

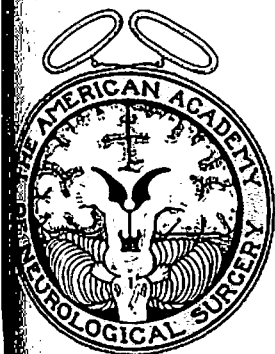


THE NEUROSURGEON

THE ROUND ROBIN LETTER
OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY
OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

Volume 12 - Number 3

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The American Academy of
Neurological Surgery



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Vice President	Rupert B. Raney
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1952-1953

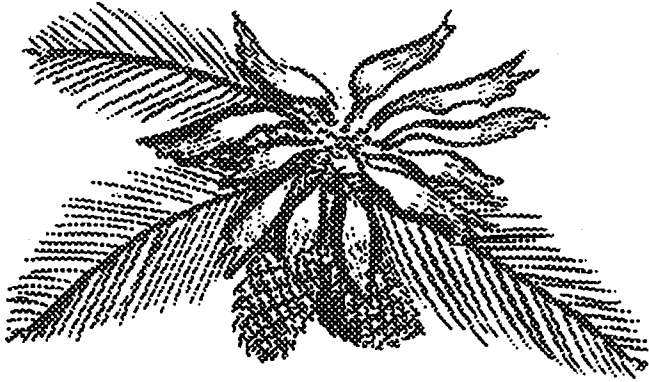
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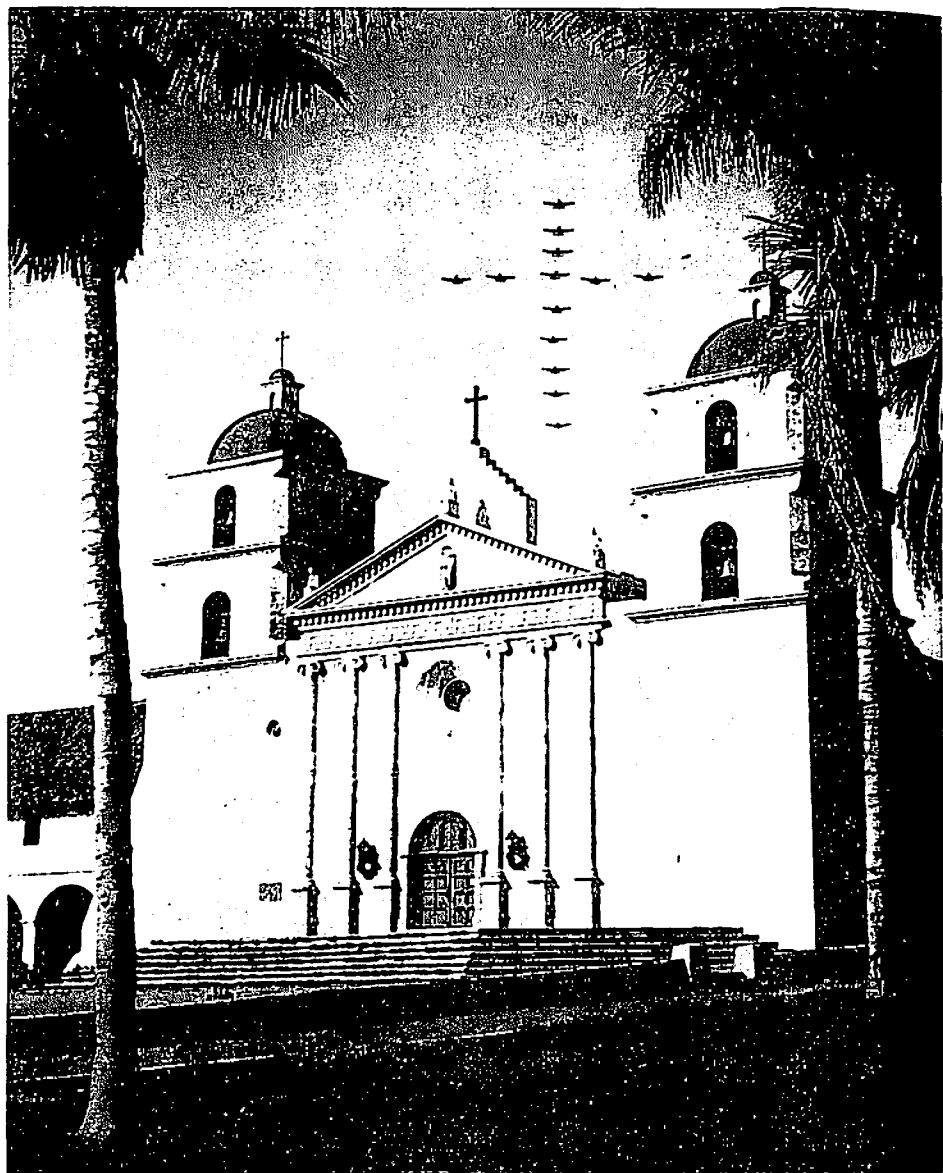
CHRISTMAS EVERYWHERE

Phillips Brooks

Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!
Christmas in lands of the fir-tree and pine,
Christmas in lands of the palm-tree and vine,
Christmas where snow peaks stand solemn and white,
Christmas where corn fields stand sunny and bright.
Christmas where children are hopeful and gay,
Christmas where old men are patient and gray,
Christmas where peace, like a dove in his flight,
Broods o'er brave men in the thick of the fight;

Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!
For the Christ-Child who comes is the Master of all;
No palace too great, no cottage too small.

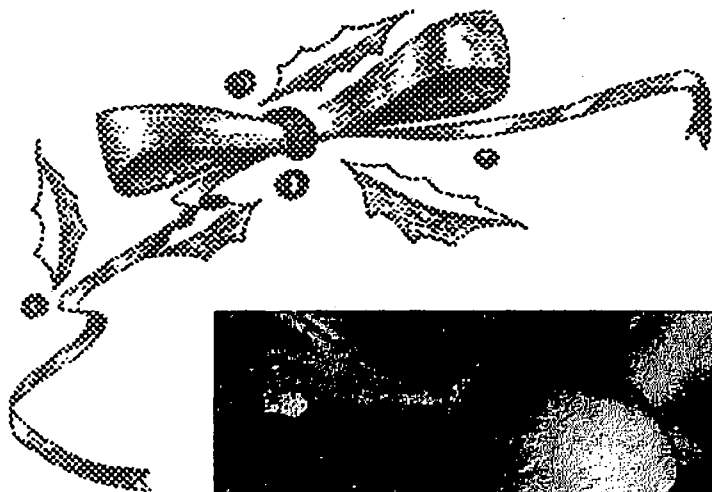




"THE GUARDIAN CROSS"

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"The Guardian Cross" pictorially symbolizes the protection by our military air men of the traditions of our land. Not a military formation, the cross of airplanes was flown especially for the photograph by United States Marine Corps flyers stationed in Santa Barbara during World War II. Nearly all the men piloting the planes in the formation later sacrificed their lives in the service of their country.



LAWRENCE POOL

President, 1952-1953

The ROUND ROBIN LETTER of
THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

The fourteenth annual meeting of the Academy held at the world famous Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York has passed into neurosurgical history. The memories of the meeting will long remain as one of the finest. Your correspondent regrets his inability to join you in that festive and memorable occasion but looks forward with the rest of his family to the coming year and the fifteenth meeting here on the West Coast and in the attractive channel city of Santa Barbara. He joins all of you in congratulating our new president, Lawrence Pool, and wishes him every success in an undertaking which is assuredly pleasant but nonetheless difficult. He knows of no one more able to represent us than our distinguished friend.

* * *

Rupert B. Raney - October 14, 1952

Needless to say, your absence from the meeting in New York was very much in evidence. However, more important events must always be watched for, as in your case.

The meeting, I thought, was exceptionally good, and Larry Pool and Francis Echlin certainly took care of everyone in admirable fashion.

I have been very much interested in the decompression procedure for major trigeminal neuralgia. This departure from posterior root section certainly speaks for the undesirability of facial anesthesia as a trade for the relief of pain. I am a little pessimistic about the life of the operation for, I believe, obvious reasons. However, the operation is certainly quite simple, and if a victim of major trigeminal neuralgia could remain reasonably comfortable by two or even possibly three decompression operations over a period of years, he would probably prefer to undergo the operations to having facial anesthesia.

As I recall, the dates for the Academy meeting next year are October 4, 5 and 6, and I am sure it will be, like all other meetings, a good one.

Fall again is in the air and the Christmas holidays will again soon be here. Alta joins me in wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and health and happiness for the coming year.

Editorial Comment:

Rupert has included some excellent photographs for the Christmas edition which you will see on the following pages.

Your editor has been interested in the decompression procedure for major trigeminal neuralgia but feels that further time will be necessary to evaluate the advantage of this over the other surgical attacks which have proven their worth.

We appreciate the many kind letters concerning our absence from the New York meeting, and very much regret our little son lived only three days.

W. Jason Mixer - October 16, 1952

The meeting of the Academy has come and gone, and certainly it struck a high spot in neurological meetings for this year at any rate. I enjoyed every moment of it and especially the President's Address by Henry Schwartz.

As you know, I am retiring from practice this year and am seeing patients only once a week at the office and doing no operating. It is rather a wrench, but I feel sure it is right.

It was a great disappointment to all of us not to see you in New York, and I trust that at our next meeting we will be able to get together again.

Editorial Comment:

Your correspondent was disappointed in not being able to enjoy the Presidential Address of Henry Schwartz. He has already written Henry requesting permission to include this with the Christmas Edition and hopefully such will be possible.

* * *

"One funny thing about the stock market is that everytime one man buys another man sells - and both think they are smart."

* * *

Homer S. Swanson - October 21, 1952

We have finally recuperated physically but not financially from the very delightful meeting in New York which Larry Pool so nobly arranged. Unfortunately, there were so many interesting things to do in New York City each evening that it was impossible to interpose time to say hello to all of the members. We did enjoy the meeting immensely and wish to congratulate Larry on the very fine job as the host.

I should like to take this opportunity to second Jim Galbraith's suggestion that we seriously consider Point Clear as the possible meeting place for the meeting in 1954. This is a dream spot for a vacation and not only offers ideal climate at that time of the year but also offers the opportunity for deep sea fishing and golf on an extremely beautiful course. I may be mistaken but I believe that aside from the original meeting which was held in Memphis, this group has never met in the South and we here in the South would like very much to act as hosts to this organization.

With all good wishes for the coming Holiday Season. . . .

Editorial Comment:

It would seem wise indeed to consider Jim Galbraith's suggestion of Point Clear for the meeting place in 1954. Your editor feels it wise for as many as possible to suggest interesting and worthwhile places for our coming meetings. Our organization is sufficiently small so that it is not necessary for us to seek those spots where other larger societies are more or less forced to go.



Time for another Martini

"One trouble with the country is that its problems are bigger, but the politicians are the same old size. "

* * *

Theodore Rasmussen - October 23, 1952

It might be wise to include in the coming edition of the Round Robin the following note:

"Regarding candidates for election at the 1953 meeting in sunny California: Since there will be no Membership Committee in action pending the vote on the amendments presented at the latest meeting, candidates for election at the 1953 meeting must be proposed in the usual way. At the present time credentials are at hand for Robert Bassett and Arthur Ward. Unsuccessful candidates of previous years may be reinstated on the ballot on the written recommendation of three active members according to our present constitution. "

I am sure all would agree that the latest meeting at the Waldorf was another high point in the history of the Academy and our hosts and hostesses re-earned our deepest gratitude and thanks.

I received a note concerning the date of the 1953 meeting as October 4th to 7th and am already making plans to spend a little extra time out there at the time of the meeting.

* * *

"A budget is what lasts a government agency until it needs more money. "

* * *

Barnes Woodhall - October 29, 1952

I am sorry, indeed, that I was forced to miss the meeting in New York City. I at least learned at first hand some interesting aspects of our profession.

I would like to send you a photograph of my children. My daughter, Betsy, is always photographed on a horse and the horse takes nicely but the little girl's head is up at the edge of the film.

Bo is away now at school. Bill Sweet has probably written you that he admitted his son to Exeter and found that he was rooming with some strange fellow named Campbell from Albany, New York. When he visited there, he found that good fortune had placed a Sweet and a Campbell of the second generation together in the same room. Perhaps we can persuade Bill to secure a photograph of all three of them at some occasion. I would suggest that he obtain this photograph fairly quickly since the mortality rate at Exeter is rather high.

The group at George Washington University is taking up our marine varnish and latex experimental work and are applying it to major aneurysms of the aorta. They have worked out a method of forming experimental aneurysms of the arteries; it seems very promising and will help a good deal in any experimental study of this problem. That represents the second most interesting neurosurgical experience that I have had this fall.

Guy has had a tough fall, with my being out so much, but we are looking forward to his spending some time in Montreal this fall as guest Professor. I also plan to carry out some neurosurgical studies on the Keys this winter with Glen Spurling. There are some suggestions in the literature from that area that the lateral line of the bone fish stimulates coronary circulation.

With my very best regards.

Editorial Comment:

Time certainly marches on when one realizes that Bill Sweet has a son at Exeter who is rooming with a chap named Campbell from Albany, New York. Obviously we are no longer the young neurosurgical society. This is evident by Guy's being chosen a guest Professor at Montreal. One can imagine those neurological studies on the Keys appropriately called "tight lines".

* * *

"We know that a fool and his money are soon parted, but what would be interesting to learn is how they got together in the first place. "

"Everybody is interested in the possibilities of color television except the Soviets: They are still trying to prove that black is white. "

William H. Sweet - October 31, 1952

No particular news from me, but I wonder if it would be appropriate for the Christmas Edition to publish the full text of Henry Schwartz' superb presidential talk to us at the meeting in New York City. Of course he may already have made plans for publication elsewhere, but if he hasn't, I should think this an excellent use of your pages.

Editorial Comment:

Your editor has written Henry for the Presidential talk and hopes it will arrive for this edition.

* *

"If you havn't got a leg to stand on - don't kick. "

* *



Henry juggles an olive

J. Lawrence Pool - October 31, 1952

First of all, Angeline and I want to express our deep appreciation to all the members, their wives and guests, whose enthusiasm and constant help made the New York meeting such a happy occasion. We are also deeply grateful for the kind letters of appreciation you took the trouble to write, and confess to having had an exceptionally good time ourselves. It is good news to find, incidentally, that the pro rata charge for the meeting will be \$75.00 instead of an estimated figure for much more!

The honor of serving as president is thoroughly and most warmly appreciated, and I am deeply touched. I only hope to be half as successful in the job as our last president, who managed the meeting so well and presented such a magnificent Presidential Address.

Ted Rasmussen, who is indeed a sturdy and most worthy secretary, is proceeding with arrangements for a 1954 meeting

at the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs. Meanwhile we await with keenest anticipation our 1953 gathering at Santa Barbara with all the Reeves'.

In closing, May I wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and an especially Happy New Year.

Editorial Comment:

All members will be gratified to learn the expense of the gala time in New York City will be less than originally anticipated.

We warmly congratulate Larry on his election to the presidency. He will do the honors admirably.

Naturally the Reeves are looking forward to the meeting here in Santa Barbara. While we realize it will be a long trek for those of you from the East, nonetheless we hope you will make the journey out here, for most of us on the Coast have for many years traveled farther than others to meetings. Leave your troubles behind and come out to the Coast for rest and relaxation. Rent a car out here and see the country.

* * *

"A successful marriage is one in which the husband is as patient with his wife as he is with his golf game."

* * *

Edward W. Davis - November 3, 1952

Barbara and I would like to take this opportunity of expressing our sincere thanks to our New York hosts for a most enjoyable time and certainly for an excellent meeting. Following the meeting we stayed on a few days to see the sights and I was very pleased to have an opportunity to watch Larry Pool do a beautiful job on a most difficult olfactory groove meningioma. I am sorry that more members were not able to accept Bill Scoville's and Ben Whitcomb's kind invitation to visit them at Hartford. I spent a very enjoyable day with them and I am sure I picked up some interesting suggestions from them. As you all know, they certainly have an ideal setup for their practice in Hartford.

Things have been going along in a very routine manner since my return and I am afraid that I have no noteworthy clinical notes to pass on.



The East and the West have met

Eben Alexander - November 4, 1952

All of us felt very acutely your absence from the Annual Meeting in New York, but we realized it was for a good cause. All the more we will be looking forward to the Santa Barbara Meeting next year. I particularly missed also having Hunt Shelden there since the paper I presented on Bladder Function and Paraplegics rested a good deal on the work he had done previously; and I was hoping to reap the benefit of some of his experience in his discussion at that time.

Since presenting that case, we have had another: a girl who had developed severe flexion deformities with decubiti following an almost complete motor paralysis but only slight sensory loss. Courtland Davis has operated upon her recently, severing all of the motor roots from D-10 through S-3. The improvement in her bladder function as well as the improvement in her flexion contractures has been most remarkable and gratifying.

We are rapidly in the process of completing the new hospital wing which will add one hundred and fifty beds to the total hospital and very much enlarge the neurosurgical service. Perhaps when it is all completed we will have a suitable photograph to send which might be of interest to the other members. Our Service has always been weighted rather heavily on the side of tumors and trauma since we do have a large ward service for the resident staff. This new addition will enable us to take in a good deal more of the elective type of work such as ruptured discs and the investigation of seizures in which we are much interested at the present time. Our approved residency will have to be enlarged somewhat to accommodate this I suspect, although we have a very active and

intimate relationship with the surgical residents by which there is a constant rotation of very inquisitive, skeptical, and stimulating men coming through our service at frequent intervals.

Here is a photograph which Betty doesn't like but it shows the "normal activity" around our house of Mother trying to answer the telephone while holding Jeannie.



Alfred Uihlein - November 6, 1952

I have been meaning to write to you for many weeks but ever since the middle of October, I have been exceedingly busy with my family affairs as Ione and myself and our six youngsters have moved to a new home on the outskirts of Rochester and are now country gentlemen. Our new place is up on a hill overlooking the Zumbro Valley southwest of town and from our crow's nest we can get a much better perception of our environs and our neighbors. George Baker still lives further out but we now have mutual rural problems and have many interests in common.

If I possibly can, I would like to send a photograph of our clan to you. I had a photograph last year before Sarah was born and have not been able to get a picture of all of them up to now, but if I do in the not too distant future, I will see that one is forwarded to you. Maybe someone would be interested in seeing the clan.

Work has gone on much as usual with nothing too exciting to report. I, however, did have one interesting case of face pain in an elderly gentleman whose story suggested trigeminal neuralgia who wanted the decompression operation. However, he had never had an alcoholic injection and I have debated whether we should continue doing them in view of the new operation. However, there were sufficient discrepancies in his story that I thought I might learn a great deal from an alcohol injection of the second and third divisions. This was carried out and did relieve some of his face pain, but much to our amazement, his main pain was a ninth nerve neuralgia that was relieved by cocainization of the tonsillar fossa on the side of his pain. This gave him much more relief than the fifth nerve injection. I believe the man has both trigeminal and ninth nerve neuralgia, but feel that the latter is more important and will section that nerve and not disturb the fifth for the time being. I am certain that a fifth nerve root decompression in this case would not have been satisfactory and might have been chalked up erroneously as an unsuccessful result. I still feel that one diagnostic block of the fifth nerve is justified.

A very happy Thanksgiving to you and yours and I hope that all is well in Santa Barbara.

* * *

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

"A woman's definition of a girl: Any female her own age."

* * *

Guy L. Odom - November 8, 1952

"I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on the excellent job that you have done during the past year. I had hoped to be able to express my thanks at the meeting in New York and was extremely disappointed that you were unable to attend.

Speaking of pictures, I have just run across one of you during your youth in a reprint of Dr. Cone's on fractured dislocations. There is certainly a difference in your waistline at this time.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Larry

and Frank, as well as our Past President, for putting on one of the finest meetings that I have ever had the pleasure of attending.

Our run of neurosurgical patients has not been anything out of the ordinary. We are still working with the problem of induced hypotension at operation and hope that we will have something to report at a later date.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of the members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Linda and Carolyn Odom



Guy, Jr.

Editorial Comment:

Your editor will have to admit the photograph Guy ran across shows a much slimmer figure than present, but the age also is considerably greater.

He is delighted to have the photograph of Guy, Jr. His heart goes out to Junior because of his obvious attendance at a military school, your editor having been through four years of that. He also is happy to have the picture of Carolyn, 9, and Linda, 11, and feels that Guy is fortunate in having such a fine family.

Woman to bank teller: "I want to make this withdrawal from my husband's half of our joint account. "

* * *

John M. Meredith - November 11, 1952

Now again the Round Robin time is here. The New York Meeting was a great success, I thought, thanks to the splendid preparations and work of Larry Pool and Francis Echlin. Two days before the opening of that meeting, the former Neurosurgical Fellows of the Lahey Clinic had a most enjoyable one day meeting in Boston: the occasion was a dual celebration, (1) Dr. Horrax's 65th Birthday, and (2) the completion of his 20th year as Director of Neurological Surgery at the Lahey Clinic. Sixty-odd former Fellows (among them a number of members of the Academy, in addition to the undersigned) attended the operative clinics in the morning, papers by Dr. Horrax and his staff in the afternoon, and in the evening, we were guests of Dr. Lahey at a dinner in honour of Dr. Horrax at which a testimonial volume of notes of appreciation was presented to him from his former fellows. Dr. Louise Eisenhardt was also present at the dinner. As modest and unassuming as ever, Dr. Horrax, at the time of his remarks at the dinner, attributed the success of his department there at the Lahey Clinic to everything and everybody but himself. Dr. Lahey, aged 72, was also in excellent form; he did a stomach resection that morning, cardiac arrest occurred during the operation, which Dr. Lahey promptly eliminated, then completed the operation and characteristically telephoned the hospital just before the evening dinner began, to learn that the patient was doing very well. His talk at the dinner was certainly in his very best vein. These two surgeons are the best examples I know of personally who have truly found, somewhere along the way, the fountain of youth, although I suspect their forebears also had something to do with it.

I've just returned from Chicago as a guest of Dr. Svien and his Congress of Neurological Surgeons. I was really astounded at the large number of well-trained, young neurosurgeons in this country today. This society is the fifth (in chronological order of formation) nation-wide neurosurgical society with fully 125 or more active members at the present time. Professor Olivecrona of Stockholm gave three lectures on successive days and took part in a number of other discussions, covering everything from AV aneurysms and their surgical treatment, aneurysms of the circle of Willis, complete hypophysectomy for diabetes mellitus,

malignant hypertension, metastatic carcinoma and Cushing's syndrome, to pseudo-tumor cerebri and the management of intracranial gliomas in general, and medullary tractotomy of the fifth nerve for tic douloureux and carcinoma of the face: a real workout for him, although, as everyone knows, the Scandinavians are a "tough" race!

Our most interesting case here recently was a man of 35 with a low grade muscle sarcoma removed by a general surgeon 17 years ago from the upper arm. Several weeks ago he developed choked disks. A ventriculogram demonstrated a right frontal mass lesion; craniotomy disclosed a right frontal metastasis perfectly circumscribed and non-invasive, the size of an olive, imbedded in the right frontal lobe, which practically fell out when a transcortical incision was made and exploration carried out in the sub-jacent white matter: It was microscopically identical with the previous muscle tumor removed 17 years previously. About the same time two similar metastatic lung tumors were removed from the left lung by the thoracic surgeon. The patient still is hale and hearty and looks like a full-back; his choked disks have entirely subsided. The original arm muscle tumor and the lung and cerebral metastases all look identical microscopically.

Best wishes and a Merry Christmas to all.

Editorial Comment:

John's letter I found most informative and interesting. Dr. Gilbert Horrax's 65th Birthday certainly was a memorable one and I believe Doctor Lahey carrying on at the age of 72 is something to be remembered.

His comments concerning the Congress of Neurological Surgeons also interested me and I am sure all of us at one time or another will be impressed by the large number of well trained, enthusiastic, and vigorous young neurosurgeons who are working throughout our country today and often are not appreciated at the moment.

His case of a muscle sarcoma is something to be published and something I never heard about before. I wonder if this was not a synovial sarcoma.

* * *

"The college yell of the school of experience is silence."

"Many a woman never realizes what a poor loser she is until she goes on a diet. "

* * *

George L. Maltby - November 12, 1952

As usual I have delayed too long in writing my note for the Christmas Edition but I hope it makes the deadline. I am afraid that we have no adequate pictures of our children for this year. I am afraid that the four of them are so active now that moving pictures would be about the only answer.

Neurosurgically, there is very little new here, I find myself caught up in the routine work-a-day rounds of the general practice of neurological surgery which is interesting and keeps one very busy but certainly does not allow time for any basic or even clinical contributions. We continue to have sporadic interesting intracranial vascular problems which are always difficult to solve and I only wish that the whole academy was available for consultation at the time each case appears.

I do want to say how much I enjoyed the New York meeting. Larry Pool and Francis Echlin are certainly to be congratulated on the plans and grand organization of the meeting. Both its social and scientific levels were of the highest and, low and behold, even the business meetings were run smoothly and without the usual red herring. Henry Schwartz is certainly to be congratulated on this. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Larry on his election to the presidency. The only clouds on the horizon of the New York meeting were the inability of certain members to be present, among them, our esteemed editor, and also it is a shame that the chairman of the program committee could not see the fruits of his work mature.

Sim and I send the best of holiday wishes to all the members, especially to our two new members.

* * *

"One good way to control your temper is to weigh less than the other fellow. "

"Some people are always in good shape because they have no moving parts to get out of order. "

Francis A. Echlin - November 14, 1952

The meeting, I think, was a considerable success and much thanks are due to Larry Pool and Henry Schwartz. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those members who have kindly suggested in their thoughtful letters that I contributed something to the meeting. Be that as it may I know it took me the better part of a week to recover.

With very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all the Academy from Letitia and me.

* * *

"The trouble with paying as you go these days is that you are apt to go broke before you get anywhere."

* * *

Thomas Weaver - November 14, 1952

Everyone missed you in New York and by now I am sure that you have heard many times over that Larry and Francis laid out the velvet carpet and all had a grand time in the big city.

Back here we have settled down to a more or less routine existence with little of extraordinary occurrence warranting comment in the Neurosurgeon. I did purchase a Schreiber Lamp in New York and have used it a few times. We feel that it will save wear and tear on the autonomic system when blessed with circulating nurses seemingly untrained in the simple adjustment of spot lights and lighted retractors which always seem to go out at the crucial moment or constricting headbands.



The enclosed snapshot is self explanatory and means among other things a very Happy Christmas at our house. Mary joins me in wishing everyone a very joyous holiday season.

"The shortest distance between two points is from the beginning to the end of a vacation."

* * *

Aidan A. Raney - November 17, 1952

Having enjoyed the meetings in New York so much, I thought that it would never fade in memory, but with the excitement of the national election and being slightly more busy than I prefer, it almost seems to me that it must be about time for another annual meeting of the Academy.

Rupert went back to the Middle West somewhere a couple of weeks ago to do some coon hunting. To date I have seen neither hide nor hair of any coons nor of Rupert, but I am sure that he will bring back plenty of fine fat racoons for experimental purposes. I am hoping that by careful investigation we will be able to determine whether the rings on the coon's tail correspond with a definite dermatomal pattern.

For some reason or other there has been an especially heavy influx of herniated lumbar disc patients. I know that several of these patients were active in getting out the vote and wonder if others about the country have had the same experience in seeing more than the usual number of herniated discs since the election. I do not feel prepared to draw any conclusions regarding this being an occupational disease among ward heelers or politicians in general.

I am afraid I am not in the proper mood for anything more scientific than the above remarks and will close with hearty congratulations for our hosts and all of the others who contributed so much to the very excellent meeting in New York and best wishes to all of the members of the Academy.

I am reluctant to extend greetings for the holiday season at this time of year. But I hope that Dave will enclose these greetings if such greetings seem appropriate when the ROBIN goes to press.

* * *

"Many a man who opened a conversation with a girl years ago is now wondering how he can shut it off."



the Raafs
wish you a
Happy
Holiday ...
... Season

John Raaf - November 17, 1952

You missed a great meeting in New York, and we all are sorry you could not be present. Our New York hosts put on a wonderful show for us. Henry Schwartz proved that he not only is a great fisherman but a brilliant orator as well.

I have never been a big wholesale angiographer, but we had a case the other day which proved its worth. We had made a diagnosis of chromophobe adenoma of the pituitary body on the basis of bitemporal hemianopsia even though the roentgenograms of the skull showed a normal sella turcica. When the sella area was exposed, I couldn't be certain that we were dealing with a chromophobe adenoma, and upon insertion of a needle into the bulging mass, I rapidly drew out about 5 cc. of blood which appeared venous rather than bright arterial. Upon withdrawal of the needle, the bleeding was awesome for a while, and I felt fortunate finally to bring it under control. It seemed that we were probably dealing with an aneurysm, and a retreat for the time being was deemed advisable. After the head was closed we took the patient to the x-ray department and did an angiogram, and the arterial tree was perfectly normal. The next day, with renewed courage, she was taken back to surgery and a knife stuck in the lesion. It proved to be a chromophobe adenoma after all. I am still not certain where all the blood came from upon aspiration.

but there must have been a large vein somewhere in the vicinity that I was aspirating. Raaf's Rule: Any patient with a pre-chiasmal field defect and a normal sella turcica should have an arteriogram prior to exploration.

I have a resident who will finish his four and one half years' training in Neurosurgery with us on January 1, 1954. I consider him an excellent man. He will be looking for an opening about one year from now. If anyone is interested in him, I shall be glad to correspond in more detail.

Editorial Comment:

Your editor feels there is nothing quite as harrowing as that of having blood ooze up into the pituitary area or into the area of a cerebellar pontine angle tumor, or from a ruptured aneurysm that one is attempting to ligate or remove. John's experience with pituitary tumors is most interesting and also, to say the least, an unusual one.



A tough problem for three wise men

* * *

"Well! Life is a quaint puzzle. Bits, the most incongruous, join in each other, and a scheme thus gradually becomes symmetrical and clear. When lol as in the infant clasps his hands and cries, 'See, the puzzle is made out'. All the pieces are swept back into the box - the black box with the gilded nails. "

- Lord Lytton

Jess D. Herrmann - November 18, 1952

I have had nothing of any special scientific interest inasmuch as the problems seem to have been either routine neurosurgical or prove to be psychiatric problems.

As yet it has not rained, but the rain came to some of the neighboring states yesterday so we are assured such a phenomenon is possible.

The meeting at New York City was outstanding. Our hosts should be congratulated for the excellent meeting they put on and our officers for keeping the business session limited to business.

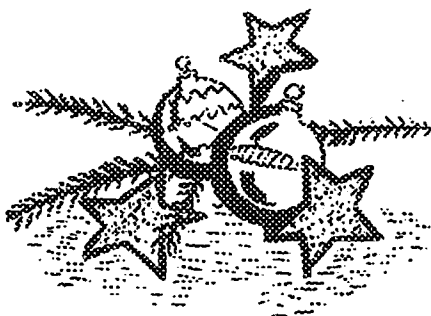
Editorial Comment:

Jess in his usual modest way indicates he has not seen anything very startling but I am sure he has seen as many unusual neurosurgical problems as anyone in the Academy.

His comment on the New York meeting very briefly congratulates the hosts and indicates the main reasons for its outstanding success.



Reedie Schwartz



The Boldrey children



Nancy Jeanne



Edwin, E.



Susan

Edwin B. Boldrey - November 22, 1952

Sorry to add to the duties of the hard working editor. I'm sure none of us know where the time goes.

The meeting at New York remains in the memory of all of us as a great success and the Academy is most indebted to Larry and Frank for being such gracious hosts. I hope that Henry Schwartz' presidential address will be published in the Round Robin rather than elsewhere. It seems to me that it "belongs" to us, and should be in our own archives.

The committee appointed to look into the matter of an award of some sort felt that no commitment of any sort should be made at this time but will report later on its recommendations. It will be recalled that the suggestion was made that an Academy award be given to an outstanding exhibit on a neurosurgical subject at the A. M. A. meeting but this too, the committee felt, should be held over for the time being.

Members should start sending in titles of papers for the next meeting to be held at - you know where. It will be here before we know it. Hunter Sheldon or Bill Sweet or I will be glad to receive suggestions as to possible papers or general subjects for discussion.

Merry Christmas.

Editorial Comment:

Your editor appreciates the very good photographs of Ed's lovely children. The Boldreys may be justly proud of them.

Your commentator urges all to send in titles for the next meeting which will be held at the Channel City. Good papers and a good program, it goes without saying, are the backbone of any meeting.

* * *

"One way for a father to feel his age is to participate in exercise that is child's play."

* * *



*the
Mayfields*

"When a doctor can't understand what's wrong with a woman he is probably married to her. "

* * *

Wallace B. Hamby - November 20, 1952

Hellyn and I greatly enjoyed the New York meeting and missed you sadly. Larry and Francis really put on a grand session and Henry's Presidential Address was a thing of beauty, rhythm, and music! The program impressed me as a very well balanced one and there was little bickering in the Executive Session. The more I recall of the whole meeting, the more I admire it.

After a month of slashing through a back-log of work that had piled up, we flew to Chicago to the Congress of Neurological Surgeons and saw a few other traveling Academics again. It gave me the chance to hear Professor Olivecrona talk on Intracranial Aneurysms, Arteriovenous Malformations and Hypophysectomy in the Human. He is on a most formidable lecture tour and I am sure all of us will have had the chance to hear him on at least one of these topics before he leaves for home in December. I am impressed with him as a truly great man and should like us to complete our project mentioned in Houston as soon as we can.

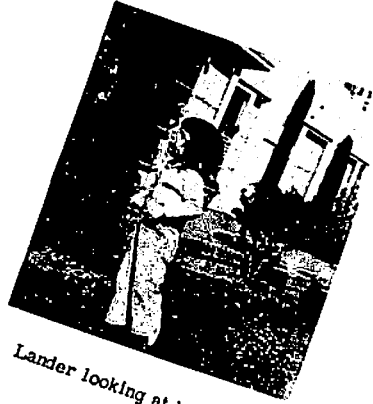
The Congress appeals to me as the type of a session to which we should help send our younger fellows. It fills some of the needs of those who are struggling along even before their Board Certification, when a chance to exchange help on problems is so welcome. I have always believed that our Societies are not in competition; each fills a particular need. As long as they accomplish their purpose, they will survive and when they no longer do so, they will go the way of the Old Soldiers, without being missed.

Our anesthetists finally are giving us the assistance of surgical hypotension. I am convinced, at the moment, that this is what we have needed so badly, in our vascular surgery especially. With this help, direct attack on aneurysms will enable us to avoid depriving patients of one of their carotids and may allow us eventually to cure even multiple lesions. I have not had a chance to try this yet, but hope to find a suitable case before long.

It is my sad duty to report the death on November 11th of my one-time Neurologic Associate, Burton M. Shinnars. Many of you will remember him as our guest on several occasions. He was



Lander and Donny



Lander looking at hibiscus



Lander is growing up

in New York for our last meeting, but was too ill to attend the sessions. He was a brilliant and wonderful person, but his last several years were clouded by constant pain from a chronic illness. He deserved a better lot and we will miss him greatly.

We have looked for a family snapshot for your Christmas Edition, Dave, but Hellyn and I both take pictures and we rarely get into one made by anyone else. We will try to corral the whole tribe over the Holidays and get one to you. We should like, however, to wish all of you most wonderful Holidays and early reunion.

Editorial Comment:

It is sad indeed to learn of the death of Burton Shinners. Most of us remember him well and enjoyed his company at some of the meetings.

J. D. French - November 25, 1952

I think your plans to slant the Christmas Edition of the NEUROSURGEON toward the children and families of the members is wonderful. Having neither wife nor child, I shall have all the pleasure of reading the number, but unfortunately little to give it. My reply has been delayed in the hope that I could come up with an appropriate substitute for such family information. Such hopes have been unproductive, and I can delay my reply no longer.

I send my heartiest wishes for a Happy Holiday Season to the Reeves' and to all members of the Academy and their families. Who knows? Perhaps some day I shall be able to send pictures too.



Gary, Jimmy and Judy Gustafson

W. A. Gustafson - November 25, 1952

I am sorry to procrastinate so much to require three letters as reminders.

We have been leading a relatively hectic convention period with the Congress of Neurological Surgeons meeting here in Chicago. We attended a very fine meeting presented by them, and enjoyed meeting numerous guests from our group here including Rupe Raney, Exum Walker, Wally Hamby, Harry Botterell, and others. Doctor Olivecrona, of course, was the guest of honor and remained here in Chicago for sometime though I will not reiterate his papers since I am sure most of you heard them. He had one philosophy however in the management of cerebral aneurysms which I believe would be well if we took cognizance of and that is that group of cases who survive the first episode and are relatively free of symptoms at the time of surgery should only be managed by that procedure which gives a low mortality rate and a low morbidity rate. Fortunately, he seems to be able to do this in his series of intracranial ligations. I am afraid from papers I have heard that this fact has not always been kept well in mind.

Both Jennie and myself wish to express our appreciation for the lovely time we had in New York, and wish to thank Francis Echlin and Larry Pool for their well-managed, well-run meeting.

With best wishes to everyone for the Holidays.....

Editorial Comment:

The Gustafsons can rightly be proud of having three such very attractive children. Your editor has not seen a picture of this sort before. It is in a plastic case about the size of one's identification card. The plastic cover not only protects the picture but acts as a frame for it.

Your correspondent notes that Gus has an associate with him, as seemingly is the case with few exceptions among all of our members.

The meeting of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons must have been quite worthwhile and I am certain that the discussions and visits with Doctor Olivecrona will form a high spot in the memories of those members fortunate enough to be with him.

* * *

"A woman may race to get a man a gift but it always ends in a tie."

"We know that a fool and his money are soon parted, but what would be interesting to learn is how they got together in the first place."

* * *

Stuart N. Rowe - November 25, 1952

As usual Christmas seems to be approaching more rapidly than one would believe possible, and all of a sudden I found the third notice staring me in the face. There must be something about that Santa Barbara air that keeps you moving along a little ahead of the calendar.

The New York meeting was certainly eminently successful from my point of view, and our energetic and cordial hosts, as well as the officers and various committee chairmen, deserve congratulations from all of us. Apparently our motto now is "Go West, young man" for the next two meetings, and we are looking forward to these trips. However, we certainly feel that the East Coast has made a fine contribution in the 1952 meeting.

A number of varying diagnostic problems have come along recently, perhaps the most curious of which involved a boy of nine years who rather rapidly developed a left-sided Horner's syndrome and a trismus; that is, an inability which was so marked that he was unable to separate his front teeth farther than about one-quarter of an inch. We could not uncover any psychiatric background to account for the curious difficulty with the jaws, and there appeared to be no doubt whatsoever that the Horner's syndrome was organic and recent. I would be glad to know if anyone else has encountered this strange combination. Fortunately for us, the boy slowly improved and was able to eat some foods at the time of his discharge from the hospital.

We are having our share of difficulty with the Armed Services, having lost one resident in October to the Air Force and another one in December to the Navy.

The Excelsior Society paid our city a visit recently, and I did have a chance for a very short visit with Henry Schwartz. Unfortunately, his stay here was so brief that I am afraid he did not even get an adequate dosage of medication for his trip home. I have never heard whether he arrived safely but saw no notice to the contrary in the papers and trust that he made it.

Elva joins me in wishing one and all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Editorial Comment:

Your editor appreciates the informative letter Stuart has sent along and realizes that those in the Academy are rapidly belonging to so many societies it will be difficult for them to attend all meetings regularly.

He would like to take this opportunity to suggest that all of you write the Program Committee, as well as our new President, about the type of meeting you would like in Santa Barbara next year. Perhaps expressions concerning the program and type of entertainment desired could best be included in your letters for the spring number of the Neurosurgeon.

* * *

"When your ship comes in, all hands seem to be on deck. "

* * *

Henry G. Schwartz - November 26, 1952

I am afraid that as time goes on my native tendency to put things off increases. Since receiving your first letter about the Christmas edition of the Round Robin, I have deferred answering, hoping that I might have something of interest to report. Now that the deadline clock is striking, I find that my interest in Round Robin is greater than ever, but that my supply of worthwhile information continues to be small.

You asked about the talk that I made in New York. I can't be certain whether or not I was poisoned by the last drink which Larry gave me, but something seems to have happened to my brief case which contained the final draft of what I must have said at the dinner. I had hoped that it would turn up, but it hasn't, which perhaps is just as well. The one thing of which you may be certain is that the sentiments which I expressed represented nothing more than what I have felt to be the studied opinions of my peers, our fellow members in the Academy. Thus, even were I to supply a draft of my speech, it would represent solely the reiteration of the thoughts of the Academy.

All of us owe a tremendous debt to Larry Pool and Frank

Echlin and their wives for the wonderful arrangements we found awaiting us in New York. Hunter Shelden, of course, did a magnificent job in arranging the program and I trust that no one felt that the scientific sessions were rushed.

Your absence was sorely felt. By now you have probably had the comments of the California contingent and have also received a copy of Ted Rasmussen's minutes. You must be as gratified as I at the election of Bill Meacham and Jim Greenwood, and to know that the spade work of Spence Braden's committee seems to have produced a happy solution to those problems which have led to unduly prolonged bickering in the past. At the risk of being sentimental, may I say that the light of the Academy shines brighter than ever, with Larry, Rupert and Ted at the helm. Of equal importance are your very successful efforts and devoted interest in keeping the Round Robin chirping merrily.

Since the New York session I have been trying to earn an honest dollar now and then by sticking close to my knitting. I did sneak off for a 24-hour visit to Pittsburgh recently to attend a meeting of a group of heroes of the Mediterranean Theatre. Larry Pool could not get to it, but I was delighted to see Tom and Elizabeth Ballantine again. While in Pittsburgh I was lucky enough to see Stuart Rowe at work and had the distinctive pleasure of dining with him, Elva and their fine family.

Except for such pleasant interludes, all I can say is that I have been busy doing neurosurgery. We think we just about have the problem of bi-plane serial radiography worked out, and have been using our setup for both angiograms and ventriculograms. For the latter we do not bother to use the Fairchild camera, but use standard cassettes in each of the two machines. With this technique we cut down a little bit on our time wasted in air studies, which may or may not be important.

What do you do about symmetrically placed bilateral carotid aneurysms? I have such a patient now who has developed signs on one side and I am trying to decide what is best for the patient and for my own nervous system. Perhaps I will get an inspiration if I go down to Arkansas and try to shoot ducks with Francis Murphey.

Please forgive my delay and my long-windedness. As one far wiser than I stated, time is so short, and there has not been enough to write a shorter letter.

My very best to you and yours. A Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas to all.

Editorial Comment:

Your editor regrets very much Henry lost his excellent address during the confusion of the meeting and the celebration thereafter. If it turns up at a later date, very probably we can talk him into putting it into one of the other editions.

* * *

"The man who owes his success to his wife has a lifetime in which to pay off the debt."

* * *

E. Harry Botterell - November 24, 1952

What a good thing that the members of the Academy at large are so much better correspondents than am I. Our days, and indeed not a few of our evenings, are still fully occupied by the immediate problems of the sick, but better days in terms of freedom from routine work are, I hope, at hand. Tom Morley, one of Jefferson's men, is presently our Clinical Assistant on the Neurosurgical Division of the Toronto General, and if he survives the vagaries of the Toronto climate in winter, will join our Unit as a full-fledged member of the staff next summer. He is proving himself to be just as capable and just as pleasant as we thought he would following his visit last winter, and his training measures up to the high standards of general surgery which in this school are a pre-requisite for any man coming on to a specialism.

I greatly enjoyed a very short visit in Chicago as the guest of Joe Cluff at the meeting of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons. It was really a first-rate meeting. I was particularly interested having heard Norlen's views in Victoria in June concerning intracranial aneurysms which have ruptured to learn of Olivecrona's views in November of 1952. I had a delightful visit with Ted Rasmussen and picked up several glistening pearls in the course of a tour around his unit.

Henry Heyl is flying up to visit Lyndhurst Lodge, the next day or two, to have a talk with Doctor Jousse and me, but chiefly to look over some patients who have had neuromyotomies done for flexion and extension spasms that have proved a major obstacle to their independence as paraplegics.

Margaret and I send our most affectionate greetings this yuletide season. After hearing about the New York meeting she says I am never going to be allowed to go to another Academy meeting without her.

* * *

"An interior decorator is a person who always seems to think you inherited your money."

* * *

Everett G. Grantham - November 25, 1952

I am sure the Christmas Edition is going to be an especially interesting one, and I am looking forward to receiving it.

I want to take this opportunity to wish all of the members a happy Holiday Season. I also want to add my welcome to Jim Greenwood and Bill Meacham.

I am sure that everyone was as delighted as I was with the New York meeting. It was most efficiently run. Even the taking of the photograph was painless.

To be sure that we do not miss the Santa Barbara meeting, I am making future plans now so that nothing will interfere. It seems to me that it has always been difficult for a lot of the members to get away in early October, and I hope enough of them have registered their disapproval to the committee so that it will be later in the fall next year.

* * *

"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."

- Edmond Burke

* * *

Hannibal Hamlin - November 25, 1952

Thanks to Larry Pool and Frank Echlin and the officers of the Academy for the fine New York session.

I believe that the Membership Committee has strengthened the future of the Academy. The new election policy should enable us to add more than two members a year. I hope that we may still

try to elect the desirable men of our general age group during the next few years before most of us find ourselves emeriti.

I report the following local tissue sensitivity reaction to 35% Diodrast: within two minutes after a single right carotid injection in a 17-year-old girl - edema of left orbit with vesicular bleb of eyelid, subsiding in 48 hours. Review of past history recorded identical phenomena one year before when she had 35% Diodrast intravenous pyelography. There was no prior evidence of local or generalized sensitivity to iodide.

No other items except that Rhode Island in the Republican roster is still news around New England.

Grateful regards to the Editor and Christmas greetings to all members.

Editorial Comment:

Your reporter would like to second Hannibal's comment about the Membership Committee. He has felt the desirability of having an energetic group screening into the Academy each year the best of the younger men coming along in this difficult field. He doubts any of those in the advanced age group will have much of a chance of being elected, having seen how difficult it has been to bring even some of the younger men in. All of this makes him appreciate his getting into the organization on what might be termed the ground floor.

Edmund J. Morrissey - November 26, 1952

I have nothing to report since the New York meeting. It has been quite busy, but just the general routine work.

The other day I removed a large ependymoma which extended from the third to the seventh cervical segment and it is surprising how few residual symptoms and findings are present.

Certainly, Larry Pool and Frank Echlin are to be congratulated. Not only was the program excellent, but the entertainment and weather were in keeping.

As a result of being elected President of the San Francisco Medical Society for the coming year I have been extremely busy with labor problems. As you well know, many large industries and trades have granted an increase in hourly wages to take care of a union welfare plan. The union leaders are anxious to start a panel system and we are just as adamant that a free choice of physicians be maintained.

"One of the best bargains is a girdle for a radiculous figure. "

* * *

Joseph P. Evans - November 18, 1952

We seem to have been unusually pressed for time during the past weeks. In any event, I think we have nothing unusual or startling to report from here.

I should say, however, that we are very happy to have with us working in the laboratory for a six-month period, Arnold Meirowsky, who has just come back from two years as Neuro-surgical Consultant in the Far East Command. He is full of knowledge about gun-shot wounds of the head and we hope his being here will give him an opportunity to pass on in print something of what he has learned. In the mean time, he is a great stimulus to all of us and we are very happy to have him here.

Since this is the Christmas Edition, this note should carry best wishes for a happy season. Even neurosurgeons become a little mellow at this time of the year and devote a little more time to their families than is probably customary. I am somewhat amazed to find that I have no picture of our family as a group, but I am enclosing one which shows half our "gang". Mary, our oldest, who is away at college, is known to a good many. The others in the picture are the youngest three: Willi, John, and a scarcely visible Tom. Those who have visited us at Fisher House will recognize my study with the guest room above. Perhaps I should confess to Francis Murphy that the white posts at our front entrance which I was painting when he last visited us, it must be a decade ago, are still waiting for their second coat. Perhaps they will get it this Christmas Holiday. With every best wish.....

Editorial Comment:

We are happy to haul a letter out of one of our senior members and a letter of such interest. Unfortunately the picture that Joe speaks about was not found in his envelope and must have been inadvertently misplaced; we believe by him rather than by our department, though either could have been the offender.

* * *

"More young people would educate themselves if they weren't so busy going to school. "

"No man is a hero to his valet or a coward to his dog. "

* * *

Dean H. Echols - November 26, 1952

At the N. Y. C. meeting, Jim Galbraith invited the Academy to meet in Alabama in 1954 at the Grand Hotel outside of Mobile. This led to a desire on my part to inspect the place, so Fran and I met Jim and Peg there the following week-end. In case you haven't time to read all of this letter, my conclusion is that the Grand Hotel would put all previous spots in the shade (I haven't yet seen Santa Barbara).

This hotel is on a point that extends into Mobile Bay about 20 miles from Mobile. It is small and doesn't like conventions. We are invited because Galbraith is a friend of the head of the Mississippi Shipping Company which owns it. There are about 100 rooms, all air conditioned. The food and service are superb. Sand beach, swimming pool, yacht harbor, golf course, etc. Fran and I are returning at every opportunity and we hope that the Committee will not overlook our unreserved recommendation.

Editorial Comment:

Dean's thoughts about the Grand Hotel outside of Mobile appeal particularly to your correspondent. It is his feeling that one of the great advantages of the Academy is its small membership and the fact that we are not forced, like other societies, to go to cities and places where large conventions necessarily must be held. He has nothing against Colorado Springs but he has been there three or four times to different surgical meetings and would like an opportunity to attend something in the South in such a unique place. He invites all others to give this serious thought.

* * *

"He who gets his palm greased is liable to lose his grip. "

* * *

William F. Beswick - November 25, 1952

I haven't anything really worthwhile to contribute to the Round Robin at the moment, but will welcome some advice on the use of hexamethonium bromide in hypotensive surgery. Recently

upon two occasions my experience with the drug was most gratifying but when used on a third patient a fall in blood pressure was not obtained. The same initial dose of 20 mgms. followed by a second like dosage ten minutes later actually raised the systolic blood pressure six points. We were able to "trap" the anterior cerebral artery aneurysm that we were working on, but at the "critical moment" we missed the feeling of relative security a low pressure gives then.



All three patients were normotensive and early in their third decade. Preoperative medication consisted of demerol and atropine. Just prior to the injection of the hexamethonium salt the patient was tilted into a semi-Trendelenburg position.

We elected the ganglioplegic method because it seemed simpler than the high spinal block or exsanguination methods. Maybe some of our friends can set us on the right tract.

Phyllis, Valley, Billy and I send our warmest seasons greetings to all.

Editorial Comment:

Your correspondent feels that Bill Beswick's photograph is as an appropriate one for the Christmas season of the children as he has seen in a long time and believes that it adds materially to the pleasure of this communication which we have learned to enjoy over a long period of time.

* * *

"When a doctor can't understand what's wrong with a woman he is probably married to her."

* * *

Augustus McCravey - November 28, 1952

We often think about the wonderful meeting we had in New York and feel most indebted to the Pools, Echlins and Schwartzes.

Neurosurgery has been about the usual routine in these parts. We have lost faith in B-12 for trigeminal neuralgia, and have had to operate some five cases the last two months. We still do the old-fashioned Frazier procedure and seem to have difficulty with any other variation.



The McCraveys along with John and Martha wish all a very happy holiday Season.

Editorial Comment:

Another attractive photograph of some of the children and the McCraveys can well be proud of such adorable youngsters.

* *

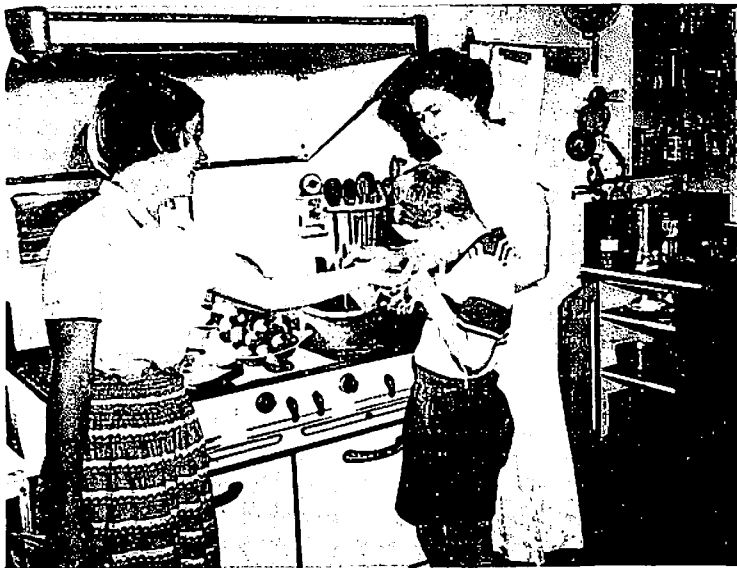
"Some of the best Boy Scouts are girls."

* *

Thomas Ballantine - November 25, 1952

The advent of the Christmas edition of the Neurosurgeon so soon after the most successful meeting in New York leaves me with very little of interest to report. Frank Mayfield's restatement of the problem of neuralgia of the second cervical nerve at that meeting encouraged me to do a unilateral resection on a man who has had bilateral neck pain for a number of years. Only six weeks have elapsed since this operation, but the patient has been delighted with the result to date. It has seemed from recent observations at the Massachusetts General that patients with complaints of pain which is primarily of hysterical origin are presenting themselves to the neurosurgeon for operation with greater and greater frequency. At present I am engaged in a review of some of these problems with one of the psychiatrists at the MGH, and it may be that we will have something of interest to present in one of our future meetings.

Elizabeth and I are looking forward with great enthusiasm to Santa Barbara next fall. Do you need a good recipe for barbecue sauce?



Christmas Dinner at the Ballantines'
Beth - Tad - 'Lizabeth

Editorial Comment:

Tom's discussion of the controversial neck pain adds to the interest of this difficult problem. It may well be that this pain can be readily relieved by surgical intervention, though I am afraid many of us will find only a certain percentage will be given the relief we had hoped all would receive from such a procedure.

Your editor would greatly appreciate a good recipe for barbecue sauce even though he has one on hand which seemingly is much enjoyed. He appreciates the photograph of the Ballantine family and has been delighted with the general response of the members in sending in such Christmas photographs.

* * *

"Nowadays when a man says he feels like a million dollars, he means before taxes, of course."

Theodore C. Erickson - November 26, 1952

The New York meeting was a great success, but I missed not seeing you and several others there. Much as I enjoy the Round Robin and appreciate your ample notices, I seem to have difficulty making the deadline, as usual. My sailboat has been put up for the winter and the hunting season is just about over, so those will not serve as an excuse. There has, however, been an epidemic of Rose Bowl fever at Wisconsin. However, many of the charts and unfinished papers in my office have cluttered up the desk for a longer period than that.

Extensive additions and alterations at the University Hospital here, which have been under construction for a couple of years, are gradually reaching completion. I am looking forward to having all of the neurosurgical cases in one unit rather than scattered far and wide as they have been in the past. I continue to be interested in the sensory-motor cortex, but have nothing new to report on that score as yet. Several years ago I reported on our experience with the surgical treatment of basilar impression of the skull in a series of ten patients. The results were almost uniformly good, but one of these patients whom I operated upon in 1943 has returned with a recurrence of headaches after being completely symptom free for over six years. He had a secondary platybasia due to Paget's disease.

Apropos the gliomata of the pons and medulla, I have observed a gratifying improvement, temporary no doubt, in a considerable number of patients who have had a wide, sub-occipital decompression followed by x-ray therapy. One such boy who was essentially quadriplegic and with multiple cranial nerve signs when operated upon three years ago is reported to be captain of his high school football team this year. In a more recent case I aspirated deep yellow fluid from the tumor in the medulla and then made an incision in the floor of the fourth ventricle in an attempt to establish permanent drainage. The patient has improved, at least temporarily.

My experience in treating hydrocephalus by the peritoneal shunt has in a few cases appeared to be successful. However, I have learned that these tubes may be unaccountably slippery, for one polyethylene tube firmly anchored to the dura in the occipital region managed to end up entirely within the peritoneal cavity four months later. There was a sudden worsening of the hydrocephalus. At autopsy there was no appreciable reaction

around the polyethylene tube which lay entirely within the peritoneal cavity. The mechanics of the affair are still a mystery to me.

Editorial Comment:

Erick's letter is most informative and some of his experiences, I believe, will be appreciated by all of us in the Academy.

The inclosed photographs also are appreciated and included in our Christmas edition.

* * *

No Hurry!

Dr. H. F. Connally of Waco received this call the other day: "Doctor, my wife just dislocated her jaw. If you're out this way next week, or the week after, you might drop in and see her."

* * *



Two of the younger sailors ,
on Lake Mendota.



Your editor would like to explain that the photographs of the Raafs and the Mayfields are Christmas cards that they sent some time ago but they seemed so charming and so appropriate for the Christmas edition that he took the liberty of including them in this number. He realizes that these children have changed considerably since these photographs were taken.

To move rather far afield from a discussion of Christmas and family photographs, your editor wonders what experience others have had with the Trerug Oscillating Trepine. This seemed such a wonderful mechanical device for making burr holes and connecting them together that I was very thrilled to get the machine. Unfortunately, at least from my experience, it proved less satisfactory than the other methods I have employed. Hopefully this new trephine can be improved so it will be satisfactory and as promising as it first appeared.

Your editor would like to congratulate the two new members recently elected to the American Academy of Neurological Surgery. He was unaware of these selections until the secretary's minutes arrived a week or so ago. He hopes the new members will enjoy the Round Robin Letter and will participate in it and contribute to it as much as they desire. He also hopes that others of you will put your artists and talent to work for covers and ideas for this rather personal publication which comes to us on a quarterly basis.

A pamphlet concerning the Santa Barbara Biltmore Hotel has been included with the Christmas Edition because it was believed that many of the Academy members would like to have some idea of the hotel at which they will be staying during their visit in Santa Barbara. Additional information will be sent out with the coming numbers of the Neurosurgeon for 1953.

The beautiful photograph of the Santa Barbara Mission with the airplanes forming the cross has been included as an example of the Christmas spirit and something known in many parts of the world as symbolic of the Channel City.

Mission Santa Barbara was the tenth of the California missions to be founded by the Spanish Franciscans. It was established on the Feast of St. Barbara, December 4, 1786. Padre Junipero Serra, who had founded the first nine missions, had already gone to his reward. It was Padre Fermin Francisco de Lasuen, his successor, who raised the cross here and placed Padre Antonio Paterna, a companion of Serra, in charge. He put up the first buildings and made the first converts.

The original buildings were of adobe and unpretentious. As the years passed, there was progress and development. There were three adobe churches here, each larger than the other, before the present church. The third was destroyed by earthquake in 1812. Thereafter the present church was planned. It was finished and dedicated in 1820. The present monastery was built gradually, first one story, then a second was added. It was not finished until 1870. The beautiful fountain in front of the mission was built in 1808. The earthquake of June 29, 1925 damaged the mission church and monastery considerably.

Between 50,000 and 75,000 people from every state in the Union and from most countries of the world, go through Mission Santa Barbara every year. It is one of the best preserved of the 21 California missions and it is the only one in which the Franciscans have lived from the day of founding until the present day.

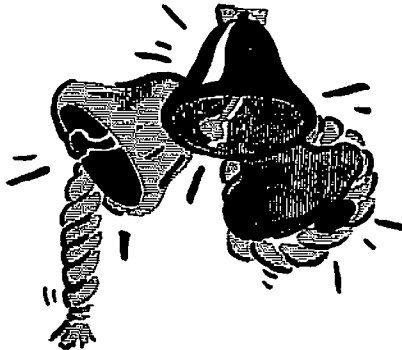
* * *

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR BELLS

Alfred Tennyson

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.



THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

Honorary Members

- | | Elected: |
|---|----------|
| 1. Dr. Winchell McK. Craig | 1942 |
| Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn. | |
| 2. Sir Geoffrey Jefferson | 1951 |
| Department of Neurosurgery, The Royal Infirmary
Manchester 13, England | |
| 3. Dr. W. Jason Mixter..... | 1951 |
| 319 Longwood Ave., Boston 15, Mass. | |
| 4. Dr. R. Glen Spurling | 1942 |
| 405 Heyburn Bldg., Louisville 2, Ky. | |

Emeritus Member

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| 1. Dr. Olan R. Hyndman..... | 1941 |
| Veterans Adm. Hosp., Iowa City, Iowa | |

Active Members

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Dr. Eben Alexander, Jr. | 1950 |
| Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem 7, N. C. | |
| 2. Dr. George S. Baker..... | 1940 |
| Section on Neurological Surgery, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn. | |
| 3. Dr. H. Thomas Ballantine, Jr. | 1951 |
| 319 Longwood Ave., Boston 15, Mass. | |
| 4. Dr. William F. Beswick..... | 1949 |
| 685 Delaware Ave., Buffalo 9, N. Y. | |
| 5. Dr. Edwin B. Boldrey..... | 1941 |
| Univ. of Calif. Medical School, San Francisco 22, Calif. | |
| 6. Dr. E. Harry Botterell..... | 1938 |
| Medical Arts Bldg., 280 Bloor St., W., Toronto 5, Ontario | |
| 7. Dr. Spencer Braden | Founder |
| 1342 Hanna Bldg., Cleveland, 15, Ohio | |
| 8. Dr. F. Keith Bradford..... | 1938 |
| 410 Hermann Professional Bldg., 6410 Fannin St., Houston 5, Tex. | |
| 9. Dr. Howard A. Brown | 1939 |
| 384 Post St., San Francisco 8, Calif. | |
| 10. Dr. Harvey Chenault | 1949 |
| 200 West Second St., Lexington 6, Ky. | |
| 11. Dr. Donald F. Coburn | 1938 |
| 221 Plaza Time Bldg., Country Club Plaza, Kansas City, 2, Mo. | |

Elected:

12. Dr. Edward W. Davis..... 1949
806 S. W. Broadway, Portland 5, Oregon
13. Dr. Francis A. Echlin..... 1944
555 Park Ave., New York 21, N. Y.
14. Dr. Dean Echols Founder
3503 Prytania St., New Orleans, La.
15. Dr. Arthur R. Elvidge..... 1939
Montreal Neurological Institute
3801 University St. Montreal 2, Quebec
16. Dr. Theodore C. Erickson 1940
1300 University Ave., Madison 6, Wis.
17. Dr. Joseph P. Evans Founder
Cincinnati General Hospital, Dept. of Surgery
Cincinnati 29, Ohio
18. Dr. John D. French 1951
Veterans Administration Hospital, Long Beach, Calif.
19. Dr. J. Garber Galbraith 1947
1117 South 22nd St., Birmingham, Ala.
20. Dr. Everett G. Grantham 1942
405 Heyburn Bldg., Louisville 2, Ky.
21. Dr. James Greenwood, Jr. 1952
1105 Hermann Professional Bldg., 6410 Fannin St., Houston 5, Tex.
22. Dr. Wesley A. Gustafson..... 1942
700 North Michigan Ave., Chicago 11, Ill.
23. Dr. Wallace B. Hamby..... 1941
140 Linwood Ave., Buffalo 9, N. Y.
24. Dr. Hannibal Hamlin 1948
270 Benefit St., Providence 3, R. I.
25. Dr. Jess D. Herrmann 1938
525 Northwest Eleventh St., Oklahoma City 3, Okla.
26. Dr. Henry L. Heyl 1951
Hitchcock Clinic, Hanover, N. H.
27. Dr. William S. Keith Founder
208 West Block, Medical Arts Bldg., Toronto 5, Ontario
28. Dr. George L. Maltby 1942
203 State St., Portland 3, Maine
29. Dr. Donald D. Matson 1950
300 Longwood Ave., Boston 15, Mass.

	Elected:
30. Dr. Frank H. Mayfield	Founder
2314 Auburn Ave., Cincinnati 19, Ohio	
31. Dr. Augustus McCravey.....	1944
540 McCallie Ave., Chattanooga, Tenn.	
32. Dr. William F. Meacham	1952
2122 West End Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn.	
33. Dr. John M. Meredith	1946
1200 E. Broad Street, Richmond 19, Va.	
34. Dr. Edmond J. Morrissey.....	1941
450 Sutter St., Suite 520, San Francisco 8, Calif.	
35. Dr. Francis Murphey.....	Founder
Suite 525, Physicians & Surgeons Bldg., Memphis 3, Tenn.	
36. Dr. Guy L. Odom	1946
Duke University - School of Medicine, Durham, N. C.	
37. Dr. J. Lawrence Pool	1940
710 W. 168th St., New York 32, N. Y.	
38. Dr. Robert Pudenz	1943
896 E. Colorado St., Pasadena 1, Calif.	
39. Dr. John Raaf	Founder
1010 Medical Dental Bldg., Portland 5, Oregon	
40. Dr. Aidan A. Raney	1946
1136 W. Sixth St., Los Angeles 17, Calif.	
41. Dr. Rupert B. Raney	1939
1136 W. Sixth St., Los Angeles 17, Calif.	
42. Dr. Theodore Rasmussen	1947
950 E. 59th St., Chicago 37, Ill.	
43. Dr. David L. Reeves	1939
316 W. Junipero St., Santa Barbara, Calif.	
44. Dr. R. C. L. Robertson	1946
411 Hermann Professional Bldg., 6410 Fannin St., Houston 5, Tex.	
45. Dr. Stuart N. Rowe.....	1938
516 Medical Arts Bldg., 3700 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa.	
46. Dr. Henry G. Schwartz	1942
Dept. of Surgery, Washington Univ., St. Louis 10, Mo.	
47. Dr. William B. Scoville	1944
85 Jefferson St., Hartford 6, Conn.	
48. Dr. C. Hunter Shelden.....	1941
696 E. Colorado St., Pasadena 1, Calif.	

	Elected:
49. Dr. Samuel R. Snodgrass	1939
Univ. of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Tex.	
50. Dr. Homer S. Swanson	1949
204 Medical Arts Bldg. 384 Peachtree St., N. E., Atlanta, Ga.	
51. Dr. William H. Sweet.....	1950
Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston 14, Mass.	
52. Dr. Alfred Uhlein	1950
Section on Neurological Surgery, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.	
53. Dr. A. Earl Walker	1938
Johns Hopkins Hospital, Division of Neurological Surgery 601 N. Broadway, Baltimore 5, Md.	
54. Dr. Exum Walker	1938
133 Doctors Bldg., Atlanta 3, Ga.	
55. Dr. Thomas A. Weaver.....	1943
Suite 521, Third National Bldg., Dayton 2, Ohio	
56. Dr. Benjamin B. Whitcomb.....	1947
85 Jefferson St., Hartford 6, Conn.	
57. Dr. Barnes Woodhall	1941
Duke University - School of Medicine, Durham, N. C.	