ever there are other limitations, particularly when an attempt is made to achieve the higher dioptric values, because the colors are darker and less light therefore enters the eye. In addition to the bifocal effect of course there is the effect of all objects viewed appearing to take on the color of the lens zones. A certain degree of such coloration can be tolerated and some patients can tolerate more than others.

While the use of single curves on each of the anterior and posterior surfaces of the lens (at least in the optical area of a contact type of lens) is the main advantage of using color as disclosed, the use of color is also desirable to reduce the curvature differential between the far zone and the near zone in bifocal lenses requiring higher than 2.0 or 3.0D spread between far and near zones. Especially in the exceptionally high range, the thickness of the lens may be reduced which is of particular advantage in a corneal contact type of lens. Also for some patients, certain colors may be advantageous and may be used with suitable modification in the lens surface curvatures to compensate for the color or colors used.

The foregoing disclosure may be departed from to some extent without however departing from the real spirit and purpose of my invention, and it is my intention to cover by my claims any modified forms of structure or use of mechanical equivalents which may reasonably be included within their scope.

I claim as my invention:

1. A bifocal ophthalmic lens for correcting the vision of a patient, said lens having a far zone and a near zone of the same refractive index, said far zone characterized by being colored in the range of the longer wave-length half of the visible spectrum, the posterior surface of both zones having one common radius of curvature and the anterior surface of both zones having another common radius of curvature relative to said first radius of curvature modified to compensate for the color of said far zone to provide the required correction for distance viewing of the patient, said near zone characterized by being colored in the range of the shorter wave-length half of the visible spectrum and thereby operative to focus rays from a source through said near zone at a shorter distance in the eye than rays from said source through said far zone.

2. A lens according to claim 1 which is of corneal contact type adapted to be retained on the cornea of the eye by capillary attraction produced by a lacrimal layer between the lens and the cornea, said posterior surface being curved to fit the cornea of the patient to which the lens is applied with a tendency to remain centered thereon, said lens being of a diameter greater than the normal pupil size and less than the limbal area of the eye and having its lower peripheral edge normally positioned adjacent but spaced above the upper edge of the lower eyelid when the lens is centered on the cornea and the patient is looking straight ahead, said posterior surface having its peripheral edge formed to provide clearance between the lens edge and the cornea to facilitate upward shifting movement of the lens whereby when the eye moves to a downcast position the lens will be shifted upwardly relative to the cornea by contact of its lower edge with the upper edge of the lower eyelid, the dividing line between said far zone and said near zone being positioned so that thereupon central vision may shift from said far zone to said near zone.

3. A lens in accordance with claim 2 in which said near zone is of annular shape entirely surrounding said far zone so as to be equally effective for near vision in all positions of rotation of said lens with respect to the cornea.

4. A lens in accordance with claim 3 in which said far zone is of a diameter between 3 mm. and 6 mm.

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DAVID H. RUBIN, *Primary Examiner.*