

ROUND ROBIN LETTER
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

VOL. 10

NO. 3

1950

ROUND ROBIN LETTER

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

Inasmuch as the meeting at Rochester is near at hand, it seemed wise to begin the present Round Robin Letter with the following from George Baker referable to the meeting.

George S. Baker (August 4): "The majority of the members have written to me that they are coming to the meeting and accommodations are already assured through our local hotel facilities. The manager of the hotels in which each member and guest of the organization are to register will in the near future contact the individual by a letter of confirmation stating the accommodations which they have requested, date of arrival and date of departure. I think everyone is planning to arrive on Wednesday, September 27, with the exception of two or three who have requested to come a few days earlier and one or two who are flying in the morning of September 28. These accommodations have been allowed for.

"We will have a registration table set up in the lobby of the Kahler Hotel, which is within half a block of all of the accommodations as far as hotel arrangements are concerned. This will serve as the main registration point where each member should secure his badge and name plate and also the finished program for the meeting to be secured here upon arrival. I will try to have a member of the organization present at all times or at least will arrange to have my secretary or some of her associates available during the period of registration, and so forth.

"Each individual, including the guests, will of course check in at their respective hotels and should secure dinner in the evening as they so desire. Please have each member and guest go to the Kahler Hotel lobby to register for the meeting after he arrives. At eight o'clock on Wednesday, September 27, the entire assembly, including guests and wives, are to meet at the home of Dr. Al Uinlein for an open house get-together, movies, chitchat and house warming. Some of the major problems that each individual has in the way of transportation, and so forth, will be discussed, and I feel sure that buses will be arranged for transportation from the downtown hotel to Al's residence, which is a few minutes from the hotel. This, of course, will be an informal gathering.

"The scientific program for the mornings of Thursday and Friday are to be held at St. Marys Hospital in the operative suites for neurosurgery and also in the Little Theater on the sixth floor at St. Marys Hospital and this will extend from 8 until 12 each morning. A schedule of neurosurgery will be arranged from 8 to 10:30 and then a program of clinical demonstrations on what we feel will be of interest to a group of neurosurgeons will be presented from 10:30 to 12.

"A luncheon for the entire organization will be given by the Mayo Foundation on Thursday at 12:30 until 2 at the Mayo Foundation House and Dr. Donald Balfour, who is now retired but is known to most of the group for his surgical work, and who is the former director of the Mayo Foundation, will be our noon speaker.

"The afternoon program on Thursday will be strictly given by the members of the Academy other than those who are present in Rochester. Joe Evans, who is chairman of the Program Committee, has recently contacted me concerning the overall program which is in the main a triple division of papers which will include newer methods and research, clinical neurosurgery and a symposium on circulatory and vascular problems in neurosurgery. The exact titles and the speakers will have to be arranged in our program as this is not available at the present. I think Joe will act as our chairman in the afternoons of Thursday and Friday and the executive sessions can be held at the Foundation House following the general sessions on Thursday and Friday according to the wishes of the president. Thursday evening we have arranged a cocktail party and formal banquet for the members and guests at the Kahler Hotel.

"The luncheon on Friday will be held at the Continental Room at the Hotel Carlton, and we will return to the Foundation House following the luncheon to continue our scientific session. On Friday evening we have arranged a cocktail party, buffet supper and dinner dance at the Rochester Country Club. Saturday will be available for seeing the physical facilities of the Mayo Clinic, particularly the research laboratories and Experimental Institute. Saturday afternoon will be devoted to entertainment according to the wishes of the group, and of course golf will be available Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning for the group who always like to play golf. Rupert Raney has been interested in coon hunting, particularly on Saturday night, and he has been made chairman of big game expeditions that are arranged in these parts. We have an excellent golf course here in Rochester and the facilities will be available to members of the Academy. There also is an excellent tennis court for those who are young enough to play tennis. The hunting season for pheasants and ducks will not have started this year until perhaps the middle of October. Fishing, however, is available for any of those who so desire and arrangements can be made if the members who are interested in fishing will contact me personally. The National Golden Retriever Field Trial and Show will be held in Rochester September 29 and 30.

"I am enclosing an up-to-date schedule giving the transportation facilities by air, rail and automobile to and from Rochester, and I think that those members who are not familiar with this perhaps will be interested in receiving the data which is enclosed.

"The local hosts, which will be the neurosurgical department at the Clinic, will of course do all that we can to provide an excellent scientific program in the mornings and of course the members are assured of an excellent group of papers each afternoon as arranged by Joe Evans.

"We have invited all the neurosurgeons in the State of Minnesota to the scientific portion of the meeting on each day and most of them have accepted.

"The ladies, of course, will serve as an auxiliary body and will meet on Wednesday evening at eight with the entire group at the home of Doctor Uihlein for an informal get-together and reminiscing, as this type of a group lends itself to such a program. On Thursday morning, there will be a coffee arranged at my home where my good wife, Enid, is arranging to hold the auxiliary meeting and discuss the social program which is to follow. There will be a luncheon at the Country Club for the ladies on Thursday followed by the usual cards, golf, et cetera.

"Thursday night will be the formal cocktail party and banquet at the Kahler Hotel for the ladies and men, and on Friday, there will be a tour about Rochester and through the Mayo Clinic followed by a luncheon at the home of Mrs. Winchell Craig. Friday evening there will be an optional formal or informal dress party at the Rochester Country Club with cocktails followed by a buffet supper and dinner dance. Saturday, there will be golfing, shopping and informal social arrangements which will be catered to for the likings of each individual.

"The hotel situation in Rochester has assured us of accommodations but must have pretty specific information on the time and date of arrival but is not as much concerned about the departure date. Most of the members are arriving in the afternoon on September 27 and will be leaving the afternoon of September 30. One or two exceptions have been listed according to their wishes and they will be well accommodated. Some members are billeted in private homes to relieve the hotel problem.

"My secretary, Miss Donna Forseth, and Doctor Uihlein's secretary, Miss Laudine Ploetz, will be available to assist the members and guests in arranging such details as train accommodations, flight schedules, and so forth, for any of those who so desire.

"We are looking forward to a successful turnout as already ninety-five individuals have voiced their opinion that they are coming, which of course includes the wives of a good many of our members. I have not heard from three or four of our staunch members in the South, but I would like very much to hear from them as the hotel accommodations are difficult to arrange unless we get them ahead of time."

Rupert B. Raney (July 20): "It has been rumored by our Canadian representatives of the American Academy that one has not seen the Western Hemisphere until he has seen Jasper Park. Los Angeles, Calif.

I now find myself giving this rumor consideration, and plan on spending the first week of August in that section of the country. On my way home I am looking forward to visiting with Frank Turnbull. As we all know he has many interesting activities in the process of development.

"I trust by now most of you have received a sample of the Tyler surgical saw made in Los Angeles. I have been using this saw now for about three years and have found it very efficient. I became aware of this saw through a friend of mine who is interested in the company; they were making it for commercial purposes. With a little alteration which I suggested, it works better as a surgical saw and also better for commercial purposes. For convenience this saw is made in 18 inch lengths with loops at the end and sold as a surgical saw. The commercial saw sells for ten or fifteen cents a linear foot, and I am sure can be acquired at that price through a local hardware store. The commercial saw, however, is not made of rustless steel. If not kinked either the commercial saw or the one especially prepared will last indefinitely. Those who have not had an opportunity to try this saw, I am sure can get one by writing to the Tyler Manufacturing Co., 6151 West 98th Street, Los Angeles. This data is supplied because I believe you will find this saw very efficient. For the "doubting Thomases" I have no financial interest in the company.

"The American Medical Association convention had very few representatives from the Neurosurgical profession. The Neurologic Section had some very fine papers on the last day. Doctor Bailey gave a very concise account of his work on psychomotor epilepsy and I was looking forward to hearing Earl Walker's discussion -- unfortunately something happened. I heard indirectly that Frank Mayfield was going to be present; if so, he did not register. Further, if he was there he did not play the same golf courses that I did. I had hoped that he might join me on a hunting trip prior to the American Academy meeting in Rochester. I hear, however, that he is being elected Governor of Ohio at that time."

Editorial Comment: In regard to the Tyler surgical saw, I ran into one of these unexpectedly at Ventura, California and was utterly amazed at the rapidity with which it cut through the bone and inquired about where they possibly could have found a saw like this and then discovered that it was the one that Rupert has been speaking about. Certainly it, in my opinion, is the only one that a person could desire to have after giving it a try.

The meeting of the American Medical Association in San Francisco was a very pleasant one for me. I attended some of the meetings and many of the exhibits and then enjoyed thoroughly the beauties and relaxations of San Francisco.

Joseph P. Evans (July 28): "This will be only the briefest note for the Round Robin to say that the program is now complete for the Rochester meeting. There has been a good response to the request for papers and I trust that the program which will be circularized by Wally in due course will meet with general approval. Dr. Charles McKhann of Cleveland, Professor of Pediatrics at Western Reserve, kindly consented to discuss "Carotid Jugular Anastomosis" and Haddow Keith of the Pediatrics section at the Mayo Clinic, Bill Keith's brother, will open the discussion. But that's all for the preview except to say that a number of our guests are taking part in the program as well and I think that our two afternoons plus what George is planning with the cooperation of the Clinic members will provide a very stimulating session."

Editorial Comment: It would seem to me that we are indebted to the Program Committee for what promises to be a very excellent one and certainly rather obviously a program represents the heart of the meeting and its success largely depends upon the value of the program itself.

Edwin B. Boldrey (July 28): "We are looking forward to getting to Rochester, San Francisco, Calif. Minnesota in the fall. I noted the pessimistic note in your comments in the last round-robin letter and I hope that you are wrong about this being the last meeting for a long time. On the other hand, I do feel discouraged about the future myself."

Editorial Comment: Your editor certainly hopes that he is wrong about the world situation and the return of many of us to the Armed Forces. Unfortunately, already several members of the Santa Barbara County Medical Society have departed for medical service with the Armed Forces. We hope that in some way there will be a revolution in Russia so that again we can forget about all of the unhappiness that appears to be ahead.

The following letter from Ben Whitcomb would seem to be fully as pessimistic as the note I was inclined to intrude into our last Round Robin Letter.

Benjamin B. Whitcomb (July 31): "Any of the members of the Academy who Hartford, Conn. happen to belong to the Reserves probably feel as I do like a clay pigeon sitting on a fence facing Barnes Woodhall and his rifle."

"We have seen several patients who have had the procaine injections of the frontal lobes as a preliminary test for defects of the leukotomy described by Dr. VanWagen at the Cushing meetings. This appears to have definite merit but is not without dangers including frontal lobe abscess.

"I regret that I will be unable to get to the Rochester meeting since Bill and I will have to take turns until our third man arrives to cover the service. I have great hopes that the politics and future plans of the Academy will be settled at this meeting.

"While you are getting out another one of your editions of the Round Robin Letter, I plan to take a vacation navigating around North Atlantic waters with a call on George Maltby."

S. R. Snodgrass (August 7): "I have just returned from my vacation which for Galveston, Tex. the fourth successive summer we have spent in Mexico at a hacienda next Mexico City operated by the PanAmerican Doctors Club which has approximately 200 members and needs more. The hacienda is about 2-1/2 hours by auto from Mexico City by good road and is a beautiful spot which 150 years ago was the home of Count Regla who operated some of the nearby silver mines. It is at an elevation of 6300 feet, is warm during the day and cool at night so that a wood fire feels good in the morning and evening and one sleeps under one or two blankets both winter and summer. The climate is not much different summer and winter and we hope to go down for the first time next winter. There is a mediocre nine hole golf course, several small lakes where a highly elusive group of rainbow trout reside, there is riding and an excellent bar. The food is good and the stay there is not expensive and is much enjoyed by children. Any of the members going to Mexico City might enjoy looking it over as it is an excellent place to rusticate, especially for those of us in this part of the country wishing to avoid summer heat for a time.

"My associate is going to be away from Galveston most of September and I am somewhat dubious about my ability to get to the meeting at Rochester."

Editorial Comment: It would seem that very likely Sam has in mind Mexico City or the particular spot that he is describing for our next meeting of the American Academy of Neurological Surgery. This reminds me that we have not had too many offers or suggestions in the Round Robin Letter about our next place of meeting and it seems to me that it would be wise for us to consider this prior to the last of September and our Rochester meeting.

R. Glen Spurling (August 7): "I haven't any particular news for the Round Robin Louisville, Kentucky Letter except to extend greetings to everyone of the members. I will be unable to attend the meeting in Rochester this September, not because of ill health - for I have made a wonderful recovery from my recent coronary - but because I have to go to the Board meeting in New Haven on October 4, 1950. I think a trip to Rochester, then an immediate one to New Haven would just be a little bit too much for me.

"At any rate, I wish you a successful meeting. You always have one I know. I am just sorry one of your old dodo honorary members can't be there to enjoy the program and the sociability."

Editorial Comment: The letter from Doctor Spurling is certainly a very welcome one and I think all of us are particularly happy in the news that he has recovered so well from his disconcerting illness.

William B. Scoville (August 7): "I am in complete agreement in keeping the Academy down to seventy-five members complete with wives, fishing, hunting and ski equipment.
Hartford, Conn.

I believe we should make a point of taking some three superior young men each year picked because of their exceptional ability and under no condition take in new men out of kindness to their superiors or for sentimental reasons. These exceptional men could be picked by a committee and the one, two or three men receiving the highest number of votes made members.

"Technical and research problems titillating the writer at present are the apparent extraordinary sensitivity of the uncá area of the temporal lobes from a physiologic viewpoint. We have been carrying out stimulation studies of the frontal lobe for the past year or so with meager results even in the pre-chiasmatic and cingular gyrus areas but upon switching to the uncas found that changes in consciousness, respiration and seizure threshold have resulted. This area also exhibits certain unique changes in EEG possibly because it differs from other cortical areas of the brain in its composition of combined white and gray matter. At any rate, I prophesy there will be a steady drift away from frontal lobe studies and accent on temporal lobe for the next few years and psychosurgery may well perform the same shift; probably Botterell and Evans with their previous temporal lobe research observation will say "I told you so".

"Dunsmore, Whitcomb and I have submitted a paper on mishaps in angiography and feel a warning should go out against its promiscuous use in cerebral thromboses and other vulnerable persons over the age of fifty. When we commenced using angiography outside of the field of subarachnoid hemorrhage and unadulterated aneurysms our mishaps commenced with occasional massive strokes, coma and a few deaths. The selection of patients appears to be the vital factor and not variations in technique or in surgeons. "

Theodore C. Erickson (August 7): "This has been a very busy summer for me so far and I have had very little spare time, even
Madison 6, Wisconsin for sailing, let alone whipping up a paper that

I had projected for the Academy meeting. As for sailing, I hope to do more of it in a couple of weeks when we go to Nantucket for a short vacation. As for interesting cases, there have been many. We seem to have had a run of angle tumors of recent months. In two of them, the facial nerve appeared to be intact after removal of the tumor but the physiological evidence of it is still lacking. One patient had bilateral acoustic neuromata and survived their removal at one sitting.

"I have been impressed recently by the relative frequency with which patients from whom meningiomas have been completely removed have developed independent neoplasms elsewhere. Out of a group of 65 patients with meningiomas, four that I know of have developed neoplasms elsewhere three to seven years after removal of the meningioma. One was carcinoma of the colon, the second was a hypernephroma, a third was carcinoma of the stomach and a fourth was multiple metastatic carcinoma, source not yet ascertained.

"Clint Woolsey and I are continuing to study the evoked potentials in the sensory cortex of man and are hopeful that more worthwhile results will be forthcoming.

"I am looking forward to seeing you in Rochester on September 28th. "

Editorial Comment: It seems to me that Eric is to be congratulated for having removed bilateral acoustic neuromas at one sitting with survival and I certainly am going to have a little conversation with him to discover his magic. It has been my misfortune to have had five bilateral acoustic neuromas and to have lost all of them, most of them after the removal of the second tumor and at the second sitting. In two of these there was a surprisingly interesting family history and one of the members of the family also had a bilateral acoustic tumor that Ed Boldrey operated upon and unfortunately also lost at the time the second tumor was removed. In Doctor Dandy's collection of these cases I believe he had a total of six of them and the mortality was rather disturbingly high, although not quite as severe as my own experience.

Alfred Uihlein (August 9): "Thank you very much for your letter of July 15 regarding the Round Robin Letter, but I think that in this issue George Eaker's program of the meeting we have arranged for all of you will be sufficient mention that you will have enough material for the letter this time. However, I have some interesting things I would like to forward to you for a future letter.

"I would like to add, which might be of interest to some, that I have recently been doing the cerebral angiograms under local anesthesia wherever possible. If sodium pentothal is required the angiogram is carried out under this type of anesthesia. The decision rests on the cooperation of the patient. In either event I am injecting one-fourth grains of papaverine intra-arterially several minutes before I inject Diodrast.

"It is my opinion, as well as that of my colleagues in roentgenography, that we get better visualization of the cerebral arterial tree which we feel is the result of the dilatation produced by the papaverine.

"We are trying to devise a method of calculating the amount of dilatation that we get. I feel that the dilatation is greater than one gets with sodium pentothal alone. In one case in particular I produced such a vasomotor collapse that the study had to be deferred for a brief period. However, the effects of the drug lasted for better than an hour. "

Wallace B. Hamby (August 10): "You must be very gratified by the well-deserved
Buffalo, New York applause given the recent Round Robin letters. They are splendid and are entirely the result of your provocative letters jogging up the members to the point of writing--please keep up the drive.

"Joe Evans has just sent me a copy of the Preliminary Program for the scientific sessions of the coming meeting in Rochester. The program will be mimeographed and copies sent to members and invited guests. The Program Committee is an innovation in our group, thanks to the idea of Joe Evans and the enthusiastic support of President Botterell. It appears to me that the Committee has done a splendid job and that we all will appreciate their efforts. Orchids to Evans, Odom and Rasmussen!

"Please excuse one personal note regarding the meeting. I will conclude my third term as secretary at the Rochester meeting. That is the usual time to pass the job on to someone else and I should like to be retired from it this year. It isn't hard to be a Secretary but the office requires a man who will work at it. Please give some thought to picking a fresh one.

"The character of our practice here is changing decidedly. Abscesses we rarely see now; tumors are relatively fewer than before; aneurysms and other cerebral vascular problems are occupying much more of our time. The number of simple disc protrusions has fallen sharply and the percentage of the complicated cases is rising. Tics and cord tumors maintain about their usual frequency.

"Among recent particularly interesting cases were a right parietal actinomycotic abscess and a severe predominantly left sided Parkinsonian tremor that responded amazingly well to Earl's partial pedunculotomy. I will bring her pre- and post operative movies along for those who may want to see them. I hope others will bring along interesting movies and that George will be able to set up a projector in a side room where we can run them off at times not conflicting with the program. Such extemporaneous viewings have been a great help to me over the years.

"With my best regards to you and to the gang. "

Editorial Comment: Your editor is naturally flattered and pleased with the approval of the Round Robin Letter and hopes that it can be improved and rendered more useful to all of us.

Certainly one can only say referable to the job as secretary that much as we would hate to lose Wally's excellent work which has meant so much to the organization and success of the Academy, it would be unfair to inflict another year of hard work on him.

John M. Meredith (August 12): "We have been having more or less the usual run of cases in recent weeks. Every once in a while

we encounter a typical case of Meniere's disease that turns out to have an acoustic tumor. Such proved to be the state of affairs in a patient that Charles Troland operated on the other day. We were trying out the straight vertical incision for eighth nerve section just "imported" from Emory by our Resident (Gish), and of course it would have to be a small tumor - the size of a marble - in the angle, which could be removed in toto. The patient had not the slightest fifth or seventh nerve involvement, homolateral ataxia, choked disk, or anything else to suggest that she had anything but the usual syndrome of unilateral Meniere's disease with quite typical paroxysmal attacks of vertigo, together with unilateral tinnitus, and deafness.

"Incidentally, the above experience, which I'm sure has been common to all neurosurgeons, is a good argument against the otologic procedures (coagulation of labyrinth, etc.) that seem to be gaining in popularity in some of the clinics in this country, even in those with well-established neurosurgeons.

"If any of the members have had cases with surgically important chronic subdural hematomas due to indirect trauma, not primarily involving the head, I should be very grateful if they would please send me a line or two about them (a post-card will do) within the next four or five weeks, as a short report is being prepared about two such cases we have had here recently.

"I know the approaching meeting at Rochester will be in the "best tradition" and I'm looking forward with the greatest anticipation to it."

E. H. Botterell (August 23): "This is for the Round Robin letter if it is not too late, but I fear it is. I just returned from my holidays.
Toronto 5, Ontario

"To hand there is a copy of that part of the programme being put on by members of the Academy, and it is, I think, just fine. It is, if anything, on the long side, but all the members who submitted papers are on the programme, and surely that is the way it should be in a small Society like ours. Joe Evans has done a grand job as Chairman of the Programme Committee.

"The Executive is meeting on Wednesday evening, September 27th, in the hope that a partial synthesis of the ideas put forward by all of us in the Round Robin letter, as a response to Dave Reeves' stimuli, may facilitate the discussion and decisions of the members at the business meeting.

"Margaret and I are certainly looking forward with the keenest anticipation to seeing you all. "

David L. Reeves (August 30): The comprehensive report from Wally Hamby Santa Barbara, Calif. includes all of the important features for the coming meeting, and the program certainly appears to be an excellent one. I am sure all of us are looking forward to this September meeting.

Your editor wishes to thank all concerned for their contributions to the Round Robin Letter.

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

President
Edmund H. Botterell

Vice President
David L. Reeves

Secretary and Treasurer
Wallace B. Hamby

Honorary Members:

1. Dr. Winchell McK. Craig
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minn.

2. Dr. R. Glen Spurling
405 Heyburn Bldg.
Louisville, Ky.

Active Members:

1. Dr. George S. Baker
Dept. of Neurosurgery
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minn.

8. Dr. Harvey Chenault
200 West Second St.
Lexington 6, Kentucky

2. Dr. William F. Beswick
140 Linwood Ave.
Buffalo 9, N. Y.

9. Dr. Donald F. Coburn
221 Plaza Time Bldg.
Kansas City 2, Mo.

3. Dr. Edwin B. Boldrey
Univ. of Calif. Medical School
Room 11-C
San Francisco 22, Calif.

10. Dr. Edward W. Davis
806 S. W. Broadway
Portland, Oregon

4. Dr. Edmund H. Botterell
Medical Arts Bldg.
280 Bloor St., W.
Toronto 5, Ontario, Canada

11. Dr. Francis A. Echlin
555 Park Ave.
New York 21, N. Y.

5. Dr. Spencer Braden
1342 Hanna Bldg.
Cleveland, Ohio

12. Dr. Dean Echols
3503 Prytania St.
New Orleans, La.

6. Dr. Keith Bradford
410 Hermann Professional Bldg.
6410 Fannin St.
Houston 5, Texas

13. Dr. Arthur Elvidge
3801 University Ave.
Montreal, Quebec, Canada

7. Dr. Howard Brown
384 Post St.
San Francisco 8, Calif.

14. Dr. Theodore C. Erickson
1300 University Ave.
Madison 6, Wisconsin

15. Dr. Joseph P. Evans
Cincinnati General Hospital
Cincinnati 29, Ohio

16. Dr. James G. Galbraith
1117 South 22nd St.
Birmingham, Ala.
17. Dr. Everett Grantham
405 Heyburn Bldg.
Louisville 2, Ky.
18. Dr. Wesley A. Gustafson
700 North Michigan Ave.
Chicago 11, Ill.
19. Dr. Wallace B. Hamby
140 Linwood Ave.
Buffalo 9, N. Y.
20. Dr. Hannibal Hamlin
270 Benefit St.
Providence 3, R. I.
21. Dr. Jess D. Herrmann
521 N. W. 11th St.
Oklahoma City 3, Okla.
22. Dr. Olan R. Hyndman
621 First National Bldg.
Davenport, Iowa
23. Dr. William S. Keith
208 West Block
Medical Arts Bldg.
Toronto 5, Ontario, Canada
24. Dr. George L. Maltby
203 State Street
Portland 3, Maine
25. Dr. Frank H. Mayfield
1502 Carew Tower
Cincinnati 2, Ohio
26. Dr. Augustus McCravey
Medical Arts Bldg.
Chattanooga, Tenn.
27. Dr. John M. Meredith
1200 E. Broad Street
Richmond 19, Va.
28. Dr. Edmond Morrissey
330 Medical Bldg.
909 Hyde St.
San Francisco 9, Calif.
29. Dr. Francis Murphey
Suite 525
Physicians & Surgeons Bldg.
Memphis 3, Tenn.
30. Dr. Guy L. Odom
Duke University
Durham, North Carolina
31. Dr. J. Lawrence Pool
710 W. 168th St.
New York 32, N. Y.
32. Dr. Robert Pudenz
696 E. Colorado St.
Pasadena 1, Calif.
33. Dr. John Raaf
912 Medical Dental Bldg.
Portland 5, Oregon
34. Dr. Aiden Raney
1136 W. Sixth St.
Los Angeles 14, Calif.
35. Dr. Rupert Raney
1136 W. Sixth St.
Los Angeles 14, Calif.
36. Dr. Theodore Rasmussen
The University of Chicago
University Clinics
Chicago 37, Ill.
37. Dr. David L. Reeves
316 W. Junipero St.
Santa Barbara, Calif.
38. Dr. R. C. L. Robertson
411 Herman Professional Bldg.
6410 Fannin St.
Houston 5, Texas

39. Dr. Stuart N. Rowe
3700 Fifth Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa.
40. Dr. Henry G. Schwartz
Dept. of Surgery
Washington University
St. Louis 10, Mo.
41. Dr. William B. Scoville
56 Garden St.
Hartford, Conn.
42. Dr. Hunter Shelden
Suite 505
Professional Bldg.
Pasadena, Calif.
43. Dr. Samuel R. Snodgrass
Univ. of Texas Medical Branch
Galveston, Texas
44. Dr. Homer S. Swanson
Emory University Hospital
Emory University, Georgia
45. Dr. Alfred Uihlein
Dept. of Neurosurgery
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minn.
46. Dr. A. Earl Walker
Johns Hopkins Hospital
Baltimore 5, Md.
47. Dr. Exum Walker
133 Doctors Bldg.
Atlanta 3, Georgia
48. Dr. Thomas A. Weaver
Suite 521
Third National Bldg.
Dayton 2, Ohio
49. Dr. Benjamin B. Whitcomb
85 Jefferson St.
Hartford 6, Conn.
50. Dr. Barnes Woodhall
Dept. of Surgery
Duke University
Durham, North Carolina

Corresponding Member:

1. Dr. O. William Stewart
Ward 5-B
Queen Mary Veterans' Hospital
Montreal, P. Q., Canada

Editorial Comment: The following three letters were received after the Round Robin Letter had been completed for mailing. It was believed desirable to include them and they are thus being done additionally.

Stuart N. Rowe (December 8) "Our hosts at Rochester deserve thanks and praise for the excellent meeting there, and the Program Committee must also come in for commendation on a fine job done. All in all, the only alteration I would suggest would be the removal of certain traps about the 15th green.

"The Veterans Hospital at Aspinwall, which is actually a suburb of Pittsburgh, is in need of a full-time neurosurgeon beginning in July of 1951; in fact, they would probably be willing to take a man on any time between now and that date. If anyone knows of a man who would be interested in running a very active service there, I would be glad to hear from him.

"As far as next year's meeting is concerned, I believe that Houston is a favorite, and the latter part of September or early in October seem a very excellent time from my standpoint.

"With best wishes for the Holiday Season, I am"

Edwin B. Boldrey (December 11) "I am certain that most of the Round Robin contributions will commence with a well deserved tribute to our recent hosts in Rochester, and I certainly want to add my thanks to that of the others for a most stimulating and valuable meeting. I thought also that the officers of the society managed the business meetings in a most productive, satisfactory, and smooth running style.

"Preference for the next meeting has been asked and, with all deference to New York City and our membership there, I think that Northeastern U. S. and Eastern Canada were well served by the Montreal meeting of 1948 and believe that the Southwest would be the better site at this time.

"As far as the selection of new members is concerned, I thought that, by and large, the selections at Rochester went off as smoothly as ever is likely and would tend to veer away from a major change in this system. No system is going to please all - I would have liked to have seen some in who didn't make it. Limitations are inevitable though and think that the current system has much to recommend it.

"After the meeting we had the pleasure of Sir Geoffrey Jefferson's company in San Francisco. He had some films showing the favorable effect of simple common carotid ligation on aneurysm of the intracranial carotid. This supplements

the work that Francis Murphey presented at Rochester and demonstrates angiographically that the aneurysm will reduce in size with this procedure alone.

"A very joyous holiday season to all. "

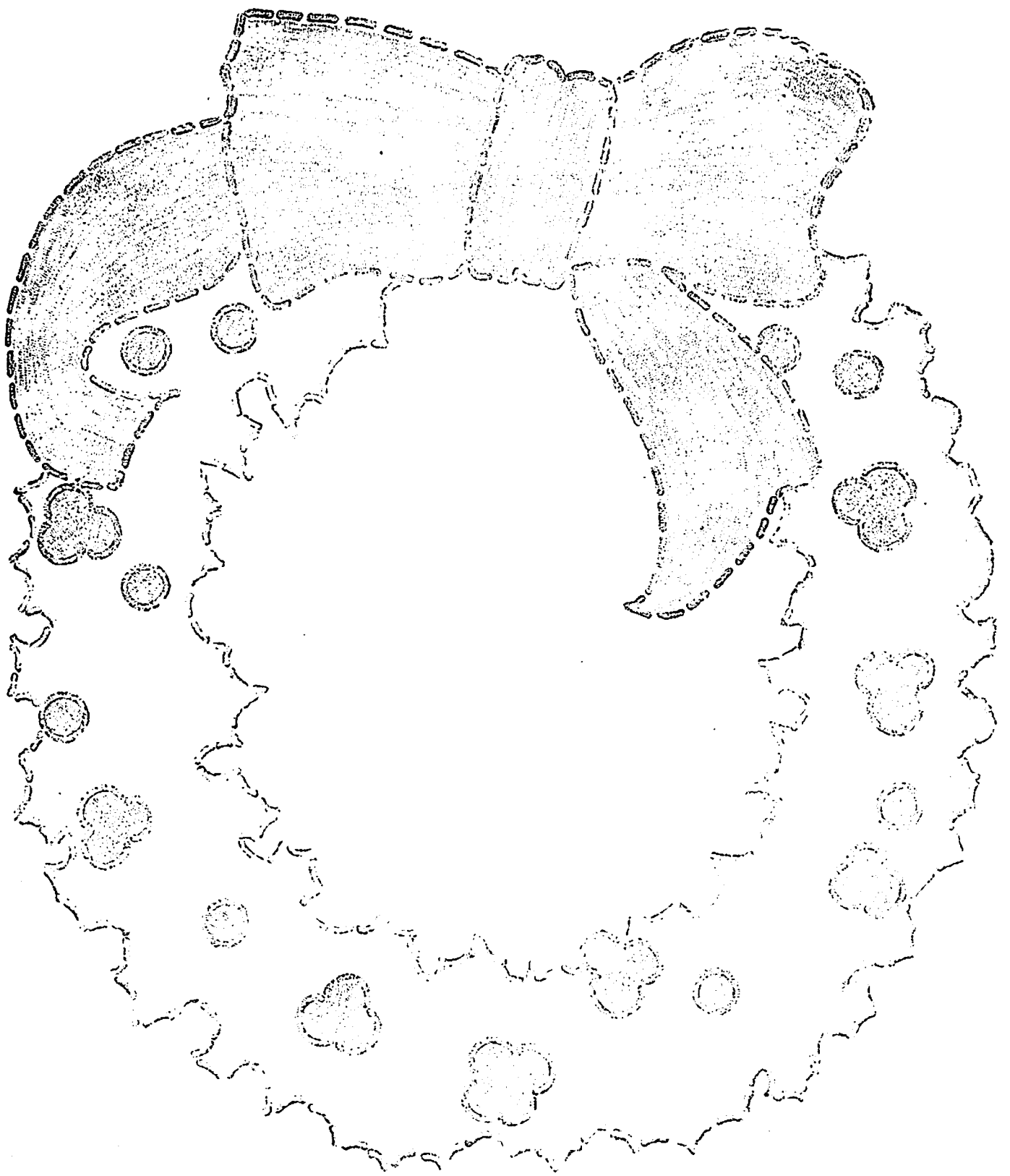
Guy L. Odom (December 12) "I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Durham, N. C. hosts of the last meeting for a grand time. George and Al and their associates deserve a word of praise for a job well done.

"The Program Committee would like to hear from as many members as possible as to how they would like the program arranged for next year. Several have suggested that a Symposium be arranged for part of the program and others would like to cut down on the length of the afternoon sessions.

"If you have any bright ideas, please let us have them. The Committee this year will consist of Hunter Sheldon, Joe Evans and myself.

"I would prefer having the next meeting at one of the resorts instead of a large city. Galveston or Houston, Texas would be my first choice.

"With best wishes to everyone for a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. "



ROUND ROBIN LETTER

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

J. Lawrence Pool (October 13): "First of all, may I again thank George Baker, New York, N. Y. Al Uihlein and their colleagues for the superb hospitality during the last meeting in Rochester. The sessions in the operating room were extremely interesting and greatly appreciated by all of us. It was a most welcome innovation.

"Secondly, warm congratulations are in order for the splendid meeting so beautifully arranged by our officers for the past year, and equally warm congratulations are due the new incumbents for the coming year.

"As to future meetings, some of us wonder whether it might not be advisable to schedule our annual meetings at the time of the American College of Surgeons annual meetings and in the same part of the country so that traveling problems will thereby be reduced. For example, if the College of Surgeons met in Chicago, our meeting might be scheduled for the week preceding or following that meeting either in the same city or in a reasonably adjacent city. I mention this, as traveling facilities may be curtailed in the coming years as well as our travel funds.

"May I also subscribe to a suggestion made by Spencer Eraden to the effect that a registry of interesting cases be published each year by our Academy. As I understand it, his idea was to have the various members send in brief case reports on some of the relatively rare conditions we see, such as, intracranial aneurysms, pinealomas, third ventricle tumors, etc. In this way we should be able each year to edit a comprehensive group report on some of these conditions that would be more significant from a statistical point of view than individual reports on only a few cases. Feeling that such a scheme is well worth a trial, I would be glad to serve on a committee to carry out some of the necessary scut work if the other members consider the proposal worthwhile.

"With warm regards to all. "

Frank H. Mayfield (November 27): "This is the first Round Robin since the Cincinnati, Ohio wonderful meeting in Rochester. Surely the president, Harry Botterell, George Baker and Al Uihlein and the members of the Neurosurgical Staff at the Mayo Clinic are due for congratulations and gratitude on this splendid meeting. They started things off in a great way, for we went on to win the election in Ohio, sending Mr. Taft back to the Senate with a tremendous plurality. We note with pleasure also the success of candidates in other States who opposed the Fair Deal.

"The results of the political campaign begun in Florida and now involving the entire country, show without question that doctors have tremendous influence as vote-getters when the cause they serve is a high and honorable one. I feel confident that the medical profession will never again be "pushed around" by any politician.

"I shall save my scientific contributions for the next letter. "

Editorial Comment: Even the much-maligned Golden State returned good government to office, and I for one appreciate the contribution Frank made toward the nomination of our new senator, Richard M. Nixon, who defeated Helen Gahagan Douglas much to the surprise of the left-wingers and the something-for-nothing boys. Your editor feels that Frank has mentioned a very important item in that physicians must play a much more important role in good government and politics than has been so in the past.

George S. Baker (November 28): "I first would like to say how much all of us Rochester, Minnesota here in Rochester enjoyed having the meeting of the Academy held in our part of the world for the first time. There is no question but what our accommodations are somewhat limited as compared to some other larger cities, but at least with what we have to work with, I feel that everything went off fairly well and hope that those who had to put up with a second-rate hotel accommodation will just consider this in light of our local situation and not that we would not have liked to have had everyone in accommodations of their choice.

"I think the meeting accomplished what we set out to do, and I surely want to congratulate Harry Botterell for the fine manner in which he conducted the executive sessions as well as for keeping the scientific part of the meeting well coordinated.

"We all appreciate the many notes which have been received from the various members after the meeting and feel that for the majority, things went over fairly well.

"I would say from the social aspects that the following comments should be made. First, the golf trophy was won by Don Matson of Boston who was only a stroke better than three other members and therefore his handicap was considered as a part in this over-all planning. Second, Rupert Raney's presentation of his movie must be considered the highlight of our social attainments, and for those of us who could picture said Rupert in a small country schoolhouse on Saturday night explaining to a group of coon hunters who represented the Southern Minnesota Society of Coon Hunters, the price of admission would be quite high, if he were to repeat. Third, it was obvious that our editor of the Round Robin Letter and genial Vice President, Dave Reeves, must have felt the responsibilities of being toastmaster at the formal banquet to a greater extent than I had

anticipated as he completely collapsed from these duties on the following evening at the Country Club requiring resuscitation, to say the least. Fourth, and the final comment concerning the attainments of the meeting, one must not lose track of the fact of the detailed early morning discussion by Keith Bradford at the scientific session on Saturday morning.

"I am hoping that the meeting in 1951 can be held perhaps in Texas at a time of the year that the local group feel would be the best for conventions, meetings, and so forth, and at a time when the weather will be at its best for all concerned. "

Editorial Comment: For the sake of the record your editor would like to point out that a clipping penalty should have been called at the formal banquet which he thoroughly enjoyed because that was the reason he found himself collapsed into the collapsible chairs. The referee was looking the other way and no whistle was blown. Your editor recovered immediately and went right on with the game for the rest of the evening. It was his feeling that Keith Bradford's detailed early morning discussion at the scientific session on Saturday morning represented one of the most remarkable incidents he has ever enjoyed.

Robert H. Pudenz (November 29): "In all fairness to the other members, I Pasadena, California would favor having the next meeting of the Academy either in the vicinity of New York City or in the Gulf South. Hunter and I hope that in 1952 we will have the pleasure of serving as hosts to the Academy in Pasadena.

"It seems to us that each year the only sour note in the whole meeting is the long harangue concerned with the election of new members to the Academy. The greatest contribution that the Executive Committee could make would be to have all of this pretty well settled before we come to the meeting. At the last meeting in Rochester, we had an unusually long scientific program and the business took what was in my opinion much unnecessary time. Little time was left for mutual discussion of problems with our colleagues.

"The contract for the construction of our new research building at the Huntington Memorial Hospital is now signed, sealed and delivered and construction should be under way within a very few weeks. If the society should plan to come to Pasadena in 1952, we would probably be prepared to show the neurosurgical research facilities.

"With best wishes to all. "

Editorial Comment: Your editor feels that Bob has mentioned a very pertinent feature referable to long business meetings which have plagued us for some time. If the Executive Committee can arrange to have as much business as

possible settled by mail ballot prior to meetings, they will have accomplished a great deal for the Academy. If it is necessary to change the constitution in this respect it is my feeling that such should be done.

Wallace B. Hamby (November 29) "Your method really is fine of having topics
Buffalo, New York in the Round Robin before they come to the floor of the annual meetings. In this way we can have an idea of what others think of our brain-children, so they may take up little time, or may better remain undelivered.

"The Executive Committee has considered the problem of next year's meeting place and has requested the Houston-Galveston group of members to make arrangements to have it there. The time will depend considerably upon hotel dates available. We have requested a date in October or November, in order that wives may be free to attend after getting their young back to school.

"The matter of paying the expenses of guests should be reviewed, but I like the way it is done at present. Originally any member could invite anyone he wished and their expenses were prorated, since their presence was enjoyed by all. I agree heartily with proration of guest expenses, but the method of selecting guests was wrong. Some members invited no one and others sent in lists up to ten to be invited. The latter method appeared a little unfair and at the Montreal meeting this was changed to have each member pay the prorated expense for each guest he invited. In this way each member lays himself open to no more financial obligation than he wishes to bear. It also insures that the attendance is not top-heavy with guests. The chief disadvantage I can see to the method is that members of fixed income in teaching positions where worthwhile newcomers are most numerous, are exposed to the temptation of inviting a guest-list beyond their financial means. This is not an unmixed curse, however, since it causes him to weigh more critically the merits of the prospects and to invite only the best of them. I am sure that if any of us have more good guest-prospects than we can provide for comfortably, we would feel no hesitation about recommending them to another member.

"Another alternative is to have the guests pay their own way, as is practiced by many large national societies. This is a method I definitely would oppose for this organization. It makes us vulnerable at once to the hazard of meetings so large that our chief present advantage of a small intimate group would be lost. Our discussion periods already have been reduced far below the optimum by a tendency to crowd the program, with the result that any paper can enjoy only a few sentences of discussion by two or three, at the most. I would commend this thought to the Program Committee for next year.

"With due deference to the advantages inherent in other methods for invitation and payment of expenses of guests, I believe our present method is the best for the Academy and recommend that it remain unchanged.

"As you suggested, our list of candidates for membership still contains names of men we should have as members. Those who sponsored them should, without delay, write Ted Rasmussen to renew their recommendations. A few of these men have been guests at several meetings; they have presented worthwhile scientific papers to us and, in my opinion, merit very serious consideration for election. Sponsors of candidates should see to it that these men attend meetings so they can become well enough known to give them a chance to be elected.

"I am looking forward to the next meeting with hopes that you may not be too disappointed in your choice of a President. The Presidential Address still looms as a forbidding cloud on the horizon -- if anyone has an idea, it would be welcomed tremendously.

"This being the Xmas Edition, Hellyn and I should like to extend the heartiest of greetings to all of you and your families. "

Editorial Comment: Wally's letter settles the problem as to the location of the next meeting. It seems to me, everything considered, it represents the logical choice. I only hope that the disintegrating state of world affairs does not catch up to us by that time and that all of us may be on hand to enjoy that meeting.

I am in accord with Wally's idea about the manner of paying the expenses of guests and I think the present method is best. One compromise would be that of having everyone pay for tickets to the banquet and perhaps one or two other social affairs so that the pro-ration of expenses for the member and his guests would be less. There is little doubt in your editor's mind that Wally will be one of our best choices for president.

The President's Address certainly represents a cloud on the horizon for anyone having to undertake it. Some of our members should be able to offer valuable suggestions in this respect.

George L. Maltby (November 30) "I certainly agree with you that our Meeting
Portland, Maine in Rochester was an excellent Meeting, both
from a scientific and social point of view. It
was one of the best that I can remember. I feel that the idea initiated by the past
program committee of having an outside speaker is excellent and the primary
idea of a program committee which rotates is also an excellent idea.

"I would agree that it might be wise to have the next Meeting in the east. The idea of New York is good but it does leave a certain amount to be desired from the point of view of outdoor entertainment. Has anybody considered a Meeting in Buffalo, New York considering that Wally is the President or has he

invited us? What is the feeling about a Meeting in Hot Springs again which would be a compromise between the east and south.

"I feel that your idea about further circularization of the feelings of the proposers of the men for membership is important. If it has not been done, I would like to submit again, 'Tom Ballantine's name for reconsideration next year. I feel very strongly that both he and his wife would fit well into our group and on top of that, I think that he has a good deal to offer from a scientific point of view. Certainly, it will take me a number of years to understand what he is talking about with his supersonic radiation. "

Editorial Comment: Your editor is happy that George feels the desirability of saying more about candidates for election. I for one will go right along with him referable to Tom Ballantine. I knew him at Hopkins and have seen him more than once since that time. While he will not represent Harvey Cushing, still he has many other qualifications which make him more desirable.

Howard A. Brown (December 1) "I am sure that everyone will agree that the meeting in Rochester was one that could only be described by superlatives from all aspects.

San Francisco
My only complaint was that the activities were so continuous my strength had been completely dissipated by Saturday afternoon.

"It is to be noted, however, that Wink Craig registered no complaints about having to escort all those lovely ladies on the boat ride.

"In more serious vein, it appeared to me that a greater feeling of unity and understanding was manifest at this meeting and I am sincerely hopeful that this will continue in the future. I believe that we owe Harry Bctterell a vote of thanks for his part in this improvement in the administration of the Academy's affairs. Congratulations to him for his fine work as President!

"I have recently returned from a meeting of the American Board of Neurological Surgery in New Haven, which was my first meeting since election to represent the Academy in that body. It was an interesting and instructive meeting and I would feel, as Joe Evans has previously pointed out, that perhaps further discussion as to the details of neurosurgical training deserves further discussion by our group as well as others.

"I had the good fortune to visit Wally Hamby on the way home and had a most enjoyable time. I must say that I was greatly impressed by the fine work our President showed me while in Buffalo.

"I had an opportunity to examine two patients that Wally had operated upon, using Earl Walker's pedunculotomy, and the results were certainly most

impressive. I hope that we may be able to undertake some of these as soon as we learn the necessary technical tricks. "

Editorial Comment: Your editor hopes that our very able and popular representative on the American Board of Neurological Surgery will write some of his ideas concerning neurosurgical training for our next Round Robin Letter and he hopes that others will join in the discussion.

J. Lawrence Pool (December 1) "First of all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

"As to the location of next year's meeting, I would be most happy, indeed, to act as host in New York City and feel quite certain that we can arrange some operative clinics on one or two mornings in addition to scientific sessions in the afternoons. I believe we could also persuade men in other clinics to participate in our program, such as, Bronson Ray, Will Mahoney and Tom Hoen.

"My next choice would be Houston, Texas, and a third choice would be some resort like Sea Island or New Orleans.

"I am in favor of Earl Walker's ideas in setting the expenses of invited guests.

"With best regards. "

Homer S. Swanson (December 1) "I have received your letter announcing the Emory University, Georgia next edition of the Round Robin Letter and would certainly second your opinion regarding the character of the Rochester Meeting. I personally enjoyed this meeting immensely and wish to congratulate the group at the Mayo Clinic for the very excellent surgical clinics which were conducted.

"As regards the possible meeting places for the coming meeting, I, of course being from the South would like to see the next meeting held either in the South or the East, the idea of the Shamrock Hotel at Houston, Texas is highly entertaining to me.

"The most interesting bit of news from our group concerns the recent utilization of total spinal anesthesia in the removal of a massive arteriovenous aneurysm of the right parietal lobe. We have gone through all the trials and tribulations of attempting to tackle these enormous fearsome lesions under conventional anesthesia and had about decided that the risk and emotional and mental shock was not worth the effort when we hit on the idea of the possible use of total spinal anesthesia. This patient's lesion was enormous being fed both from the anterior cerebral and middle cerebral arteries and on the arteriogram appeared

to cover almost the entire right parietal lobe. He had had intractable focal convulsive seizures for twenty years and within the past two years time had begun to develop a progressive hemiparesis and very frank personality changes. After some due consideration to the possible complications, total spinal anesthesia was utilized and the patient explored.

"One was first struck by the complete lack of cortical pulsation, by the fact that even the largest vessels could be very adroitly dealt with without the fear of rupture, and even though one of the large veins was inadvertently torn during the act of removal of the lesion, there was only rather mild oozing and in no way did this compare with the fearsome gush of blood which we had encountered in previous experiences.

"The patient showed a very satisfactory respiration throughout but at no time for the first two hours were we able to obtain a blood pressure or to visualize cortical pulsation. At the end of two hours, the cortex began to pulsate and it was then noted that there was mild oozing from the dural edges and bone flap. At the end of three hours, the blood pressure became discernible and some six hours postoperative, the patient was alert, his blood pressure was stabilized and he voided spontaneously. His postoperative course thereafter was uncomplicated other than for the development of the left hemiplegia which we expected. The total operating time was two hours from beginning of the incision to complete block removal of the aneurysm which is in striking contrast to any personal efforts in these lesions in the past. We had feared the possible development of a lower nephron syndrome but these fears were not realized.

"In the future we are planning to utilize this method of anesthesia when this problem is again presented but I am a little dubious that one is justified in departing so radically from the conventional methods of anesthesia as a routine procedure."

Editorial Comment: Homer's comment referable to total spinal anesthesia strikes me as one of the most interesting things I have come across. May I also say that such comments as this alone would make the Round Robin worthwhile to me. I only hope he will elaborate on this most interesting surgical approach in the next letter and I am sure all of you will be excited by what he has had to say.

Rupert B. Raney (December 5) "I had a very pleasant visit with Everett Grantham in Louisville last week and had the pleasure of watching him do a thoracic sympathectomy, which he did superbly.

"The suggestion regarding discussing candidates in the Round Robin Letter seems a good one. Such a discussion makes it possible for all of us to

know some of the merits of the candidates that we do not have much of an opportunity of knowing otherwise.

"I believe that everyone knows Jack French, who has been my guest for the past three years. He has attended all three of these meetings and has given papers at two of the meetings. I have, along with Wally Hamby, also invited him to be a guest again next year and to be voted upon for membership. Jack will make an exceptionally loyal member if taken in and will be a workhorse on any task that might be assigned to him as time goes on. I am hoping that both he and Tom Ballantyne will be more fortunate than to come up in competition with each other on the ballot since both of them are excellent men.

"I had hoped to get in a couple of weeks of hunting in Southern Indiana the beginning of quail season and planned on getting in touch with Spenc Braden and Frank Mayfield, however, the first few days it rained continuously, then it snowed so I spent practically all the time dangling my feet over a radiator trying to get warm."

Editorial Comment: Your editor wishes to second what Rupert has had to say about Jack French and Tom Ballantyne.

May I point out that Wally Ritchie, who has been sponsored by Henry Schwartz, has been a friend of mine for many years. In my opinion he and his wife would both represent a most valuable addition to our organization. Wally had an excellent war record, has always been very well liked, and has a great deal to offer in many other respects.

I should also like to state that George Roulhac, who has been sponsored by Henry Schwartz and Larry Pool, is one of the most able of the younger men I have met. He and his wife also are two of the very attractive younger people in the neuro-surgical world.

John Eisenbeiss was with me in military service at Hammond General Hospital. I had an opportunity to know him in a way that would not be possible otherwise. He has a great deal of ability and is a very attractive person in a nice quiet way. He and his wife are very popular with the younger group of neurosurgeons. He has been sponsored by Rupert Raney and I am sure that Rupert feels as I do about him.

It is my feeling that some of our younger members should express their feelings about these people whom they very likely know better than do the older members.

Everett G. Grantham (December 5) "I am heartily in favor of your suggestion
Louisville, Kentucky that the next meeting be held either in New
York City or at the Shamrock Hotel in Houston.

I expect that Houston would be preferable as it would simplify the traveling problem of those from the west.

"I was very impressed at the Rochester meeting with the results in the cases we were shown following pedunculotomy and since then I have done one on a youngster who had been crippled all of his life and I am very pleased with the result to date. The return of motion of the temporarily paralyzed extremity is truly remarkable.

"Carmel and I were delighted with the opportunity to see Rupert and Alta Raney recently. Rupert came to Indiana to do some coon hunting and got caught in the November snow storm that hit this part of the country and we admired them for braving the 100 mile trip to Louisville for a short visit. "

Editorial Comment: Your editor was likewise much impressed with the cases following pedunculotomy and hopes that those performing the procedure will comment a little more fully on the technical problems associated with it. I am sure that once these details have been ironed out the procedure itself will be simple enough to perform.

Winchell McK. Craig (December 7) "I cannot resist the temptation to write for Rochester, Minnesota the Round Robin Letter to tell all the members what a pleasure it was to have them here for the meeting, and as I said at the banquet, the only incident which marred an otherwise perfect meeting was the fact that Glen Spurling could not be here.

"You will all be interested to know that the meningioma case which so many of you saw me struggle with walked out of the hospital and returned home with no neurological deficit except slight weakness of the leg and foot which have cleared up since his return home.

"I only hope it is possible for me to attend your next meeting as I still think it a great privilege to have been made an honorary member of your organization. "

Editorial Comment: I am sure that all of us were gratified to learn that the meningioma case which was a very difficult one got along so nicely. Your editor would like to interject the thought that it was a great pleasure to see an experienced operator working so calmly and coolly and without fuss and frills. Unfortunately, too often neurosurgeons have been guilty of acting otherwise and the reputation of neurosurgeons in general has suffered because of the temper tantrums of the few.

Your editor feels it was unfortunate we failed to elect other honorary members at our last meeting. Doctor Craig was most enthusiastic in hoping that Doctor Jason Mixter and Sir Geoffrey Jefferson would be elected as honorary members. While

it may be said that everyone would like to have his old chief as an honorary member, nonetheless your editor is of the opinion that a few honored friends of Wink Craig and Glen Spurling could well be made honorary members to the benefit of all concerned and I hope others will express their opinions on this subject one way or another in some of our next letters.

The death of our Corresponding Member, Doctor O. William Stewart, was noted at our last meeting. His loss after a long illness is mourned by all of us.

Olan Hyndman has become an Emeritus Member and has therefore preceded a number of the older members in their desire to do so to allow room for the younger generation. It is hoped that this will not mean any lack of interest in the organization.

Your editor wishes to join all of the other members in welcoming the three newly elected members of our organization, namely: Eben Alexander, Jr., Donald Matson, and William Sweet. All of us have felt that these new members represent the outstanding young neurosurgeons of the country.

In conclusion, your editor must offer a little apology in sending you the Santa Barbara Pictorial. Inasmuch as some day we may have our meeting out this way, he thought it wise to indoctrinate you on some of the beauties of this outstandingly attractive spot in the United States. He would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and hope that the year of 1951 will find us becoming realistic and strong in facing grave dangers from the insane world of Eurasia.

Editorial Comment: The following three letters were received after the Round Robin Letter had been completed for mailing. It was believed desirable to include them and they are thus being done additionally.

Stuart N. Rowe (December 8) "Our hosts at Rochester deserve thanks and praise for the excellent meeting there, and the Program Committee must also come in for commendation on a fine job done. All in all, the only alteration I would suggest would be the removal of certain traps about the 15th green.
Pittsburgh, Pa.

"The Veterans Hospital at Aspinwall, which is actually a suburb of Pittsburgh, is in need of a full-time neurosurgeon beginning in July of 1951; in fact, they would probably be willing to take a man on any time between now and that date. If anyone knows of a man who would be interested in running a very active service there, I would be glad to hear from him.

"As far as next year's meeting is concerned, I believe that Houston is a favorite, and the latter part of September or early in October seem a very excellent time from my standpoint.

"With best wishes for the Holiday Season, I am"

Edwin B. Boldrey (December 11) "I am certain that most of the Round Robin contributions will commence with a well deserved tribute to our recent hosts in Rochester, and I certainly want to add my thanks to that of the others for a most stimulating and valuable meeting. I thought also that the officers of the society managed the business meetings in a most productive, satisfactory, and smooth running style.
San Francisco, Calif.

"Preference for the next meeting has been asked and, with all deference to New York City and our membership there, I think that Northeastern U. S. and Eastern Canada were well served by the Montreal meeting of 1948 and believe that the Southwest would be the better site at this time.

"As far as the selection of new members is concerned, I thought that, by and large, the selections at Rochester went off as smoothly as ever is likely and would tend to veer away from a major change in this system. No system is going to please all - I would have liked to have seen some in who didn't make it. Limitations are inevitable though and think that the current system has much to recommend it.

"After the meeting we had the pleasure of Sir Geoffrey Jefferson's company in San Francisco. He had some films showing the favorable effect of simple common carotid ligation on aneurysm of the intracranial carotid. This supplements

the work that Francis Murphey presented at Rochester and demonstrates angiographically that the aneurysm will reduce in size with this procedure alone.

"A very joyous holiday season to all. "

Guy L. Odom (December 12) "I would like to take this opportunity to thank our hosts of the last meeting for a grand time. George and Al and their associates deserve a word of praise for a job well done.

"The Program Committee would like to hear from as many members as possible as to how they would like the program arranged for next year. Several have suggested that a Symposium be arranged for part of the program and others would like to cut down on the length of the afternoon sessions.

"If you have any bright ideas, please let us have them. The Committee this year will consist of Hunter Sheldon, Joe Evans and myself.

"I would prefer having the next meeting at one of the resorts instead of a large city. Galveston or Houston, Texas would be my first choice.

"With best wishes to everyone for a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. "