy vacation, and that we will see you at the September meeting where we can again lay the ground work for our licensing bill.

With kindest regards and appreciation for your help and support,  
I am

Sincerely,

 Secretary

# SOCIETY of DISPENSING OPTICIANS of OHIO

Preston Sadler, Sec'y.-Treas.  
518 JEFFERSON AVENUE  
Toledo 4, Ohio

1955

To Members of the Society of Dispensing Opticians of Ohio:

The recent Supreme Court Decision, in my humble opinion, means four things:

First - Opticians in Oklahoma cannot duplicate a lens unless they have the original or a duplicate prescription. Optometrists, on the other hand, can duplicate any lens regardless of who wrote the prescription, despite the fact that the average optician neutralizes more lenses in one day than the average optometrist does in a week and is far better qualified to neutralize lenses.

Second - Opticians in Oklahoma cannot duplicate a frame or put a customer's own lenses in a new frame unless they have the original prescription or get a copy of it. Optometrists, on the other hand, can duplicate any frame or change anyone's lenses to a new frame whether or not it is their patient and without getting a copy of the prescription if it isn't their patient. This despite the fact that "through the years" Eye Physicians all over America have depended on opticians and found them thoroughly qualified to mount lenses in frames and measure and adapt frames to the face.

Third - This means that, as a matter of convenience, many of the Eye Physician's patients and the optician's customers will be channelled into optometric shops for simple repairs instead of bothering to get another prescription from their Eye Physician and then going to the optician.

Fourth - This also means that many of the Eye Physician's patients sooner or later (probably sooner) will find it "convenient" to have their eyes examined and glasses made by optometrists and the Eye Physicians will slowly lose their refractive patients, and the opticians will slowly but surely lose their eyeglass customers and their livelihood.

While the above case was pending, two more identical Bills were introduced in the Oklahoma Legislature, House Bill #777 and Senate Bill #155. These bills presume that an ophthalmologist is practicing optometry when he refracts.

Section I states, "A license to practice ANY OTHER healing art SHALL NOT OF ITSELF authorize the holder of such license to practice Optometry". This section, also, declares Optometry (by Law, not by traditional Public Acceptance) a "learned profession", and grants to it, "the same rights, powers and duties" of any other learned profession.

Section II prohibits, "All fittings, adjustments, adaptations and duplications of spectacles, eye glasses, frames, lenses, etc.", except, "under the direct supervision of", an Optometrist. This section would close every Optician in the State.

Section III gives Optometry the right to "make all test and measurements for the discovery and or diagnosis of glaucoma and other diseases or conditions of the human eye".

Section IV requires the State Board of Medical Examiners to set up standards whereby it CAN exempt Ophthalmologists from the provision of the Optometric Law and requires the Medical Board to furnish the Optometric Board with a list of such "exempted" Ophthalmologists.

This whole thing seems to be a clever maneuver on the part of Oklahoma optometry to retain all their own patients and slowly but surely put the eye physicians and opticians out of the eye-care field by gradually forcing their patients to go to optometrists.

But! You say, "What does all this have to do with Ohio?" Just this. For years it has been the strategy of every group, professional or otherwise, when they get certain privileges in one State, to go from State to State seeking to gain for themselves the same or greater privileges in each of the 48 states. This group is no exception, as past experience has taught. And we can expect this same endeavor in every one of the 48 states.

Indeed, even now, it would be enlightening for you to investigate "A Bill to Amend Section 56-1058, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1952", where Optometry is seeking dictatorial powers over medicine and opticianry.

We, in Ohio, were fortunate indeed in getting the Dispensing Licensing Bill started and coming along nicely; however, this is just a start. We will have lots of work to do and a battle to win.

"ETERNAL VIGILANCE IS THE PRICE OF LIBERTY"

1. To this end may I urge you to attend all meetings and support your Society.
2. If you haven't already paid them, pay your dues NOW. Send your check to Preston Sadler, Secretary, 518 Jefferson Avenue, Toledo 4, Ohio.
3. Get as many new members as you possibly can to strengthen our Society. Every optician should be in this movement with every resource at his or her disposal.

There are still too many sitting by reaping all the benefits of the other fellow's labor. Don't be a parasite. Let us each and all put our shoulders to the wheel and push.

"We will either stand united or we will die separately."

Most sincerely,

  
Secretary

# SOCIETY of DISPENSING OPTICIANS of OHIO

Preston Sadler, Secretary-Treasurer

518 JEFFERSON AVENUE  
Toledo 4, Ohio

Dear Member:

You have all received notice that our License Bill has at last cleared the Health and Welfare Committee and is now ready for presentation to the Senate for vote.

Your Officers and Legislation Committee have worked many hours to accomplish the progress so far. The fight against the opponents of our effort has been bitter and long. Your money has been spent judiciously to assist in the accomplishment of our goal.

Now the fight really begins, and we are going to need your help to carry the work to a successful conclusion. You will be instructed when the time is ripe to contact your State Senator by phone or telegram to apply all the pressure we can for an affirmative vote. Please respond when you get the call.

Yes -- it takes money to get the result we all want. Many of our members have not paid their 1955 dues, and some have not paid their 1954 dues. We cannot do this job without your help financially. Get your money to Preston Sadler now. We need it.

License for dispensers is a must if we are to keep our identity. This is especially true now that the Supreme Court has handed down its decision. Get your shoulder to the wheel -- dig down and pay your dues and your committee will continue to carry the ball so we will be successful in our effort and you will have State License.

Sincerely,

*Harry F. Davis*

Harry F. Davis  
President

# SOCIETY of DISPENSING OPTICIANS of OHIO

Preston Sadler, Secretary-Treasurer

518 JEFFERSON AVENUE  
Toledo 4, Ohio

The need for additional funds for our Licensing Bill is becoming acute.

Progress on our Bill is moving so rapidly that it is difficult to keep pace with it.

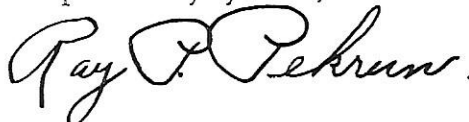
We who have followed it day by day feel assured that ultimate success of our efforts is in the very near future.

Our request is that you will be able to see your way clear to contribute an additional amount, not to exceed \$100.00.

Our only recourse is to apply to management for additional funds and we hope you see your way clear to contribute as soon as possible.

Your early reply will be appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ray P. Pekrun". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Ray P. Pekrun, Chairman  
Finance Committee

# SOCIETY of DISPENSING OPTICIANS of OHIO

Preston Sadler, Secretary-Treasurer

518 JEFFERSON AVENUE  
Toledo 4, Ohio

Apr. 23, 1955.

Robert Hagman, Sr.  
146 E. State St.,  
Columbus, O.


Dear Robert:

Enclosed you will find copy of article written by  
Dr. Vail.

Copies were sent to all the Ophthalmologists in Columbus.

If you feel you need more copies, I will be glad to  
send them.

Sincerely,



PS:LM