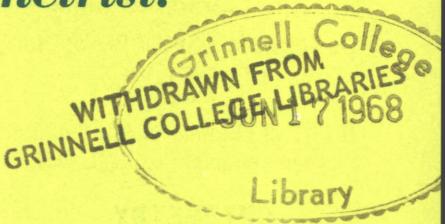


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Why not be an Optometrist?



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Official Business

SHOULD YOU BE AN OPTOMETRIST?

Do you like SCIENCE and MATHEMATICS?

Do you have an INVESTIGATIVE and EXPLORATORY MIND?

Do you have a SINCERE WISH TO HELP PEOPLE?

If this is the kind of girl you are . . . then you might want to make

OPTOMETRY

an important part of your future!

WHAT IS OPTOMETRY?

Optometry is the profession and science of vision care. The optometrist's work is to examine eyes and to correct defective sight through the use of lenses and/or vision training.

The optometrist is trained to detect visual difficulties by means of various instruments, to prescribe and provide lenses, prisms, or eye exercises, and to refer patients having eye diseases to ophthalmologists or oculists (physicians specializing in the medical and surgical care of the eyes).

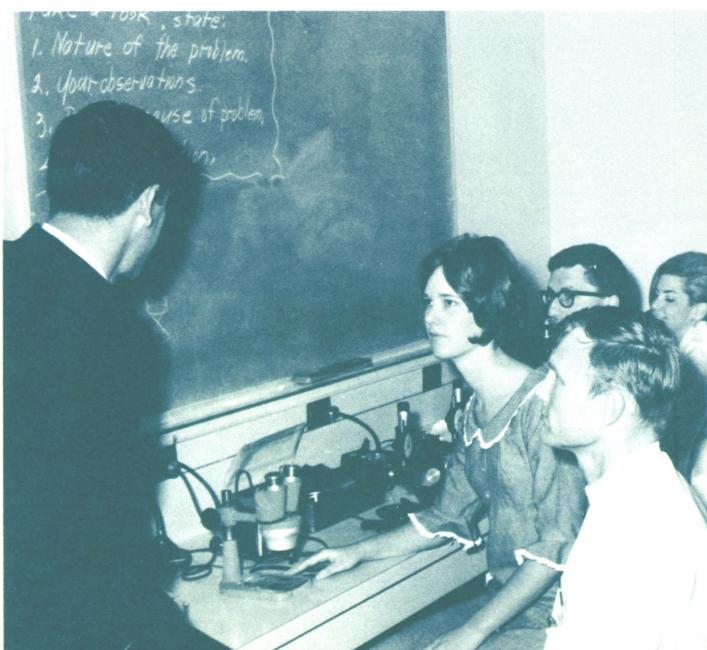
WHY DO GIRLS WANT TO BE OPTOMETRISTS?

The work is interesting, incomes are high, and surroundings are pleasant. And the optometrist enjoys professional standing in her community.

The demand for optometrists is increasing faster than the supply. Women have constituted only about 5 percent of the profession for the last several years. Many opportunities are open to them in this expanding field.



Susan Hofstetter, in the foreground of this group of optometry students, finds optometrists "are a happy, busy set of people." She feels optometry is an ideal career for a wife and mother "for one can (usually) choose her own hours."



WHAT DOES AN OPTOMETRIST DO?

An optometrist can go into general practice or devote all her time to one particular area. She might specialize in:

- contact lenses
- children's vision and reading problems
- highway safety and motorists' vision
- industrial optometry
- aids for the partially sighted, such as telescopic or microscopic spectacles
- teaching and/or research.

In whatever optometric field she works, she will be providing the people she helps with a priceless gift--the gift of better vision.

WHERE DO OPTOMETRISTS WORK?

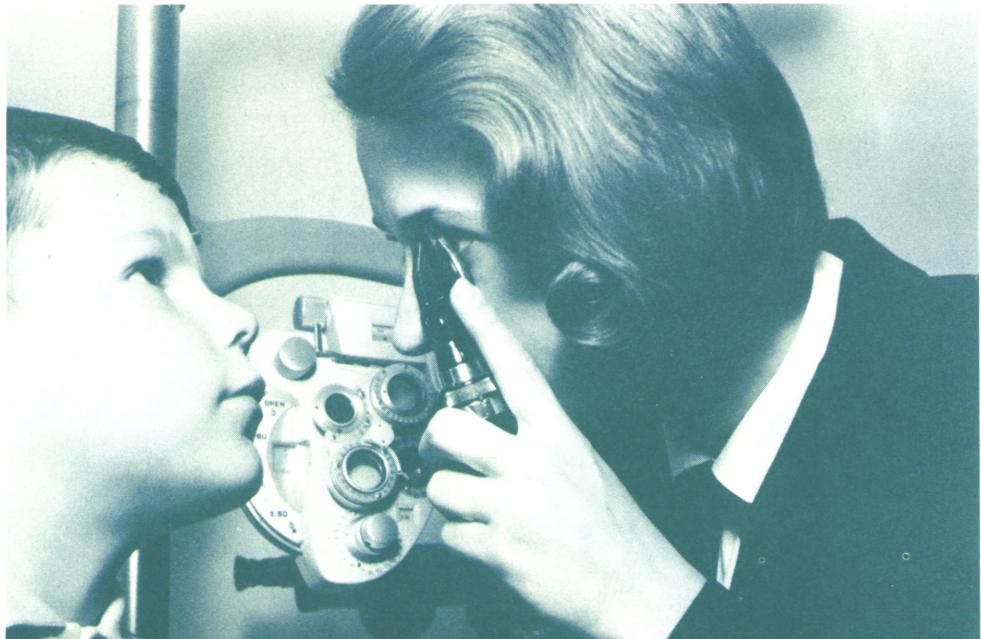
Most optometrists are engaged in private practice, individually or with others. Opportunities are available for those who prefer to teach or to work for private industry, the military, or public health services. Optometrists are employed also in health clinics and hospitals.

WHAT DOES OPTOMETRY OFFER?

Optometry offers the opportunity to combine homemaking with a career. You may wish, for example, to work only part time when your children are young. After they are grown, you may resume full-time pursuit of your profession.

You'll be IN at both ends of your life plan!

Optometrist Lt. (j.g.) Anne P. Kazmierski uses an ophthalmoscope to examine a patient at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Oakland, California. For her, optometry is a very pleasant profession for . . . "sight is very precious and helping the old, young, and in between is most rewarding." She adds, "The professional woman should consider combining her field with a military career."

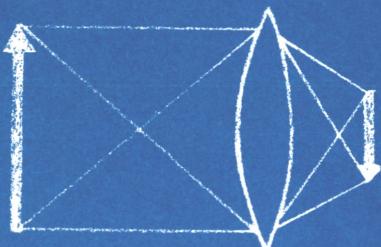


NOW - how about some details?

INCOME: The income of the optometrist compares favorably with that of other health practitioners. In 1966 the starting salary for college graduates was \$6,500 a year.

TRAINING: A solid foundation in science and mathematics is essential for admission to all colleges of optometry. Your college course will take at least 6 years. The first 2 years, *pre-optometry*, may be taken at any accredited college or junior college, and the last 4 years must be in a recognized school of optometry. After receiving your O.D. (doctor of optometry) degree, you must pass an examination to receive a license from the State in which you wish to practice.

Dr. Ellen Takahashi, with a background in private practice in optometry and special clinical experience with young children, now is concentrating on optometric research. A faculty member and research fellow at the School of Optometry, University of California at Berkeley, she is working toward a Ph. D. in physiological optics.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION--

on optometry as a career, schools of optometry, and scholarships and loans, write to the

American Optometric Association
7000 Chippewa Street
Saint Louis, Missouri 63119

or consult the

Occupational Outlook Handbook
(in your school or local library).

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