THE PERSONAL JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY



THE NEUROSURGEON

The ROUND ROBIN LETTER of THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

NOW THAT the summer months and the dog days are behind us it is time for another edition of THE NEUROSURGEON with those interesting letters from our members. You will find our Academy has been in the thick of things not only neurosurgically, but also from the standpoint of people doing interesting and unusual things. Your editor hopes the meeting at Sea Island, Georgia will see the election of several new members and that the Academy will continue to be vigorous in its search for the yearly inclusion of the best from a large number of talented and attractive young neurosurgeons. Our organization has achieved a unique spot among the neurosurgical societies, but the inclusion of new members is obviously necessary to maintain our position and our vigor.

BUT NOW to those letters from our members far and wide with their interesting comments that make this personal journal so enjoyable to us.

THE LETTERS

JOHN R. GREEN - July 30, 1957

Georgia and I were very pleased to have you bestow the Academy Award on us. We feel that it should be shared with all the officers, committees, members, and guests who made the Phoenix meeting successful.





Enclosed is a recent snapshot of our two: C. A. III, age 5, and Gretchen, age 4 months. (See page 1)

Partner Harry Steelman and I were happy to have Hal Pittman join us in July. One might say that his baptism into clinical practice of neurological surgery in Phoenix was a warm one. July weather here is one facet of this, but another was that Harry was in Europe and I went to the hospital with considerable hemorrhage from a regional ileitis, prior to his arrival. I expect to get back to work early in September and, in the meantime, am catching up on knowing the family and reading.

We are both looking forward to seeing everyone at Sea Island, Georgia, in November.

Editorial Comment

John has been gracious in his comments concerning the NEUROSURGEON AWARD, but certainly Georgia and John contributed most for all of us in their arrangement of the meeting at the Camelback Inn. We welcome the photograph of C. A. and Gretchen. Your correspondent was indeed sorry to learn, as will all of you who have not heard of it before, that John has been laid up with regional ileitis and hopes the road to recovery will be rapid. John joins distinguished company in his type of malady.

Every success for the new associate, Hal W. Pittman.

* * *

"The grass may look greener next door but it is just as hard to cut."

* * *

BARNES WOODHALL - August 5, 1957

Fran and I have just returned from Brussels where we successfully ate our way through Belgium to a final, rather "waddling" exit at the moesbruck airfield. We flew over and back in a business-like way except for the fact that we ran out of air-sickness medicine on one of those 23 hour, three-engine, back and forth jobs on the way home. Fortunately, I found a general surgeon from Atlanta on the airplane and he was well-prepared for any eventuality. It was a good meeting and I believe that we should all support this program and the next meeting in Washington in 1961. I am hopeful that Earl Walker and Bill Scoville will write in detail about the matter for The Neurosurgeon.

Like all medical schools, we are in the throes of constant change. This is good but wearing and I presume, quite in order. I

sometimes pine for those simple days when I tried to keep up with you chasing rabbits around trees. We are more and more involved in government support: so far we remain autonomous but a recent million and a half dollar grant for research in geriatrics gives you some idea of the magnitude of these research projects. This will be a drop in the bucket ten years from now. So far we have "hard" money to support the "soft" money and any other administrative technique will invite the same debacle that occurred in post-war technical research programs.

Editorial Comment:

Sounds as though Fran and Barnes must have had a really sweet flight home. Things like that make the idea of returning on the United States or on the Queen Elizabeth appealing - especially a nice deck chair for the tired neurosurgeon. We should have some interesting comments about the meeting in Brussels from our other members.

Those days of the "hunter", the "three trees", and the frightened little rabbit seem a long time ago, but those days were the simple and carefree ones.

* * *

"Past: The good old days when they also used to speak about the good old days."

"Capital punishment: Income tax."

* * *

WALLACE B. HAMBY - August 5, 1957

Your letter arrived just before my return from the International Congress of the Neurological Sciences and I will answer before it gets lost in the pile of work to be handled.

This Congress was a little more easily attended than were the last two, thanks to the good organization work. Different neurological disciplines met separately and at somewhat different times, permitting members a little better opportunity to hear papers read in different sections. It was realized by all, however, that a Congress of all the Neurological Sciences is simply too large to be handled well. It was decided then that hereafter the various sections will meet separately, to convene "en masse" only infrequently. The Neurosurgeons will meet in Atlantic City in 1961. Bill Scoville deserves great credit for being the real spark-plug behind the development of the International Congress of Neurosurgery, and I am sure he will say something about future plans.

The Academy was well represented on the program. We were proud of the way Harry Botterell handled the symposium on Hypothermia. Barnes described his extremely complicated topic of extracorporeal cooling of the bloodflow of the brain in such a delightfully, and I am sure, deceptively simplified manner that the more naive of us felt that we understood it. I will not attempt to pick out and applaud all the individual contributors - their presentations will appear in future issues of the Journal of Neurosurgery.

The Academy was generously rewarded in the selection of officers for the Second Congress as well. The officers are as follows: President - Paul C. Bucy; Vice-President, E. H. Botterell; Secretary-General, Bronson S. Ray; Asst. Secretary-General, William B. Scoville; Treasurer, Barnes Woodhall; Asst. Treasurer, Wallace B. Hamby; and Editor-of-Transactions, David L. Reeves. As you no doubt have heard, to your possible dismay, you were appointed Secretary of Publications. I extend my commiserations, but I must say I approve heartily of their choice, realizing that a better man for the job couldn't possibly have been found. For some reason or other, Barnes and I were selected to handle the finances. I was forry to find few of the West Coast contingent present, but realized that it was a very long trip for people in your part of the world.

Before the Congress, I satisfied one of my long suppressed desires. Having been gathering material for years to write a "Life" of old Ambroise Pare, I spent a month in a little 4 H.P. Renault visiting his old home sites and the battle-field scenes of his "Journeys in Diverse Places". Naturally, I saw a lot of France and acquired new, first-hand information of his times and their customs. I hope to get this in shape for publication eventually.

Having been away for so long, I can't really recall anything of interest from our clinic to pass on to you. We have been going through some distressing experiences with our second case of osteomyelitis of the spine, secondary to disc exploration. Ironically enough, both of these cases developed in people who did not have disc protrusions. They were explored at the end of long investigations into the cause of low back pain and sciatica. The organism in both cases was the staph, aureus hemolyticus, coagulase positive, responding in vitro to a wide range of antibiotics, but in vivo being influenced by practically nothing. The chief lesson, I believe, is that surgery still is not an entirely innocuous procedure. We should resist more strongly the importunities of those who would have us "just take a look".

The Fall edition of "The Neurosurgeon" will be anticipated as eagerly as ever. With best wishes to all members.

Editorial Comment:

Wally's letter was most enjoyable. Barnes said nothing

in his letter of the important work they have been doing at Duke on this complicated subject of hypothermia. I am sure the symposium on hypothermia was admirably handled by Harry and I am confident much of importance was learned. I shall be looking forward to its appearance in the Journal of Neurosurgery. Your correspondent was honored to have been made Editor-of-Transactions. This should keep me from straying from the straight and narrow -- no time for fun.

Wally's comment about neurosurgery being a dangerous specialty is well taken, and staph aureus is proving a real problem in several hospitals and in several localities.

* * *

"A bachelor is usually the most miss-informed man in town."

"If anything makes a woman older than she is supposed to be, it is probably her birth certificate."

* * *

HOMER S. SWANSON - August 6, 1957

Because of the fact that many members of the Academy are probably unfamiliar with the locale of The Cloister at Sea Island, Georgia, where the meeting will be held in November, I thought they might be interested in such information as I personally might be able to give them with reference to transportation. The Cloister is a very beautiful sight but unfortunately is rather isolated and it is necessary that automobile transportation be arranged in order to enjoy the Cloister to the fullness.

The Cloister is on Sea Island which is approximately seven or eight miles from the nearest town which is Brunswick, Georgia. There is certainly nothing of interest in Brunswick, Georgia, except mosquitoes and a typical South Georgia town, but I hope the group will reserve their opinion until they have seen The Cloister and not base it on Brunswick, Georgia.

Mr. Harned, the Manager of The Cloister, has assured me that as far as transportation on Sea Island is concerned, they will have available a fleet of approximately fourteen U-Drive-It cars available and that additional cars may be secured if the members will notify him of their wishes. The airport is located on the island which is approximately three and a half miles from The Cloister. Again, Mr. Harned has indicated that the cars from The Cloister will meet all arrivals at the airport if the members will but advise the manager of their flight number and time of arrival. The airport at Sea Island is maintained by feeder lines from both

Eastern and Delta Airlines from either Atlanta; Jacksonville, Florida; or Savannah. All railway connections are direct to Brunswick, Georgia, and the hotel will have available cars to meet the guests at the railroad station in Brunswick for those coming by train,

There is a very beautiful golf course on the island but the course is approximately three miles from the hotel. The Beach Club is available to the guests and is immediately adjacent and even in November swimming is still possible on Sea Island.

For those who have never visited the East Coast in this neighborhood, I would reommend a visit to Charleston or Savannah and drive from Charleston or Savannah along the coast to Brunswick. Savannah is approximately 60 miles from Sea Island and Charleston approximately twice that far. There is also a very beautiful drive along the coast from Jacksonville, Florida to Sea Island which is a distance of approximately 75 miles. If the members wish to reserve automobiles, I would suggest that they either contact Mr. I. A. Harned, the Resident Manager at The Cloister or make arrangements to secure automobiles either through the Eastern or Delta Airlines. Both airlines have assured me that they will have available as many automobiles as the members request upon their arrival. I sincerely hope the group will enjoy The Cloister as much as I have personally and I believe that they will find that it is quite different from the previous meeting sites. I would strongly recommend that the members travel either by plane or by car since rail connections to Brunswick, Georgia, are deplorable to say the least. They are still using some of the rails which Sherman left and have made little effort to repair the rolling stock left by his army.

Inclosed is a small brochure which Mr. Harned sent me regarding The Cloister which might be of service to you in answering any additional transportation questions.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Editorial Comment:

Homer's letter about how one gets to Sea Island and his suggestions are invaluable and much appreciated.

* * *

"The battle of the sexes will never be won by either side - there is too much fraternizing with the enemy."

"Don't learn the tricks of the trade - learn the trade."

"You're an old-timer if you can remember when it was difficult to spend money you didn't have."

Just received your letter about THE NEUROSURGEON and have little to write about except my retirement and the enclosed clipping about a trip to Japan in April for the Navy.

All goes well here. I am taking two months off to loaf and get some of the things done I always put off.

As president of the local chapter of Sigma Xi I gave my presidential address on "The History of American Side Arms" illustrated by forty slides of my collection upon which I have been working for thirty years. During the year I published "The History of the Craig Family", an historical and genealogical tome upon which I have been working as a hobby for forty years.

So it's fun being retired altho I have several projects for the coming fall and will probably welcome some activity.

ROCHESTER POST-BULLETIN

Clinic Doctors Give Impressions Of Japan Following Speaking Tour

Apparently genuine sentiments of friendship toward the American people, an increased interest in Western principles of medicine, surgery and the allied sciences, rapid recovery of industrial capacity and a resurgence of national pride were the main impressions of the current scene in Japan as noted by four members of the staff of the Mayo Clinic who recently returned from a visit to that country under the auspices of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery of the U.S. Navy.

The four are Dr. Waltman Waters, head of a section of general surgery; Dr. Winchel McK. Craig,

senior consultant in neurologic surgery; Dr. John S. Lundy of the Section of Anesthesiology, and Dr. James Eckman of the Section of Publications.

The four men were members of a party of 12 specialists from the Midwest who lectured in Army and Navy hospitals in Hawaii, Japan and Guam at the invitation of Rear Adm. Bartholomew W. Hogan, surgeon general of the U.S. Navy. The party was conducted by Rear Adm. W. F. James, medical officer of the Ninth Naval District, and by Cmdr. James F. Buckner, executive officer, both of Great Lakes, Ill.

VISIT HOSPITALS

In addition to lecturing at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Yokosuka, Japan, the four men visited various hospital and medical schools in that country. At the University of Chiba, in Chiba, they watched Dr. Komei Nakayama, regarded as one of the most accomplished surgeons in Japan, carry out a series of general abdominal operations; and at the University of Tokyo they were observers at the medical school under the guidance of Professor Tomio Ogata, head of the department of serology, and Professor Tomizo Yoshida, professor of pathology and director of the Medical Institute of the Saski Foundation of Tokyo. They also visited the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Hospital as the guests of Dr. Hajime Yoshioka, chief of the department of surgery of that institution.

Among the differences between Oriental and Occidental medicine they noted the practice of allowing members of a patient's family to move into a ward, next to the patient's bed, where cooking for the patient and his relatives is done on a charcoal brazier near the bed, and where the relatives sleep on mats on the floor, close to the bed of their recuperating member of the family.

Another difference was the arrangement of operating in succession upon a number of patients in one large operating room, rather than devoting one operating room to one patient at a time, as is customary in the United States.

In all Japanese hospitals, as in Japanese homes, visitors and members of the staff remove their street shoes and put on light slippers at the door, putting on street shoes again as they leave the hospital. Surgical gowns and masks resemble those in common use in the United States.

'Knowledge of American and European medical and surgical methods in Japan is both extensive and thoroughly up to date," Dr. Walters observed. "Japanese practitioners are keenly interested in American medical journals in particular, and are contributing papers to them increasingly. At the moment, the chief concern of Japanese abdominal surgeons seems to be the high incidence of cancer of the stomach among the Japanese, an occurrence which they cannot explain thus far. But they are exceptionally competent in their surgical treatment."

OCCUPY TOGO SUITE

At the U.S. Naval Hospital, formerly a Japanese naval hospital, in Yokosuka, Dr. Walters and Adm. James occupied the suite maintained in perpetual memory to Adm. Heihachiro Togo, the Japanese national hero who annihilated the Russian fleet off Tsushima Island in 1907, ending the Russo-Japanese War in what is considered to have been victory for Japan. Parts of Adm. Togo's flagship are built into the memorial suite, and a stone from his village home is used as a step. The doorways, however, were found to be too low for Western visitors.

The four men also visited the famous Great Buddha at Kamakura, a giant bronze statue 42 feet high, cast in sections and erected in 1252. This Buddha is annually visited by thousands of Japanese school children, some of whom

spend 11 or 12 hours on trains and buses to make the trip.

A curious practice in most cities in Japan is the fire-control sys-Various districts of a city have their own fire stations, as in America, but these districts also have large observation towers, from which the fireman can view all parts of his district. He apparently detects a fire in his district only when it becomes visible to him from his tower, and not when the fire first breaks out. If he discovers a fire from his tower, he then notifies his colleagues in the fire station, the alm being to try to contain the fire where it is burning, rather than to extinguish it at the source, as is usually done in the United States.

Evidences of industrial recovery were seen everywhere, the four men reported. The output of Japanese merchant shipyards now exceeds that of English and Scottish shipyards in certain respects, and in 1956 the Japanese exported more than 750,000 cameras to the United States, as compared to 250,000 sent to this country by German manufacturers.

The three-wheeled light truck, with motorcycle frame, engine and front wheel where the cab and engine would be on an American truck, is still a familiar sight in Japan because of the need to conserve gasoline, but as the four Rochester men visited Tokyo a new light passenger automobile, called the "Prince," was announced by the Japanese automobile industry. It is a small sedan, comparable to European midget automobiles, and will be exported for sale in the United States as a competitor to

the smaller passenger vehicles from continental makers.

IMPRESSED BY COURTESY

Drs. Walters, Craig, Lundy and Eckman, during their visit to Tokyo, stayed at the Nagurava Hotel, a Japanese family-style hotel, where they slept on light pallets on the floor, rather than at the Hotel Imperial, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, which is a hotel conducted on American lines. At the Naguraya Hotel, as elsewhere in Japan, they were impressed by the unfailing courtesy of the Japanese and the apparent genuine warm feelings of the Japanese-as contrasted with the prewar military caste-for the American people and American standards of living. Very few Japanese are now seen on the streets in the traditional kimono, and the young people play baseball, soccer, tennis and other Occidental games with great enthusiasm. Some Japanese have even taken up the game of poker.

A possible return of Japanese national feeling was observed in the fact that university students and others now begin to speak with pride of Japanese sea victories and army conquests during World War II, whereas in previous years these were rarely mentioned. The famous Japanese "Navy Hymn" can be heard more and more often, whereas after the war it was not played or sung, apparently by mutual agreement by the Japanese people.

The four Mayo Clinic men were made members of the Tokyo Bay Medical Society and Drs. Walters, Craig and Lundy were awarded honorary memberships in the Shrine Club of Tokyo.

Editorial Comment:

The impressions of Japan from the newspaper article are quite interesting and I'm sure Doctor Graig and the others from the Mayo Clinic must have had an enjoyable and informative time.

We are all happy our Honorary Member has recovered so well from his recent illness.

* * *

"Consider how hard it is to change yourself and you will understand how little chance you have to change others."

"There was once a girl who didn't have much upstairs - but, oh what a stairway!"

* * *

GEORGE L. MALTBY - August 9, 1957

It hardly seems possible that the Fall Edition of The Neurosurgeon is now being planned, but such is the passage of time.

Sim and I have had a pretty busy summer and are still in the midst of a very active problem with three teenage children going in every direction. Michael, our son, is at camp and has lightened the confusion to some degree. Sim continues to be extremely well without any evidence of her old troubles.

My oldest daughter, Mimi, and I spent slightly over two weeks in Europe this summer and just returned from this trip; which, of course, took in the International Neurosurgical Conference. This was a delightful meeting in every way, and a good part of the enjoyment was seeing so many of the Academy members there - many of whom contributed a great deal to the success of the meeting, not only scientifically but socially. I felt that an outstanding program, if not the outstanding program in the whole meeting, was that run by Harry Botterell on the problems of hypothermia in which Larry Pool took a great part. Another high spot of the meeting was the delightful dinner with Angeline and Larry Pool in Brussels. The whole trip was a great success, especially for Mimi, who is apparently just the right age to get a good deal out of such a trip. She is 17 and entering Vassar in the fall. I must say that it made the traveling, and especially the night life, a little strenuous for her father.

I am enclosing two newspaper glossy prints of my two younger daughters, Ellen, 15, and Susan, 13. They do indicate

what their activities have been all summer. They are both becoming almost tennis bums and have been covering the New England tournament circuit with amazing success. I can boast of this because I had very little to do with the tennis touring. Susan won the New England Junior Championships in her age group. Ellen has won the New England Grass Court and Junior Championships; and they have had various wins and runners up in the Connecticut State and Vermont State Tournaments and they are still on the circuit. I forgot to mention that it was in a doubles team that they won the 15 and under New England Grass Court Championship. Enough of my boasting of family prowess.

Unlike the illustrious goings on of my family, I am afraid that I am leading a rather dull life scientifically, although I seem to be terribly busy with routine problems of neurosurgery; plus trying to get a little clinical research going in various fields. The activities of private practice don't give one much time to really think, but I am trying to get together and evaluate our moderate series of intracranial bleeding problems including aneurysms. I feel that perhaps we are a little more conservative than some of the men seem to be in the handling of these cases.

Tomorrow, I expect Ben Whitcomb here with his boat for the Monhegan ocean race, which is our only ocean race in Maine during the summer.

Sim and I are both looking forward to the Sea Island meeting.

Editorial Comment

Your correspondent is very pleased with the excellent photographs of Ellen and Susie. (See pages 12 and 13) Susie looks enough like Sim to be her sister. How justifiably proud you must be of your family. You have real riches. We are happy Sim has continued being so well - that is great news.

To the many of us who couldn't take the time from the West Coast and elsewhere to enjoy the First International Neurosurgical Congress these letters about it are interesting and informative. We anticipate the others who attended will write concerning it and I am sure as the letters come in such will be the case. Mimi must have had a thoroughly delightful time and I am sure you enjoyed every minute of it with her. The dinner with Angeline and Larry in Brussels must have been a high spot in the social whirl.

It's a real problem getting youngsters in college these days and to realize Mimi is going to a school like Vassar must give all of you a feeling of real accomplishment.

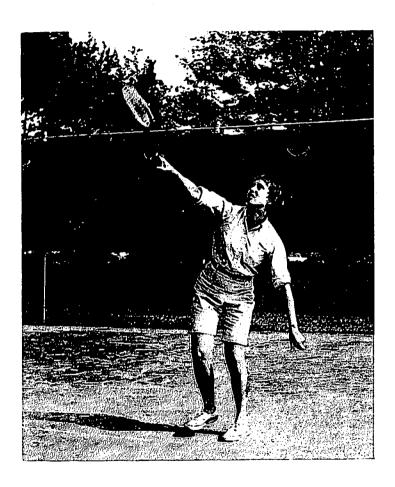
How wonderful that Ellen and Susie are doing so well in tennis. That gives them a really fine interest in life. Our Lander, who is twelve years old, started out playing tennis some months ago, and when I first saw her patting the ball it didn't look very encouraging, but after having lessons and staying with it, I could hardly believe my eyes when I watched her months later. She is really good, and parents can't help getting a big bang out of things like that.



Susie

It's not the easiest thing to carry on a busy neurosurgical practice and have time for much else, but very few can do all the things desired.

Insofar as the aneurysm situation is concerned, our luck has been so good following Francis Murphey that I'll stick with that except for those on the anterior cerebral vessels, until something better comes along. The treatment is gradually being shaken down into a rational form and further changes in ideas are bound to come.



Ellen

ERNEST W. MACK - August 16, 1957

Bobbie and I should like first to express our deep and sincere gratitude and our great joy in becoming members of the Academy, a pleasure which we had scarcely dared even to hope for.

Next week Francis Murphey, Rupert Raney, John Raaf and I take off for the annual Rogue River Neurosurgical which promises to be very interesting and enlightening.

We have been busily engaged in getting the arrangements secured for the Western Neurosurgical which is to have its meeting in Reno at the new Holiday Hotel September 29, 30 and October 1. This promises to be a very festive as well as well rounded scientific program, and we should be very happy to see any of our many friends who might pass this way on those dates.

Our current research program has been concerned with the increasingly popular peridural anesthesia and its site of action. Preliminary survey of our findings to date would indicate that this might very well prove to be a form of spinal anesthesia. We hope to report upon this further at a later date.





A sore neck at Hot Springs, Va.

Editorial Comment:

Everyone is happy to have Bobbie and Ernie members of the Academy and representatives from the unique state of Nevada. It is also refreshing to find someone so appreciative of the recognition of this membership.

Your reporter regrets he will not be able to join the happy throng for the meeting of the Rogue River Neurosurgical

Society, but he anticipates letters and photographs from the members to appear in later letters in The Neurosurgeon. His agents tell him that Francis is going to speak at the Reno Surgical Society Meeting and from there will join the rest of the boys for the Rogue River Outing.

The third annual meeting of the Western Neurosurgical Society being held at Reno at the new Holiday Hotel, September 29, 30, and October 1 should be an excellent one. The year after, this the meeting will be held at Del Monte Lodge, and a more attractive spot would be hard to discover. Marjorie and I drove up there recently with Lander to look over the Santa Catalina School which is in Monterey. Lander hopes she might be able to go there for high school. We stayed overnight at Del Monte Lodge. They have made numerous improvements in the accommodations which add more to the spot for a meeting.

The officers and committees of the Western Neurosurgical Society are as follows: Frank Turnbull, President; Howard A. Brown, Vice President; Herbert G. Crockett, Secretary-Treasurer; Executive Committee: Frank Turnbull, Chairman, John Raaf, Howard A. Brown, Herbert G. Crockett, and Arthur A. Ward, Jr.; Program Committee: Edward W. Davis, Chairman, Nathan C. Norcross, and Frank M. Anderson.

The Social Program for the Society includes a cocktail party on Sunday, September 29th at Rocking Horse Ranch (home of Dr. and Mrs. Ernest W. Mack). On Monday, September 30th, the luncheon for the ladies will be at the Riverside Hotel, Reno, and the annual Society dinner that night will be at the Sharon House at Virginia City, Nevada (Bus transportation from Holiday Hotel to Sharon House and return...Cocktails en route).

The Scientific Program is as follows:

September 30:

"Medical-Legal Complications of Neurosurgery"

Delbert Werden and Mr. DeForrest Home

"The Use of Lyophilized Homologous Dural Grafts in Neurosurgery" W. Eugene Stern

Case Report - "Epidural Torula Abscess"
David L. Reeves

"Studies on Site of Action of Xylocaine in Peridural
Anesthesia"
William O'Brien

- "The Nature of the Epileptic Discharge"
 J. Douglas French
- "Chemopallidectomy" Panel Discussion
 Robert Pudenz, Moderator, Delbert Werden,
 Harold Paxton, Robert Dunbar, and Bertram
 Feinstein.

October 1:

"Review of Lumbar Intervertebral Disc Lesions"
Nathan C. Norcross

"Review of Results of Cervical Intervertebral Disc Surgery"

E. K. Kloos

"Experience with Sitting Hypothermia Anesthesia" Robert W. Rand

"Treatment of Aneurysms with Hypothermia"
George Austin

"Cerebral Arteriovenous Malformations" Frank M. Anderson

"A Case of High Cervical AV Aneurysm Secondary to a Gunshot Wound" Ernest W. Mack

"Surgical Treatment of Aneurysm of the Anterior and Middle Cerebral Arteries (also motion picture studies)"

C. Hunter Shelden, Donald B. Freshwater Discussants: Edwin B. Boldrey, John Raaf

The Active Members elected in December 1956 are John A. Eisenbeiss, Eldon L. Foltz, Donald B. Freshwater, John R. Green, Bruce N. Kvernland, and Peter O. Lehmann.

* * *

"A woman looks at a secret two ways - it is not worth keeping or it is too good to be kept."

"Some actors think they are elevating the stage when they are merely depressing the audience."

RUPERT B. RANEY - August 20, 1957

We are expecting Francis Murphey in this evening from Memphis before he goes on to the Reno Surgical Society meeting, an annual affair and one of the better surgical meetings in the country. This year should be no exception, and I plan on attending. After that we are going on to the meeting of the Rogue River Neurosurgical Society, which is, needless to say, one of the outstanding meetings and I think comparable to the meetings of the White River Neurosurgical Society.

Aside from the routine work of the day, nothing seems to have been very exciting with us recently.

Editorial Comment:

When Rupert returns from the Rogue we should have an additional letter from him with some of his excellent photographs.

* * *

"The best proof that appearances are deceiving is the fact that the dollar looks just the same as it did 10 years ago."

"Some people never do anything on time except buy."



Your move!

After receiving your letter regarding the Fall Edition of THE NEUROSURGEON, I realize that you are already hard at it trying to get this organized for the Fall. Aside from the usual clinical work, I continue to be interested in the problem of hypothermia as I mentioned last fall at our meeting. We still use hypothermia in the (postoperative) critically ill patients as well as in patients who are critically ill following automobile accidents. The general impression is that they are helped. A well trained team is needed whenever hypothermia is used, whether in the operating room or in the wards. We have given up the use of many of the drugs recommended earlier. For pre-operative preparation we use no "lytic" cocktail, as our anesthetists feel they have better control of the patient without them. We still feel that a general anesthetic is safe until the temperature is low enough so that no further anesthesia is required. The anesthetists must then "breathe" for the patient to wash out the carbon dioxide excess which we feel initiates ventricular fibrillation. Accumulated carbon dioxide seems more important than the imbalance of potassium, sodium or other electrolytes. We are now trying a combination of ice and the thermo-Rite blanket in operative patients to hasten our patient preparation. The hypothermia patient seems to bleed less and respond quicker postoperatively than the normothermic patient who has undergone a difficult surgical procedure.

I presented a paper at the combined meeting of the Irish Ophthalmologic Society and the Society of British Neurological Surgeons in Dublin in May of this year, as well as participated in some panel discussions. It was a full meeting and illustrated the value of occasional combined meetings of clinicians in allied fields. I have since wondered how a combined meeting between orthopedists and neurosurgeons would appeal. A mixed professional, medicolegal panel might be considered as part of the program of one of our neurosurgical meetings.

Following the meeting in Dublin, Ione and I proceeded to Edinburgh. Several days were spent with Professor Norman Dott and Mr. John Gillingham. I was impressed with the type of work these men are doing. Professor Dott is an amazing and stimulating person. Both still prefer to ligate the anterior cerebral artery proximal to the aneurysm - and prefer early diagnostic angiography in subarachnoid hemorrhage. They prefer Urografin for angiography. John Gillingham is a grand host and he and his wife took us out to their lovely home on the Firth of Forth. We were sorry that the weather was too poor for sailing.

We then went to London for four days. I visited the National Hospitals and the Guy's-Maudsley Neurosurgical Unit where the teamwork was most interesting. Wylie McKissock is an amazing personality and without fears or trepidations. Mr. Hankinson wished to be remembered to his friends in the Academy.

I was impressed with the association of McKissock and Hankinson with James Bull, their radiologist, and am becoming convinced that a full time neuro-radiologist can be of considerable value to the neurosurgeon. The two could work out mutual problems far better than the casual radiologist who is not completely interested in the problems that angiography and encephalography pose. Maybe two heads can do better than one. The technical skill of Mr. Valentine Logue at the Midas Hospital in London appealed to me.

Following our visit in London, Ione and I went to Salzburg, Germany, where we enjoyed the Music Festivals along with some good operas and the beautiful side trips into Bavaria and Austria. This Old World is still lovely and the people have changed very little - they are happy to see Americans though I was sorry to see that they have picked up some of our bad G. I. habits. Medicine and industry are coming back rapidly. America and the Americans still puzzle them. I spent one afternoon dry fly fishing on the Traun River east of Salzburg and caught some beautiful rainbow and Greyling trout. We should have an Academy meeting in Austria!!

We were away from Rochester for just a month and though the trip was hurried, we had a most enjoyable time. One of our boys spent the summer in Norway and Judy visited Puerto Rico.

Ione joins me in extending best wishes to our fellow friends and members of the Academy - we are looking forward to seeing all of you in November. "Grüss Gott"

Editorial Comment:

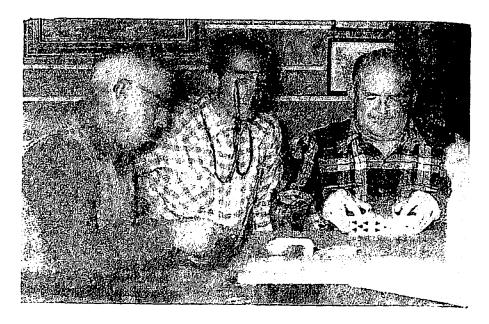
Al's comments about hypothermia are important and reveal the changing ideas about the procedure. His trip sounds very interesting and I am certain Ione and Al enjoyed every moment of it. I hate to think it has been 27 years since I was in Salzburg - that really comes as a shock. I'd certainly go for a meeting in Switzerland or Austria. This makes me realize we should do something about corresponding members. Some of our group surely are acquainted with neurosurgeons of other countries who would make desirable corresponding members of the Academy; and for one, your editor hopes someone will do something about it.

* * *

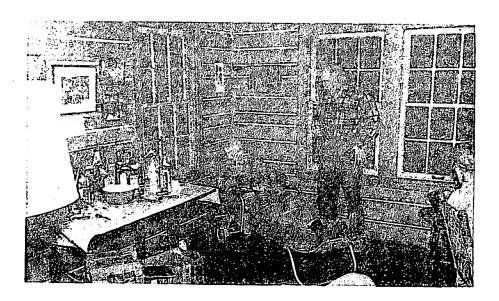
"The mathematician who said the lesser can never contain the greater, never worked in a woman's shoe store."

"Many a marriage turns into a triangle because someone didn't know where to draw the line."

"The worst thing about alarm clocks is their reliability."



The Gamblers



The Quiet Hour

JOHN M. MEREDITH - August 24, 1957

We have been trying out Cooper's chemopallidectomy for Parkinson's disease and also hypophysectomy for metastatic carcinoma of the breast in a fair number of cases. Both of these lesions have rather complicated problems at times, as I am sure all the members know. We have enjoyed, however, working them out.

I spent some time at the Children's Hospital in Philadelphia last month watching Dr. Eugene Spitz insert his valve into the internal jugular vein for hydrocephalus in the congenital type. I also made rounds in the hospital and saw a number of their cases with certainly a very flat fontanel. We have obtained the valve now and are beginning to use if in our clinic on congenital hydrocephalus cases.

Last July, I paid a brief visit to the Osler Library in McGill, with a wave in the direction of our new president (Arthur Elvidge) from that area although I could not contact him on the day I was in Montreal. I had a delightful time there with Doctor Francis, the curator, and saw a number of the priceless volumes of Sir William Osler that he had collected and which later were willed to McGill. The first editions of Vesalius, Fallopius, Jenner, and Harvey were very interesting; also Willis of the famous "circle". I wish I could have stayed longer, but I had to return to Boston where I had a brief but very happy time seeing Doctor Horrax and Jim Poppen.

Editorial Comment:

Your reporter will be interested in the status of chemopallidectomy and hypophysectomy for carcinoma of the breast five years hence and believes there will be much change in the procedures and indications, and a lessening of enthusiasm. The treatment of hydrocephalus continues discouraging. The initial enthusiasm for the shunt procedures has certainly waned and followed Sam Snodgrass' comments about it at the meeting in Santa Barbara in 1953.

* * *

"Middle age is when you are sitting at home on Saturday night, the telephone rings - you hope it isn't for you."

"Birthdays are piling up when people call you 'young looking' instead of young."

"The one time that candlelight does not flatter a woman is when it shines from her birthday cake."

"The conclusion you jump to may be your own."

ARTHUR R. ELVIDGE - August 24, 1957

Have just received the reports and discussions from the International Congress and am impressed by the many splendid contributions made by members of the Academy. Hope there will be a good response to requests of the Program Committee and Secretary for contributions to the Sea Island meeting.

Was unable to go to Brussels owing to other commitments. In June, attended the Saskatoon meeting of the Canadian Neurological Society. An excellent program featured a symposium on cerebral vascular disease (with guest speaker Ray Adams), encephalitis and other topics. An automatic scanning device for brain tumour localization was demonstrated. Two scintillation counters are designed to follow the contour of the head in parasagittal areas. Professor Waltman of Rochester gave an excellent review of neuritis.

In July, attended the 1st American Congress of Legal Medicine and Law-Science Problems conducted by the University of Texas in Chicago. This was both interesting, instructive, amusing, fatiguing and hot. It was a treat to meet Dean Echols who gave some masterly dissertations. For the first time I missed my plane, but I caught up to the same plane in Toronto, which is difficult to understand, but true.

Later in July, had a quick trip to Northern Newfoundland and Labrador to visit one of my former residents who is at the Grenfell Mission. Was held up two days at Gander by the weather, but in the subsequent two days, I saw a great deal of Newfoundland and Labrador, mostly by light plane. The hospital at St. Anthony's is extremely well run and efficient. A great deal of general surgery is carried on there, including considerable chest surgery. It was a great experience - rivers, rocks, falls, rapids, lakes, salmon, trout, forests, mosquitoes, black flies, ocean, distance, icebergs, photographs.

I hope to leave this continent in September for the annual trek to see something new, but nothing seems to be arranged yet. I may have to settle for a holiday in Montreal.

On the whole, it has been a very busy summer; mostly aneurysms, strange tumours, discs and diagnostic problems. Many of my aneurysms in the past have been operated upon in the acute phase, so that the results have often been discouraging. I have been stimulated once more by Harry's work. I am using hypothermia to some extent, and I have the impression that it helps, but am not certain how much. Diamox still seems to be necessary and working in the case presented at the Cushing Society.

Editorial Comment:

Arthur certainly gets around - and with all of this, he's off to the races in September. Only Arthur could miss a plane and catch up with it as he did. We wonder what he'll have up his sleeve for the Sea Island meeting.

* * *

"The kind of dresses men admire most are the kind they object to seeing on their wives."

"Everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody else." - Will Rogers

* * *

WILLIAM F. MEACHAM - September 3, 1957

There must be something in the water! In the last 2-1/2 weeks we have had 13 brain tumors, nine of which were temporal lobe lesions. While this may not seem a very formidable collection to those in the larger clinics, it represents a tremendous tumor census for our small service. I rather dread the long dry spell that most certainly will follow. Of the nine temporal lobe lesions one was a meningioma, one an astrocytoma, and the remaining seven were glioblastomata. Such is fate! All the glioblastoma patients are doing beautifully!

Further, to compound our problems, we had the experience of two cardiac arrests the same morning. One occurred during the closure of a trigeminal root section. With the patient still in the sitting position a prompt thoracotomy was done and the heart massaged manually. Heart action began after one minute, and within five minutes there was reversion to normal rate and rhythm. The second arrest occurred as the patient was being draped and prepared for prefrontal lobotomy. Spontaneous cardiac action was finally instituted after normal massage, but ventricular fibrillation periodically occurred during a 6 hour period ending in the patient's death.

The first patient made a complete recovery. Each patient received pentothal as an anesthetic, augmented with local novocaine and was intubated. Apparently there is no way to avoid such a distressing occurrence. Previously over a 12 year period there has been only one cardiac arrest on the neurosurgical service here. Thank goodness for the rarity.

Editorial Comment:

Agree with the thought about cardiac arrest. If frequent,

it would be a nightmare. Maybe Doctor Semmes has something important in his "Simplicity". We've had a couple of meningiomas recently who did well. I almost was convinced they were extinct in Santa Barbara - climate or something.

* * *

"Modern man is one who drives a mortgaged car over a bond-financed highway on credit-card gas."

"A hospital room is a place where friends of the patient go to talk with other friends of the patient."

* * *



A golfer reflects



The North and South of California

C. HUNTER SHELDEN - September 4, 1957

Bob and I are looking forward to the meeting in Sea Island this fall. During the past year we have continued to be interested in the hydrocephalus problem and have had very satisfactory results with the use of the ventriculo-auricular shunt and the incorporated valve which Bob has developed during the past two years.

We have also continued our interest in the problem of trigeminal neuralgia and have found the compression procedure to give excellent results. Our chief problem continues to be some method of determining the amount of pressure to be exerted upon the posterior root fibers. We are in the process of trying to develop some mechanical means whereby a calibrated amount of pressure can be exerted. This will allow us to evaluate the results of varying degrees of compression. We are convinced that this is not the ultimate answer to the treatment of this problem, but believe that it affords the most satisfactory method of handling it until such time as the etiological factor can be determined.

We have recently moved into our new office which is directly across the street from the Huntington Hospital. Our new location has exceeded our fondest expectations as far as conservatism of time and energy is concerned. Since Dave has asked for photographs, as well as contributions, I am taking the liberty of enclosing a picture of our new office.





M. N. I. FELLOWS REUNION April 1957

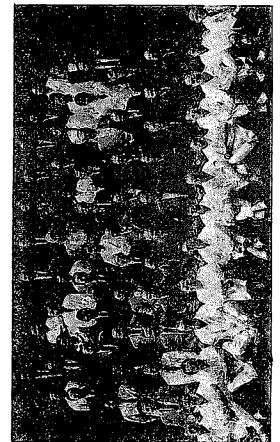




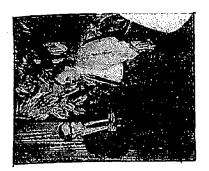




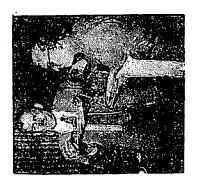
M. N. I. FELLOWS REUNION April 1957















M. N. I. FELLOWS REUNION April 1957





Editorial Comment:

The new offices of Hunt and Bob appear most attractive and the feature of having it directly across the street from the hospital helps immeasurably. Our offices hardly compare except from the standpoint of being just across the street from our hospital. The chaps in the Ivory Towers, of course, have their offices right in the hospital.

* * *

"When a girl puts her best foot forward it's probably in hopes of tripping a man."

"Four years of college", said the girl graduate bitterly, "and whom has it gotten me?"

"Nothing changes a boy's attitude toward a girl as much as a girl."

FRANK H. MAYFIELD - September 9, 1957

The enclosed picture (facing page) was made at the Latin Quarter last Wednesday, September 4th. Queenee and I had gone to New York with Sally, who will spend her third year of college at the University of Paris, and our son Frankie went along.

Queenee and I were walking across the Rockefeller Center Plaza when I spied a head across the way that reminded me of John Raaf, and lo and behold it was John and Lorene and their daughter Jean. They were waiting for their son John to arrive from England where he had attended the Boy Scout Jamboree. Out of this chance meeting in the Big City grew the dinner party for the two families after the show.

You will recognize all of the others except two. The young man at Sally's left is Len Dickey of Marion, Alabama, and the young lady at Frankie's right is Judy Radabaugh of Cincinnati. We had a wonderful time and I assure you that the Boy Scout in the front row of the Latin Quarter was quite an impressive figure.

Editorial Comment:

It really is difficult to realize how quickly the youngsters grow up and leave us. What a happy gathering for the Mayfields and the Raaf's in New York. A letter from John concerning the same meeting will be forthcoming soon. Certainly an attractive group of people.

J. LAWRENCE POOL - September 10, 1957

We have just returned from a grand vacation in Europe to discover your fine letter of July 26th, but at such a rate of exchange in correspondence I'm afraid this reply won't reach you until the Spring edition of The Neurosurgeon.

With the International Congress at Brussels as our main objective, all five of us Pools set sail from New York in June. First we toured France in a small Mercedes 190 which we subsequently brought home with us. After a hospital-medical visit in Bordeaux to see a brand new neuropsychiatric unit, we next inspected the Atlantic seaboard near Biarritz to test the effects of thalasso-therapy. We motored thence via the Pyrenees to Carcassone, Nimes, Avignon, and then Grenoble via the French Alps. A beautiful trip full of interest wine, and scenery. After Grenoble, we followed much of the 9th Evacuation war route through the Jura and Hautes Vosges mountains via Vesoul, Plombieres, Epinal, Gerardmer and Colmar, seeing a few French war friends en route.

The Brussels meeting was splendidly managed, the turnout impressive, and the programs by and large worthwhile. Academicians Earl Walker and Bill Scoville, as you all know, contributed
enormously towards the successful organization of this huge affair,
while Harry Botterell conducted one of the major neurosurgical panels
with his customary brilliance and aplomb. Earl Walker and Jack
French were both greeted by lasting applause before their recitations
(as well as after) which is a tribute accorded in continental circles
only to the monarchs of our chosen field. Wally Hamby, George
Baker, Bill Sweet, Ed Morrissey, Ted Rasmussen, Gus Gustafson,
Tom Ballantine, Ben Whitcomb and George Maltby were some of the
other distinguished members of our Academy who also shone at this
meeting.

As Earl and Bill will undoubtedly explain, the next international neurosurgical meeting of this sort is planned four years hence, somewhere on our Eastern seaboard, with Paul Bucy as President and Harry Botterell as Vice-President.

After Brussels we toured England and Scotland with The Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh as our chief goal. There, thanks to John Gillingham and Professor Dott, several extremely pleasant and highly instructive days were spent on rounds and in the "theatre" or the x-ray room. Their brand new neurosurgical unit now a-building will be the last word in clinical and research facilities, and will be well worth a special visit when completed about a year hence.

This all too brief tour gave one the impression that vascular and stereotaxic surgery are of prime interest in the special centres where these techniques have been developed to an extraordinarily rewarding degree as to clinical results.

One also gathers from various lay as well as professional sources that the Socialized Medicine scheme is not altogether a huge success, either for doctors or the public. But that, of course, is far too complex a subject to be well understood by a cursory traveller.

Another impression gained, perhaps wrongly, is that the people of France, Belgium and Great Britain seemed remarkably cheerful, active and thriving as compared with the impressions of visits to Europe in recent years. Despite Suez, Algiers and other distressing political problems, the roads, hotels, busses and trains everywhere we went were jammed with people and tourists, the bulk of them apparently being Europeans rather than Americans.

What with friends, fun, and fishing, this vacation was altogether highly enjoyed by our whole family.

Editorial Comment:

Larry, as usual, has written a thoroughly delightful account of the European jaunt, and indeed what a grand time and what a great experience it must have been.

* * *

"Anybody can move from the farm to the city but only the successful can afford to move back."

"Burning the candle at both ends is one way of making both ends meet."

* * *

STUART N. ROWE - September 10, 1957

This has been a rather busy summer with Jerry Grunnagle being off the past two months - first because of a trip and then because of illness.

The principal family event occurred on June 29 when our daughter's wedding took place. As usual, in these affairs, the ladies in the family were entirely responsible for the multitudinous preparations which seem to be pre-requisite to a beautiful wedding and reception. However, I am enclosing photographic evidence that the father was at least present.

We did take off a few days for a fast New England trip to see some colleges with our son, and, while taking a rather hasty look at Yale, I kept an eye out for Bill Scoville but did not happen to see him.

We are looking forward to the Sea Island meeting, not

only as a profitable but as a relaxing event, which is going to take the place of our missed summer vacation.

Editorial Comment:

What a beautiful daughter, and how handsome our past president and her father is in the photograph, and not a little bit proud. As we mentioned before, our children do grow up quickly and I'm afraid we also do grow old. (See the photograph of the Academy gathering in New Orleans in the last Neurosurgeon.)



FRANCIS MURPHEY - September 12, 1957

I have just returned from a trip to the Reno Surgical Society, the Rogue River Neurosurgical Society, and an expedition to the Madison River. I want to tell you if you have not been to the Reno Surgical Society, you have missed not only a top-flight medical meeting, but one of the best parties that I have ever attended. The entertainment and hospitality are an experience of a lifetime.

The Rogue River meeting this year was a great success in every respect except for the fact that the fish were not in the river. Rupe Raney, Ernie Mack, Paul McMasters, an orthopedist from Los Angeles, and I flew to the Rogue in a private airplane and after one or two passes at the landing strip at Agness, finally made a vertical bank and flattened out. After the third bounce, I was fairly certain we had made it. I should like to report that the gin fizzes were wonderful and that John and Lorene knocked themselves out entertaining us. Ernie and I then took off for the Madison River where again the fish failed to cooperate (we did not have Baker along), but we did have quite an exciting ride in the same plane over the Salmon River primitive area in a snow storm.



Rogues at the Rogue

From a neurosurgical standpoint, this has been our busiest year. Scientifically I have nothing to report except some success with carotid endarterectomy which we will report to the Academy at Sea Island.

Editorial Comment:

Francis, I am sure, added greatly to the pleasures of the ROGUE RIVER NEUROSURGICAL SOCIETY, and I am sure he wears the belt emblem of that unique society. Sounds like a real sporting airplane trip.

"One thing that keeps a man from holding his own is the Bureau of Internal Revenue."

"An old timer is one who remembers when you could promise a child the moon without having to buy him a space suit."



Mother and Daughter

DONALD D. MATSON - September 16, 1957

I wrote something very exciting, refreshing and interesting to everyone this summer in response to your first letter. Now that the second request has come, I can't remember what I wrote or what I did with it!

Most members, I am sure, have had the task of lecturing to nurses about neurosurgical problems in the course of their training program and wondering if anyone was paying any attention. I have just had an interesting experience that suggests one of them listened for a while at least. A woman called me from Bangor, Maine and said that as a student nurse affiliating at the Children's Hospital several years ago she had heard me talk about brain tumors in young children. She said she now had a new baby who, at the age of seven weeks, she was sure had a brain tumor. I hastened to reassure her that this was extremely unlikely - but why did she think so? Well, she said, the baby was irritable, had been vomiting for a week, and now the fontanelle was tense and the baby turned its eyes to one side most of the time. So I invited her to bring said infant to Boston, and indeed the baby did have a bulging fontanelle, split sutures and deviated eyes.

In a well organized fashion we scheduled the infant for ventriculography and question of craniotomy or shunt at 8 o'clock on Monday morning, subdural taps having been negative on admission. Whereupon, late Sunday afternoon this ungrateful infant, whose name, appropriately enough in view of all the vomiting, proved to be York, proceeded to lapse into stupor and dilate its left pupil. This led to ventricular tap, air studies and a Sunday night emergency removal of a huge papillary adenoma of the choroid plexus on the left lateral ventricle. Once we got this nine-pounder's temperature back up to a reasonable range, it has to this moment been a brilliant 24 hour survival, and I think should continue to do well.

All of which goes to prove something about a wise mother knowing her own child, even if she is a nurse with pediatric training.

Editorial Comment:

After having read Don's letter and finding it so interesting, I certainly would have enjoyed the one he was unable to find or that he lost.

He is to be congratulated on having such a brilliant result under such unfavorable circumstances.

* * *

"The best time to give advice is when nobody else is around."

BENJAMIN B. WHITCOMB - September 17, 1957

Highlights of the Brussels meetings were dining with the Pooles and seeing old friends.

On return, we spent one extra-curricular weekend drifting in the fog off the Maine coast with Maltby.

In neurosurgery, Bill and I have been impressed with a few rather dramatic results in prolonged hypothermia in severe brain stem injuries. We find, however, that dramatic recoveries sometimes show unusual complications only some of which we have been warned about. This has varied from gangrene of the digits to gastro-intestinal hemorrhage. We have had no instances of renal shutdown under these conditions. This has been encouraging, and I wonder if any of the other members have had a similar experience.

Hope to see everybody at Sea Island soon.

Editorial Comment:

The hypothermia problem, I feel, has not yet become crystalized.

* * *

"It is better to fail in a cause that must ultimately succeed than to succeed in a cause that must ultimately fail."

"You cannot build character and courage by taking away a man's initiative and independence." - Abraham Lincoln



Come and get it!

JOHN RAAF - September 18, 1957

The tempestuous pace of summer trips and vacations has slackened a bit. Before the mad scramble to attend fall medical meetings begins I'll try to sit down long enough to write a note. We have had an interesting summer. Johnny attended the National Boy Scout Jamboree in Valley Forge and then went on to the Jubilee-Jamboree in England, thence to the continent for a tour of numerous cities and back to New York on September 4. Lorene, Jean, and I spent most of our spare time this summer running back and forth to the Rogue trying to install a caretaker who really wanted the job. The Rogue River Neurosurgical Society met the last week in August. Academy members present were Francis Murphey, Ernie Mack and Rupe Raney. I wish that I could send you some pictures of their tremendous catches. In lieu of fish pictures, I am enclosing a couple of candid camera shots of what actually took place. After the Rogue meeting we went East, saw Reedie Schwartz for an hour or so between planes in St. Louis, and who should we run into -purely by accident -- one night in New York but Queenie and Frank Mayfield.



A likely story

We have had several interesting tumor patients lately. Yesterday we operated upon a nine year old boy with a cerebellar fossa tumor. The child stopped breathing at the very start of the anesthetic (the anesthesiologist claimed he had given him only. 3 cc of pentothal). After the cerebellar fossa had been opened the boy started to breath and today he is as bright as ever and breathing normally. He never did have much increased intracranial pressure, but the tumor was in the brain stem and could not be removed.

Your page in the last Round Robin Letter headed "RES IPSA LOQUITUR" reminds me that one of the radiologists here in town and I are being sued. The reason I have been named in the suit is that the plaintiff claims I sent her for an x-ray picture of her neck. (Actually,

I didn't send her, one of my associates did). She claims that as a result of taking the picture (and I quote from her complaints filed in circuit court):

 The muscle and fleshy tissue of the plaintiff's body and surface of her skin were severely burned about her entire body;

- 2) Plaintiff suffered continual burning and pain in her eyes;
- 3) Plaintiff suffered injury and x-ray damage to the bones of her body;
- 4) The endocrine system of plaintiff's body has been upset;
- 5) Plaintiff has suffered severe and excruciating pain and discomfort which has persisted and will continue the rest of her life.

You probably have heard about the law suit in California. It seems that a young married woman was in one of the California hospitals (I think in Santa Barbara). One night an intoxicated male patient on the same floor of the hospital wandered out of his room, into hers and started to get into bed. Of course apologies were profuse from the intoxicated male after he had sobered up and from the management of the hospital. Everyone thought that the matter had been dropped, but a few weeks later the patient and her husband sued the hospital. At the trial the patient was asked by the defending attorney why she hadn't made an outcry when the intoxicated one started to get into bed with her. Her answer was "Well, this was my first admission to a hospital. I was unfamiliar with hospital routine and I thought he was an intern."

So far in 1957 the male members of our family have managed to maintain their usual fracture rate. Last February Johnny broke his leg skiing on Mt. Hood. At the recent Rogue River Neurosurgical meeting I took a tumble and fractured my sternum. Our problems with caretakers at the Rogue prevented our attendance at the Cattlemen's Convention in Eastern Oregon in August. Otherwise, something more major might have been fractured.

Editorial Comment:

John's note about the suit against the radiologist is representative of some of the ridiculous reasons for them. If the attorneys were allowed only a nominal sum for trying cases of this sort rather than a 50% take there would be less enthusiasm for trying to pick up a quick number of bucks.

I thought the story about the Santa Barbara Hospital quite amusing. I had heard something about it, but it was kept on the quiet side.

The photographs from the Rogue River Neurosurgical Meeting were excellent. Must have been quite a meeting to have the rugged John fracture his sternum.

"A bachelor is a man who apologizes only when he is wrong."

"There are more important things in life than money, but they won't go out with you if you are broke."

"The automobile is here to stay, but a lot of motorists evidently are not."

* * *

W. A. GUSTAFSON - September 18, 1957

We have returned from our tours abroad and as a delegate I will report briefly on the meeting at the International Congress of Neurological Sciences in Brussels. Attending the meeting there were 22 members of the American Academy of Neurological Surgery, and as you know, Bill Scoville was one of the organizers participating in the organizational activities. I was unable to attend the initial meeting since I was a victim of air transportation difficulty with a long delay in Shannon, Ireland. Apparently there was some organizational disagreement in regard to memberships and number of members from each country, with some fear apparently from the European members that there would be too much domination by the Americans. This was finally circumvented by tabling this part of the organizational constitution until the next meeting with general acceptance of the constitution other than this and believe this eventually will be published at a later date.

The meeting is extremely large with difficult organization since apparently in societies of this sort all papers must be accepted in order to get representatives from various countries, both those in Europe as well as South America which in itself makes for a number of papers that are not worthwhile and make the type of management in presentation of these papers extremely difficult. I believe we all admired Harry Botterell's management of his session since he had organized his papers, summarized them, and then presented them briefly while others were given completely; in this way, he was able to cut short those papers which were of less value.

The meeting lasted an entire week and at the final organizational meeting it was decided that the next meeting would take place in the United States on the Eastern seaboard so as to require less travel for those people coming from abroad, and it will occur in 1961 on the Atlantic seaboard. The following officers of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies were elected: President, Paul C. Bucy, Chicago; Vice-President, E. H. Botterell, Toronto; Secretary-General, Bronson S. Ray, New York; Asst. Secretary-General, William Scoville, Hartford, Conn.; Treasurer, Barnes Woodhall, Durham, N. C.; Assistant Treasurer, Wallace

B. Hamby, Buffalo; and Editor of Transactions, David L. Reeves, Santa Barbara, Calif. Further organizational meetings in this respect will be carried out in this country, I believe sometime in the Fall.

From Brussels we went by train to Copenhagen and spent a couple of days there. We then travelled on to Stockholm where I met Ted Ericksen and the two of us went out to Prof. Olivecrona's clinic. There we found out that George Baker and Jim Greenwood had preceded us sometime before. We met Prof. Olivecrona and watched Dr. Bahm do a pituitary tumor. We then spent some eight days in Stockholm travelling about and generally had a good time. As you know, I had the whole family with me and this was more or less of an educational tour for my sons.

From Stockholm we flew to London and spent a day and a half with my old friend Wiley McKissock. I watched him clip an aneurysm at the bifurcation of the left anterior and middle cerebral artery in a 15-year old boy who was right-handed. He did this under hypothermia and had no difficulty whatsoever. The boy had had a relatively severe hemorrhage and the aneurysm was well-demonstrated on arteriography. McKissock simplifies hypothermia in that he induces the individual with approximately 15 icebags; uses two long thermometers, one in the nasopharynx and one in the rectum; follows the temperature down until it is 32°C., this takes approximately one hour; then he proceeds with his operative procedure although he has intubed the patient prior to chilling. They carry the patient mainly on Phenergan and Demerol with no further chilling. The operative procedure takes approximately 1 to 1-1/2 hours. I saw the patient again one hour after the procedure was completed and at that time he was moving about and moving all four extremities, his temperature had risen to 35°C. and his general condition appeared extremely satisfactory. Postoperatively he used nothing to alleviate the shivering, as the patient was lying there in bed shivering rather violently. In discussing this with McKissock he stated that they used no medication postoperatively in regard to the shivering. At present McKissock is compiling an interesting review of his aneurysm cases and I believe he is totalling better than 500 cases.

Interesting enough, we spent an evening in the McKissock home and found that he had recently taken up the hobby of orchid culture -- I likewise had taken this hobby up several years ago and in which I am still an avid participant.

We spent a certain amount of time sight-seeing in London and then flew home with no mishap.

The only observation concerning surgery in both Oliveurona's clinic and in McKissock's clinic was the remarkable similarity in all respects to our surgery.

Editorial Comment

Gus has written a most entertaining and interesting account of his European journey. Certainly the members of the Academy attended in a large percentage. I wish I had had the opportunity of seeing the interesting work some of the neurosurgeons mentioned were doing. McKissock's simple method of obtaining hypothermia appeals to me.

While at a recent meeting in Chicago, I heard Gus give his paper on combing the posterior root for tic douloureux and thought that most interesting. I am going to start toasting the posterior root with a mild electrocoagulant current and see what comes of that. Apparently it was agreed that whatever the procedure, compression, decompression, warm water, combing, and what not, that the injury to the posterior nerve root was the explanation for the beneficial result.

* * *

"One quick way of making ends meet is by driving too close to the car ahead."

"It is easy to put children to bed early, the hard part is keeping them there."

"Nothing helps you to get to know your neighbors better than a fully equipped tool shed."

WILLIAM H. SWEET - September 18, 1957

I have just had a patient whose tongue is not innervated exclusively, or even mainly, by way of the third division of the trigeminal nerves. When an alcohol block of the third division at the foramen ovale failed to produce analgesia of the tongue - the site of origin of the painful paroxysms - I was nonplussed because the needle point was in the center of the foramen ovale. The Shelden-Pudenz compression operation yielded two months of relief of pain. Because a psychiatric consultant felt that the pain might be on a psychological basis, my next procedure was to cut the third division just above the foramen ovale distal to the Gasserian ganglion. To my amazement, the tongue showed little change in sensation. A subsequent xylocaine block of the ipsilateral second, third and fourth posterior roots produced an analgesia in the usual zone plus the tongue and stopped the pain. A block of C2 alone did not produce this lingual analgesia and did not stop the pain.

At operation, under local anesthesia, each of the rootlets of C2 and C3 was lightly stimulated and the reference of pain

for the uppermost nine of the ten rootlets stimulated included the ipsilateral side of the tongue. Only the lowermost C3 rootlet yielded no reference of pain to the tongue. Division of all ten rootlets has been followed by analgesia of the tongue and relief of the paroxysmal pain, the only type present.

In addition to the unusual innervation indicated by these results, there is the intimation from these events that there is something peculiar about the peripheral innervation of the face which permits paroxysmal "trigeminal" pain to develop. I say this because I am not aware of any description of pain in the neck or occiput corresponding in its clinical features with trigeminal neuralgia. However, I suppose that it is also conceivable that the fibres in the C2 and C3 posterior rootlets have the same type of termination as those in the descending cephalic or trigeminal pain pathway.

Editorial Comment:

This indeed is a most interesting finding of Bill's. Perhaps some of the other members have had similar experiences but I must say such has not come my way.

* * *

This photograph of Lander and Elizabeth with their grandfather (see facing page) was taken during the recent Fiesta, or Old Spanish Days. All, of course, are in their Spanish costumes for the occasion. Their grandfather was the first President of the Fiesta, or Old Spanish Days, some twenty-two years ago.

* * *

"What you don't know may not hurt you, but it certainly can ruin your appearance on a quiz show."

"Punctuality is the art of arriving in time to wait."

* * *

THEODORE RASMUSSEN - September 19, 1957

I am gradually recovering from the summer's activities, which included a three week get-acquainted tour of some of the principal neurosurgical centers in Britain, the Brussels Congress, followed by a short motor tour through Luxemburg to Neustadt in the Black Forest for a short visit with Oscar and Cecile Vogt in their Institute, a one-day motor excursion around Lake Geneva in Switzerland, and three-day visit with friends in the Jura Mountains in Eastern France, and five days in Paris.



My visit in Edinburgh coincided (by chance) with the British Open, which was being held at St. Andrews. By a strange coincidence Jim Greenwood was there at the same time and persuaded me, without too much difficulty, to spend one day following Bobby Locke and his competitors around the ancient and honorable grandfather of all golf courses.

I saw many things of interest neurosurgically speaking in Britain, and also in Paris. The Congress itself was an overwhelming affair as far as I was concerned. I will be looking forward to the next Neurosurgical Congress where there won't be quite so many competing attractions.

The accumulated backlog from my summer's absence has me pretty well snowed under at the moment, but I hope to be seeing you at Sea Island in November.

Editorial Comment:

After the Harvey Cushing meeting in Detroit last April, a birthday celebration was held for Dr. William Cone in Montreal. Joe Evans gave the first Annual Fellows Lecture at this time, the title being, "Brain Injury: Some Present Concepts and Challenges". The first Montreal Neurological Institute Fellows Re-union Dinner was held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel on April 28th. It was attended by approximately 110 fellows and wives. Bob Pudenz was the Master of Ceremonies. Following a toast to the Queen, Arthur Elvidge told a few stories on the early days of Dr. Penfield and Dr. Cone at the Montreal Neurological Institute. Others of the Academy who took part in the festivities included Ed Boldrey, Don Coburn, Frank Echlin, Guy Odom, and Ted Rasmussen. Your correspondent regretted not being able to join the happy occasion, but he had just about run out of steam following the Harvey Cushing meeting in Detroit.

ARTHUR A. WARD, Jr. - September 19, 1957

I have spent a busy summer at home tending the fires as we sent two of our group to Europe for the Brussels Meeting. I am sure that there will be many interesting reports in this coming issue of impressions which members of the Academy have brought home from their trips. Certainly this should be an interesting issue for that reason.

Since we are coming to that time of the year when decisions must be made regarding appointment to residency programs, some of the problems I face are of real concern to me and possibly this general topic might be included as an item of discussion at some future meeting as we have covered certain aspects of it in the past.

As our training program is a rather carefully controlled tutorial program into which we put a tremendous amount of effort and in which the emphasis is on quality of products rather than on quantity, we are increasing our minimum period of training from four years to five. As a fair percentage of our products plan to go into academic work, I think this is the only way that we can adequately prepare them and give each man the security that he is a somewhat superior product who will be able to meet competition of the products from some of the other superb programs in the country. On the other hand, this adds one additional year of training which involves not only the expenditure of time but the loss of an additional year of financial income and I am afraid that these two burdens are now getting to the point where they are almost unbearable for the average resident. This means that we will thereby exclude a certain number of well qualified individuals who are well-motivated who just cannot embark on a program of this kind for these two reasons. Compounding the problem is the fact that the Academy of General Practice is apparently going to see to it that rotating internships are to be the only type of internship offered by all hospitals in the country; added to this one almost wasted year is the two years of military time. This means that the average man graduating from our program will be ten years out of medical school. Particularly for those who plan on an academic career with the sacrifices inherent in such a career, I think that this period of preliminary training would seem to be asking an awful lot of them. I think that a rather dramatic and drastic revision of our conventional concepts is going to have to come which involves not only a re-organization of hospital training but also a more efficient use of time in the medical schools so that superior students can go into a specialty with some assurance they will complete their training before they have their first coronary occlusion! In any case, I think some of these threats to the specialties will have to be seriously considered sooner or later.

Editorial Comment:

Arthur has expressed some of the problems of the training program in neurological surgery, and indeed they are not easy to surmount. Perhaps the promising young neurosurgeon should have a couple of oil wells on the side and then finances would be no problem. The other alternative is someone who forsakes all of that much like the old days of the artist or painter, but guys like that don't make the best neurosurgeons.

* * *

"Middle age is when you look forward to a dull evening."

"Marriage - A committee of two on ways and means with the woman getting her way and the man supplying the means."

"Most woman don't give secrets away, they trade."

THOMAS A. WEAVER, Jr. - September 19, 1957

Mary and I had been looking forward to Sea Island all year as this has been one of our favorite spots since vacationing there three years ago. Now it looks as though I will be making a flying trip for the meeting as we do not seem to be able to make satisfactory arrangements for the family just at that time. All of the six children are in school for the first time this year. Jim, the baby of the family, started kindergarten in September. Chuck and Tom both are playing high school football this fall.

Dave Roth and I are sweating over blueprints and specifications for our own office building away from the center of the city and almost across the street from the Miami Valley Hospital where we do the major portion of our work. The trend here, as in many cities, definitely seems to be away from the downtown area.

Editorial Comment:

There is nothing like having your office next to the hospital. As I mentioned before, Hunt Shelden and Bob Pudenz have a similar setup, and we do here. I wonder how many others have their offices across the street from a hospital - that is, those who are not in the hospital itself?

* * *

"If you think a girl isn't explosive, says Joe E. Lewis, just try to drop one!"

* * *

E. H. BOTTERELL - September 20, 1957

This has been a summer of meetings and travel. Margaret and I attended the Tercentenary Congress held by the Harvey Society of London. Then we followed on the next week with the Gallie Club. This was a magnificient occasion, for Dr. Gallie's residents met with him in London at St. Thomas's Hospital and Middlesex Hospital. He gave the Club a dinner in the Royal College of Surgeons that was an occasion, and I think is the culminating point in his career. He is now pretty well retired. They went on to Oxford for a day, which Margaret and I skipped, and then to Edinburgh for a couple of days where the Club gave Dr. Gallie a dinner in the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. Scottish hospitality was lavish and liquid, and it was a most stimulating and interesting experience. Norman Dott is building what I believe will be the ideal neurosurgical unit of its type and size. His plans, I am sure, would interest anybody who is embarking on a new unit. It was delightful meeting one's friends in Brussels, and I must say the arrangements were admirable.

After all this, we retired to Lake Joseph, one of the Muskoka Lakes, for three weeks in August to recover our health and strength.

Our daughter, Daphne, is getting married on October 5th, just five days out of her teens, and what I take to be the usual state of happy confusion is in full swing.

Margaret joins me in sending our best regards and warm greetings to our ever-stimulating Editor and all the Academy.

Editorial Comment:

Our members certainly travel and get around and do interesting things. It seems to me that our neurosurgical group, in addition to being wound up about the specialty and profession, have more hobbies and do more interesting things than almost any similar organization.

* * *

"The trouble with a bargain usually is that only the price is right."

"When a man and wife say they always see eye to eye, they are probably the same height."

"The parent who buys a boy a chemistry set usually pays through the nose."

* * *

S. R. SNODGRASS - September 23, 1957

Margaret and I have been back in Galveston now slightly more than a month after our European trip and by now have gotten the two older boys off to college. One is a junior and the other a freshman, and the house seems a little empty with only a ten year old at home now. We did not take any of the children with us on our trip: I feel sure that the older ones would prefer to go with others in their own age group, while the younger one was too young to be interested in what we were doing and seeing. We were away from home a little more than two months and had a wonderful trip although perhaps we went too many different places and did not stay at many of them long enough. It left us with a wish to return again, especially to Spain and Italy. I felt a little guilty that I had for the most part ignored medical things while we were gone but could always find plenty of excuses.

I am starting off on my twenty-first year here but do not yet feel like I am a Texan. There are some new problems to go along with the older ones, but in general things are going well.

The best thing that has happened has been the arrival here this summer of Dr. Walter Klingman from Charlottesville to be professor of neurology, and there is also another neurologist, Dr. Harlan, who came down from the Mayo Clinic this summer. They show every sign of wanting to cooperate with us in every way in teaching students and residents as well as in the care of patients.

I have been away so much that I am not sure that I will be able to make it to the meeting at Sea Island but am hoping to do so.

Editorial Comment:

More travelling and more indications that our children are growing up and leaving us.

* * *

"A bachelor is a man who enjoys being a good loser."

"Middle age is when you still have the old spark but it takes more puffing."

"A small town is a place where the only kind of secret is a brand new one."

* * *

ROBERT L. McLAURIN - September 30, 1957

I hope that I haven't missed another deadline, although I doubt that The Neurosurgeon will suffer even if the deadline for the Fall edition has gone by. Like all others, Kath and I are looking forward to the coming session at Sea Island. We happen to be among the many romanticists who honeymooned there, and now, eleven years and five children later, we are returning to the scene of the original crime. Although I can't speak for Kath, I am hoping that this trip doesn't start the whole cycle all over again.

We have recently become intrigued again with the mechanism of the neurologic (cord) signs occurring in cervical spondylosis. It has never been completely understandable to me how the ridges along the anterior wall of the spinal canal are solely to blame for cord compression, particularly when spinal fluid block is more common when the cervical spine is extended. Recently, we have treated a lady who had a typical clinical picture of cervical spondylosis, but on myelography the only encroachment on the column is from posteriorly by the flavum ligaments. I wonder if the posterior indentations seen in myelography are not as important in the evaluation of these patients for possible benefit from surgery, as the indentations from anterior ridges. Incidentally,

our patient has shown definite improvement following posterior decompression.

Editorial Comment:

The problem of cervical spondylosis remains, I believe, in a state of flux with various ideas about the appropriate treatment. Perhaps someday we will have the definite answer.

It should be a great return to past days for Kath and Bob. They are fortunate to have five wonderful children.

* * *

"What most people save for a rainy day is only a drop in the bucket!"

"You are an old timer if you can remember when stories that can't be told in mixed company weren't told in mixed company."

"Nobody meets more optimists than the clerk in the marriage license bureau."

* * *

EBEN ALEXANDER, Jr. - October 3, 1957

The noise around our offices at the present time is so great with the new construction that is going on that one can hardly think much less write an intelligible letter. The only haven of refuge is the operating room which is basically the most peaceful place in the world, free from telephone calls and any other irritants in life.

Our medical school is now building a new wing which will about double the square footage of the present building and all of the new building will be for research facilities. This is something that our institution has needed badly for a long time and will be of tremendous help to us at the school and of particular help to us in our department. When the building has progressed farther than the actual steel framework, perhaps I can have a picture taken and send it in for the next ROUND ROBIN LETTER.

In the meantime, we are looking forward to the coming meeting in Sea Island, and it would appear that Lyle French and his committee have gotten together an excellent program for us. It is a really encouraging thing to see how many fine men we have who are eligible for voting into membership this year, and I hope that we will be able to get all or at least many of them in.

We continue to be most enthusiastic about hypothermia

in the treatment of aneurysms. This is one field in which I personally did not expect to make such progress in the last two years as we have made, and in looking back over our experiences in the last eight years the use of this particular method of handling aneurysms has promise of even more success in the future.

Editorial Comment:

How right Eben is about the operating room. It is one place where they leave you alone. I recall this so well in the Army, for to me it was one spot to get away from the red tape, the phone calls, and the trouble - it was in a way a sanctuary.

Let us hope that Eben is right in our taking in some much needed new blood for the Academy this fall.

My agents tell me there will probably be a symposium on "Hypothermia" at the next Harvey Cushing meeting. Your grass roots editor doesn't believe its value and the methods used for its best production have become properly established and that there is still too much starry-eyed enthusiasm about it.

We note that Eben's Betty is the President of the Ladies' Auxiliary for the meeting next spring in Washington, D. C.



A pause before dinner

"Blaming your faults on your nature does not change the nature of your faults."

"If tact could be bought, only those already possessed of it would want to buy it."

"When a man disagrees with his wife it proves just one thing - he is courageous."

* * *

WILLIAM B. SCOVILLE - October 7, 1957

All of us in New England are looking forward to the Sea Island trip for it sounds a very perfect place to meet, especially the Sailmobiles, but it also appears to be quite the most inaccessible spot in the United States. I find that I can go to Los Angeles and back quicker.

Since our last letter, we are trying to intersperse the routine drudgery of "Hartford Disease", cervical discs and lumbar discs, with some true research. Dunsmore and Reilly have been to Sweden twice and obtained a grant to start use of Leksell's stereotaxic machine and special x-ray apparatus in our operating-xray room with especial emphasis on childhood pyramidal diseases and secondarily Parkinson disease. The apparatus arrives this fall. We are now under way with a second grant for a neurophysiology monkey lab, headed by Robert Correll, a young man from Iowa State with an excellent background, having worked under Knott and Ingram. We plan to study the relationship of memory to various portions of the hippocampus and rhinencephalon. In addition, we are starting local brain cooling in cats in the hopes of later simplifying the complexities of acute hypothermia. We use it now regularly and have not had cardiac irregularities as a problem. We have used chronic hypothermia up to 1-3 weeks on some two dozen cases and have saved the lives of at least three or four cases which would certainly have died without it. In these cases, problems have arisen in (1) secondary benign infections including a B Coli meningitis, staph pneumonia, cystitis and cellulitis, all in one case, and all responding to proper antibiotics. (2) Need for increased rather than decreased fluid intake with diminished fluid output of extremely high specific gravity. (3) Possible increased tendency towards renal shutdown. (4) Gangrene of the tips of the toes in one middle aged emaciated head injury who has since survived.

Little items of possible scientific interest have been the occurrence of priapism in two cases of traumatic cerebellar clot. I am proud to announce that this is now called "Scoville's sign" around the hospital.

We have great trouble getting percutaneous vertebral

angiograms, except by mistake. In that case, we seem to accomplish them with the greatest of ease. The proper solution probably will be to turn all vertebral angiograms over to one individual which we have not done so far. We are using the English Shelden needle and experimenting with the duck bill anesthesia needle and thin walled needles, and also with simple open approach of the carotid and the vertebral at the level of the 6th cervical vertebra, but the fault in both percutaneous and open is not in getting into the vessel but in a secondary vasospasm so that by the time we shoot our pictures the flow out of the needle is diminished to a few drops. We shall appreciate comments, possibly at the meeting.

The ICNS "Monster Congress" proved immensely success. ful in Brussels as several of you found out. It was very stimulating to have at least the neurologists meet jointly or consecutively with the neurosurgeons. Due to absence of a liaison committee, plans have been made to hold the next neurosurgical congress in the States four years hence while neurology will be held in Rome, and eight years hence this will be somewhat reversed. It seems to this writer most important that we make every effort to hold the two congresses in close sequence or proximity so that there wont be a permanent divorce between us. This is especially important in Europe and I am hoping that we all may be able to remedy this by one group or the other agreeing to change their meeting place. We will have more information before our meeting. You also probably know that, due to your editor's superb accomplishments in our Society, he has been made editor of the transactions of the next neurosurgical congress, an honor indeed, and four of the five officers of the congress are members of this society.

Editorial Comment:

Those of us on the West Coast also find Sea Island not the most accessible spot, but we are certain its charms will make the meeting a memorable one.

For those of us away from the Ivory Towers, Bill's comments about his research laboratory and the work they have planned make us feel, or at least me, that we are, or I am, out with the boys tagging the walking wounded, so to speak. Be that as it may, there are, platitudinously, compensations in many things. We have noted the Scoville sign, but have not seen it as mentioned.

We are happy to receive Bill's comments about the ICNS with which Bill has had so much to do. Other letters concerning it have been included. Interesting is the fact that four of the five officers of the Congress are members of the Academy, and, as your correspondent has mentioned previously, members of the Academy hold most of the chairs of importance in neurosurgery of the country, are officers of most of the important neurosurgical societies, and will be discovered doing a lot of interesting things

besides neurological surgery. It might well be said they are also members of many other neurological and neurosurgical societies, but I do believe it is true that the Academy was the beginning and the first love.

* * *

"Love may not really make the world go around but it manages to make millions of phonograph records do so."

"The modern young man burns his midnight oil in the crank case."

One party girl to another: "Ordinarily I never chase after a man, Babs, but this one was getting away."

EDWIN B. BOLDREY - October 9, 1957

It was certainly a pleasure to see you and Marjorie at the meeting in Reno and to learn that it was not too late to submit a note for the Fall Edition of "The Neurosurgeon". The meeting of the Western Neurosurgical Society whose membership includes all of the members of the Academy on the West Coast, was to my mind a most pleasant one. The Academicians elsewhere in the country will be interested in knowing that Ernie Mack was the host of the meeting this year and Howard Brown is the president-elect for the coming year. Some of the men are going to require physio-therapy as soon as they get home to get over the slot machine bursitis resulting from hours spent in contributing to the various public projects of Nevada. Nobody made much money because Francis Murphey had been out here in August and had taken most of it home with him.

I would like to know how much trouble the various members are having with hemolytic staphylococcus aureus infections. I have not had many - as a matter of fact just one such case - but with the resistance to so many of the antibiotics and with the effective ones having undesirable side effects so often, the appearance of this bacterium in the hospital has been regarded as most serious. Certainly for the patient it is potentially a "catastrophic illness". Many of the other hospitals in town have the same bacterium and are having the same difficulties in therapy. I would be interested in any comments.

An interesting case came to my attention recently. A chap complained of severe orbital, retro-orbital and cheek pain. He had a "congenital" abnormality of the bone at the base of the skull. Angiograms showed a tremendous angioma of the posterior fossa on the effected side lying entirely below the tentorium and apparently

accounting for some nerve deafness which he had had for many years. The angioma is probably inoperable. Interestingly he obtained some relief of his pain from a supraorbital block and a major improvement after an alcohol block of the gasserian ganglion which was undertaken with some trepidation. The question now arises as to the relationship of the angioma to the man's pain and if there is a relationship, etiologically, why did the peripheral nerve block help. We discussed this considerably among ourselves but without any satisfactory conclusions being reached.

There was one thing which seems to be increasingly impressed upon me and that is the necessity of learning more of the posterior fossa vascular system.

 $\label{eq:Helen and I are looking forward to seeing you in Sea Island. \\$

Editorial Comment:

Ed's letter about the third annual meeting of the Western Neurosurgical Society brings further attention to a very enjoyable gathering out here. All of the officers for the coming year are, I believe, members of the Academy. Your reporter hopes the others will write a word about the meeting of the Southern Neurosurgical Society and the additional sectional meetings.

Marjorie and I drove the "Gray Ghost" from Santa Barbara through the Mojave desert and up via Bishop and the Mono Lake country. It was a delightful trip. Through Lone Pine and Bishop we could see the pinnacles of Mt. Whitney, the highest mountain in our country and beautiful, indeed, it was, as was, I might add, the magnificent scenery around Mono Lake. Before going into Reno we drove through the Ghost Town of Virginia City, Nevada, where the Society had its banquet on Monday evening at the Sharon House. It is my understanding that Mark Twain stayed at the Sharon House when he was working on the "Territorial Enterprise" at Virginia City. My agents tell me that Ernie Mack's grandfather was one of the superior court judges in Nevada and lived in Virginia City. I am told one should read Ellen Berlin's book about her parents and this area, "Silver Platter". Plenty of history of the West revealed in those pages. Now it truly is a ghost town.

I couldn't help marvelling at the slot machines in the hotels in Nevada, and I also had difficulty comprehending why anyone would fool with them. At least, among other things, it made me feel and realize that our states can be different one from the other, when such is legalized in Nevada but not in any other state to my knowledge.

For the social columnists, while there I read in the San Francisco Examiner that Kate and Ed Morrissey announced the

engagement of their only daughter, Kathleen "CiCi" to Merrick Browne, son of Commodore and Mrs. Davenport Browne. November 30 is tentatively set for the wedding date. You may recall Ed brought CiCi to the Montreal meeting in 1948. A most attractive daughter.

Kathleen 'CiCi' Morrissey Becomes Bride-Elect

By FRANCES MOFFAT Society Editor, The Examiner

Exciting NEWS in the romance field comes to-day from Dr. and Mrs. Edmund J. Morrissey, who are announcing the engagement of their only daughter, Kathleen "CiCi" Morrissey, to Merrick Browne, son of Commodore (ret.) and Mrs. Davenport Browne.

The couple, who have been a duo for some time, first revealed the news at a family dinner party Thursday night. Tentatively, they have set Nov. 30 as their wedding date.

The pretty, popular brideelect has two brothers, Edmund J. Morrissey of Beloit, Wis., and Philip Morrissey, a medical student at the University of California. A member of a pioneer clan, she is the granddaughter of Mrs. Clarence E. Musto of Atherton and the late Mr. Musto and of the late Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Morrissey.

She is the niece of the T. Adam Mustos of Woodside, the Joseph Mustos and Mrs. Martin Musto of Atherton and of the Proctor Flanagans of San Francisco.

CiCi was graduated from

the Convent of the Sacred Heart and UC, where she affiliated with Kappa Kappa Gamma. She made her debut at the 1948 Cotillion Ball and is a member of the Junior League and The Spinsters.

Merrick has three brothers, Ramsay, Godfrey and Davenport Browne Jr. He is an alumnus of the University of San Francisco and served with the Navy during World War II. With his marriage, he will drop out of The Bachelors.



"CICI" MORRISSEY, MERRICK BROWNE ENGAGED
The Spinsters and Bachelors lose two members

Among the members of the Academy present at the Reno meeting were Helen and Ed Boldrey, Dorothy and Howard Brown, Barbara and Ed Davis, Dorothy and Jack French, Bobbie and Ernie Mack, Kate and Ed Morrissey, Bob Pudenz, John Raaf, Mary and Aiden Raney, Alta and Rupert Raney, Arthur Ward, and Georgia and John Green as new members. Your correspondent was happy to see John Green recovered from his recent illness. We had a nice visit with Georgia and John and enjoyed their company immensely.

In the personal comments column, have you noticed how a number of the neurosurgeons are interested in cars. Art Ward has his Jaguar with the double over-head cams that he loves. Your reporter doesn't know what Bill Scoville is tearing around in now, but he thought it was one of those fabulous Mercedes-Benz 300 SL's. Do any of you know of what the other members are doing in this respect?

Your editor also notes that Ed Morrissey and Howard Brown in the Bay Area are both southpaws - any other left handers in the crowd? He also observes that three of our distinguished members are Nicht Raucher's - German for non-smokers - just gave up the filthy habit, Rupert Raney, Ed Morrissey, and Howard Brown. Most of us give up the weed on a temporary basis. The girls just don't seem to want us to smoke cigars, even though they are much healthier, as far as the recent survey on the cancergenic and heart features are concerned. They tell me it infiltrates the curtains and ruins the house. If someone could invent a cigar that didn't do that, he should have something.

My agents tell me that one of our members, actually two, for both husband and wife are members of the Academy, are expecting a blessed event. We are all very happy about this. Your correspondent doesn't know of any additional events, but his East Coast representatives haven't reported in as yet.

Marjorie and I drove to San Francisco before the meeting had concluded. She wanted to visit a classmate who was flying in from Honolulu. I couldn't help marveling at the beauty of the Bay bridges and the entire setting of San Francisco. Fortunately, moreover, we saw Mary Martin and John Raitt in Annie Get Your Gun. It was thoroughly enjoyable.

Time marches on and soon we will gather again for our meeting, and this time at Sea Island, Georgia. It should be a wonderful meeting and much of importance should be accomplished there. So far no definite conclusion has been reached by your editorial advisory committee on the best measures to continue The Neurosurgem, but this may take a little more discussion and consideration. It certainly should be maintained by some small committee either appointed by the President or Council, or elected by the membership.

This should be regionally representative. This could be an editorial committee appointed for terms of four years, or six and staggered. The chairman, or managing editor, I believe should be relieved of putting out The Neurosurgeon after a period of four or six years. There could be an additional Editorial Advisory Committee which could in a way be honorary and might be made up of those who had finished their term on the editorial committee. There is so much talent in the Academy that certainly it should be utilized in this fashion. Moreover, someone has to be prepared to take over the task of actually putting the numbers out. It has been your editor's thought that about two numbers each year serves our interests best and keeps the cost down to a feasible level. last number of THE NEUROSURGEON (March 1957), excluding the printing of the Constitution and By-Laws and the membership list, was \$548.00 and THE NEUROSURGEON of August 1956 was \$270.00. This, of course, does not include postage and other incidentals but gives an idea of the cost. Your correspondent feels THE NEURO-SURGEON is sufficiently important, interesting, and unique with the Academy that it should be continued within a reasonable expenditure of money.

In closing he hopes some of the members will propose and follow through to election some deserving corresponding members, and that some of the members will come forth with some new and valuable ideas for improving the Academy and making it more enjoyable for all.



Our Secretary rests the body