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THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY



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THE NEUROSURGEON

The ROUND ROBIN LETTER of
THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

NOW THAT the summer months and vacation days are behind us the time comes for another edition of THE NEUROSURGEON. In view of the fact we are having our twentieth anniversary meeting in Toronto, it seemed only appropriate we designate this as the "Toronto Number". It would appear that the membership is desirous of continuing THE NEUROSURGEON and without much change at present, and preferably three or four times a year. It should be possible to work this out to the general satisfaction of the membership; and with the newer members being added each year, changes and additions suggested by the considerable talent in the Academy should increase our interest in the publication. Some of the first letters appearing in this number had arrived at about the time the publication had gone to the lithographers.

THE LETTERS

EDWIN B. BOLDREY - May 22, 1958

First, I want to say how much I appreciate the honor which has been given me by the members of The Academy at the last meeting. I think that all of you know my warm feelings for the Academy and, therefore, for the members who comprise it. There is no honor which I will value more highly.

A number of things have happened to us out here since we flapped our way from Sea Island to Atlanta through the storms in that DC-3 last November. First, I want to mention the visit of the National Ballet of Canada to San Francisco. The loveliest dancer in the group is Jocelyn Botterell who dances under the stage name of Jocelyn Terell. If this ballet should come to cities in which any of you reside, it certainly would be a most enjoyable experience for you to see them - and Jocelyn in particular. She is a beautiful and charming young girl as well as talented dancer.

In a private Round-Robin such as this, I am sure it is in order to comment on the obvious evidence of control of the Cushing Society meeting in Washington by the members of the Academy. For those who were not there, it can be reported that this was by all odds the best organized and conducted meeting of this size which it has been my pleasure to attend. Howard Brown gave an excellent presidential address; and ably assisted by Wallie Hamby, the vice president of the Society, got the papers and the discussion right along at the proper clip. The over-all direction of the secretary, Dave Reeves, was evident and Dave continues in this capacity. Jack French headed the program committee which was also made up of members of the Academy. The thought occurs to me that we must look seriously to the future membership of the Academy so that it may continue to play this enviable role in American Neurological Surgery during the years to come.

Before the Cushing meeting, some of us had the pleasure of running down to Durham, North Carolina, and seeing there the fine facilities, personnel, and surroundings with and in which Barnes Woodhall and Guy Odom worked. I had never been on the Duke campus before; it is certainly a delightful spot. Of course, it was not surprising to see many of the manifestations of the high caliber of work being done there by Barnes and Guy.

As the last item, I would like to emphasize the urgency of encouraging the young men to submit papers for the Academy Award. It is true that only one can win but certainly the opportunity for a period of time in Toronto is a prize worth striving for. Letters have been written by Eben Alexander to all department heads and to all chief residents of services over the country. Even so, the major stimulus will come from the persistent efforts of our own membership.

We of San Francisco are looking forward to seeing many of you at the A. M. A. meeting in June. A high level conference with Moscow assures us that we will have no radioactive rain during that time!

Editorial Comment:

Ed Boldrey and Tom Ballantine have suggested a notice in THE NEUROSURGEON emphasizing the need of papers for the Academy Award. Unfortunately Ed's letter to this office arrived after THE NEUROSURGEON had gone to press. Something of this sort will be used in the next numbers prior to the 1959 meeting.

Ed certainly deserves the honor of President-Elect, an office which he justly values highly.

* * *

"Anyone who goes to a psychoanalyst should have his head examined." - Sam Goldwyn

"They call us the weaker sex but men are the weaker sex, they know it and we do too." - Lady Astor

* * *

JOSEPH P. EVANS - May 28, 1958

As usual I am hopelessly behind in comments for The Neurosurgeon. Partly this is a reflection of the dearth of news neurosurgically, for matters seem to have been particularly quiet this Spring and we don't seem to have pushed the boundaries to knowledge very vigorously.

We continue to be interested in the problem of cerebral swelling and eventually hope to have something constructive to offer in this area. Sean Mullan, my associate, has been doing some related work on hypothermia which he hopes to continue during the coming year. He is also working on the production of destructive lesions in the basal ganglia, using Palladium placed under image amplifier control. The method appears to be promising.

We ceded the field of yttrium hypophysectomy

to our rhinological colleagues a year ago and are now about to gather our 45 cases initiated by Ted Rasmussen and carried on by Eric Yuhl and myself. We shall have a minimum of a year follow-up. This survey was begun by William Kelly, who is now with Art Ward, and has been continued by a young German, Wolfgang Fenge, who is due to return shortly to West Berlin to work with Arist Stender.

We've had working with us this year an exceptionally capable lad from Siam, Charas Suwanwela, who has been bringing our neuropathology material up to date, and who has done a very interesting review of the brain tumors, a collection begun by Percival Bailey in 1928.

Our program is shaken down now so that we have 3 men in clinical training on a 4-5 year basis and have opportunity for another 3 men to work on an experimental program. The international character of our group, which of course, if not unique with us, has meant a lot of hard work to get over language barriers but has been very rewarding as a teaching experience. I continue to find the University of Chicago a very rewarding place in which to work, though there is so much going on in basic as well as clinical areas that it is hard to keep up with the various stimulating projects that are under way in other peoples' areas.

We hope to go down to Colombia directly after the ANA Meeting and it may be that for the next news letter I shall have some comments concerning neurosurgery there.

* * *

"Two things make women slow in getting any place - first, she must make up her mind and then her face."

"The United States is truly the land of opportunity - where else can a man call hogs one week and sell a million records the next without changing vocal technique?"

"None are so brave as the anonymous."

Sorry to have been too late to send a note for The Neurosurgeon, but I have been extremely tied up with many things, meetings, writings, research, reports, etc. Of cases of interest I might mention one of intracerebellar hemispherical haematoma, occurring spontaneously in an epileptic which probably was traumatic, and which was evacuated. Another patient presented with dilated ventricles from partial blockage at the foramen of Megendie. He had a questionable chest lesion and my resident, Doctor Berger reported a mass in the left epididymus which has proved to be a tuberculoma. He is improving on antibiotic therapy and papilloedema is subsiding. Should the tuberculoma in the posterior fossa be removed? Or, will it shrink under the medical treatment? Had a huge meningioma over the week-end in a five month pregnant woman, with symptoms of three weeks, with skull changes indicating a chronic lesion. Removal was attempted but her bleeding time was increased; intracranial pressure was exceedingly high; the scalp flap was replaced without opening the dura. It was re-opened after some three hours, with the patient under hypothermia, and with the external carotid artery ligated. The tumour was easily delivered, in fact it came out as a newborn infant might, precipitously. Of course, most of the bleeding had been controlled at the first procedure and there was relatively little bleeding with the second stage, partly due, no doubt, to the hypothermia. The growth had compressed the fronto-parietal region toward the midline, to an extreme degree. The posterior parietal and occipital regions were already oedematous. Massive cerebral edema eventually occurred, as was feared, due to the rebound phenomenon. I re-opened and removed most of the temporal lobe and small areas of what seemed to be spontaneous infarction elsewhere and slit the tentorium. She eventually succumbed. Hypothermia did not reduce the cerebral edema, neither did urea. Perhaps, if both had been used originally they might have helped, though I doubt it. Perhaps the edema was already triggered by the preceding ventriculogram. I suppose the pregnancy may have contributed to the

edema and also changed the bleeding time. Probably a Cesarean should have been done first. This is the only case, that I recall at the moment, in which I have found it necessary to procede in two stages.

Regarding the problems posed by the editor, the question of membership is one which has been recon- sidered many times. Certainly the Society can and, I think, should take in more members each year. If the problem becomes too serious I would suggest abolishing the black ball system for one year. Last year three were admitted, and it is hoped that more will be successful this year.

Regarding corresponding membership. It does not seem that the Academy is ready for this as yet, and some of our friends are taken care of by the Harvey Cushing Society. It may be necessary to force older members, such as myself, to go on to a reserve list. Of course, nature also has a way of handling these problems.

I would favour three issues of The Neuro- surgeon per year. One before the meeting; one after, and one at the half way point. I think the meetings are best held in October.

Have just returned from The Harvey Cushing Society. It was certainly a well run meeting with Howard as President and John as Program Chairman. I must say that I still do not believe that it is necessary to fuse discs, apart from what may occur as a result of a radical removal. Yesterday I removed a wire binding the four and five lumbar spines, and made a radical removal of the L 4-5 and the L5-S1 discs, bilaterally, with adequate root decompression, in a patient who had had a discolidectomy one year before, with wiring of the L 4-5 spines, and who had been recommended for de- finitive fusion. She was relieved immediately. I might add that on the last afternoon I skipped lunch and visited the Smithsonian Institute, the National Art Gallery, the Capitol, the Washington Monument, a bookshop, and a movie. One man on the street asked me for a job. I am leaving next week for Helsinki.

Editorial Comment:

Arthur's letter as usual is most entertaining and interesting. We will look forward to his wit and wisdom at the Toronto meeting.

Apropos of Arthur's case of a meningioma in a woman five months' pregnant, I had a similar experience 8 years ago though without those complications. A woman was sent to me from Taft, California by ambulance on a Sunday afternoon, in coma, and having left-sided Jacksonian seizures which had started on the preceding day. She was five months' pregnant and had had three children previously. A ventriculogram revealed an expanding lesion in the right frontal region, which I presumed was a malignant glioma. I operated and removed a fair sized meningioma which fortunately was not in the least vascular. The patient regained consciousness two days later and left the hospital on the 19 postoperative day. She delivered normally at term and both the mother and her eight year old daughter are well today. This was included in a paper on brain tumors complicating pregnancy. To me the case emphasizes the importance of operating on cases which seem hopeless or futile, for I couldn't imagine I had anything but a malignant glioma in an unconscious and five months' pregnant woman.

* * *

"Of course, I wouldn't say anything about her unless I could say something good, and oh, boy, is this good."

"An old-fashioned mother gets furious if her daughter wears a skimpy bathing suit; modern mother gets furious only if it is hers."

At a party one woman called across the room to another, "I've been wondering why you weren't invited to the Astor party last week." The other woman smiled and said, "Isn't that a coincidence, I was just wondering why you were."



Winners of the costume party

BARNES WOODHALL - July 14, 1958

Happy Bastille Day! The Treasurer's Office of the Second International Congress of Neurosurgery is in full operation. Wally Hamby and I are having an old clothes and paper collection day sometime in September and any further good ideas like this one will be appreciated - and contributions from patients or rich uncles.

Although this point is none of my direct business, I would like to point out that the success of this Congress will depend upon the quality of its scientific program - not on the entertainment or the red marks in my books or anything else. I am spending the summer here working, primarily because I like Carolina at this time of the year, and in the second place, so that I can shoot at flying things in the Fall with a reasonably clear conscience. Fran and I hope to go to Tanglewood later and then see some of the cup defenders with my brother-in-law at Westport, Connecticut.

Finally, you will note that both research and medical school support funds are being sharply increased. This reminds me of old Major Bowes' remark - "round and round we go"

Editorial Comment:

Barnes has a big job with being Treasurer of the Second International Congress of Neurosurgery and when that meets in Washington, D. C. in 1961 its size will seem somewhat overwhelming to most of us. Your reporter has spent the summer in this truly beautiful spot of our country and I can't imagine any worthwhile reason for doing otherwise. We have been particularly busy with clinical neurosurgical cases, and I often think it would be better to be less occupied as it would afford time for other interests.

* * *

"Too many people forget that the best place to work to beat hell is in church."

Thanks very much for your letter and again this year I am afraid I will have to miss the meeting of the Academy. I had definitely planned to be with you but if all goes well I will be on a trip around the world with the International College of Surgeons lecturing in the majority of the cities and countries that we will visit. I will be talking on neurosurgical subjects and meeting with the neurosurgical representatives of these countries. This is a trip that I have often wanted to make and I hope the international situation will not interfere. Please present my regrets to all the members and tell them how sorry I am that Jean and I cannot be with you at the coming meeting.

Leave San Francisco	October 10
Visit Honolulu	October 11-12
Tokyo and Japan	October 15-25
Hong Kong	October 26-30
Manila and the Philippines	October 31- November 2
Bangkok	November 3-5
Calcutta	November 6
Benares	November 7
New Delhi	November 8
Agra (Taj Mahal)	November 11
Bombay	November 11-16
Cairo	November 17-19
Istanbul	November 19-21
Athens	November 24-26
Rome	November 26-28
Barcelona	November 29

The group will fly from Barcelona to New York, but I may fly to Great Britain and see Sir James Learmonth, Sir Geoffrey Jefferson, Norman Dott, and Sir Richard Pim in Belfast. Learmonth is near Edinburgh, Jefferson is in Manchester, and I will probably spend a few days in London seeing old friends such as Sir Gordon Taylor who was so nice to me during the war.

Editorial Comment:

We will miss the Craigs at the Toronto Meet-

ing, but Wink should have an enviable journey with the International College of Surgeons.

* * *

"Research indicates that the Jones' are now having trouble keeping up with themselves."

"Nothing improves a fellow's boyhood behavior like having a son of his own."

* * *

GEORGE S. BAKER - July 16, 1958

I am anticipating being in Toronto for the fall meeting of the Academy and have already made arrangements to attend. I am sure that Harry Botterell will do his utmost to put on a wonderful show, as he has always shown keen interest in such endeavors.

We are looking forward to a visit to Montana with John Raaf, Francis Murphey, and Henry Schwartz the latter part of July, and will be taking a good bit of our family with us to enjoy the country life of Montana. Incidentally, we hope the trout will be biting unusually well, as they always have in the past.

Our clinical activities seem to be rather routine, but it seems to me that the older I get there is nothing clear-cut and routine but that only the tough diagnostic problems come my way.

I hope you and your family have enjoyed a good summer in California, and we will try to take some good pictures of our vacation trip in Montana and send them to you for the next issue of THE NEUROSURGEON.

Editorial Comment:

Sounds like a wonderful vacation in a magnificent country. George's mention of John Raaf leads me to include part of the transcript of his discussion of the two papers on the anterior approach for disc removal

and interbody fusion at the Harvey Cushing Meeting in Washington. It seemed quite good and more amusing as presented than it is as one reads it.

DR. JOHN RAAF: Mr. Chairman, Members and Guests: Last Sunday evening Jack French, your Program Chairman, granted me a very special and a personal privilege. After that he immediately said that I was to write a substitute for Drs. Spurling and Mack in discussing this paper. I hardly could refuse, although I realized that neither mentally nor physically could I fill the shoes of either of those gentlemen.

After the evening was over, I went up to the room to try to gather some material for discussion of these papers, and the only thing I could come up with was the Gideon Bible. If my remarks seem a little old fashioned, it is simply that my material was not quite as up to date as the material that you have seen presented here.

For some time now I have been trying to decide whether anterior cervical fusion is in the same category as Russian tonsillectomy. You all perhaps saw that report out of the Soviet Union a few years ago that tonsillectomy is performed from the other end of the alimentary canal simply because the Russian is not allowed to open his mouth. (Laughter)

For many years I have been a great admirer of Dr. Cloward's prodigious energy and his abundance of ideas, but so far I haven't been able to bring myself to do either discograms or anterior cervical fusions.

It is true that there are a number of very fine blind pianists, but I don't believe that one can pound on the strings that go to make up the brachial plexus with the same abandon that you can pound on piano strings. Neither have I done discograms, but I have seen a great number of patients in our locality who have had discograms performed. Besides myself, Ralph has a great number of ardent admirers in Oregon, and some of them are doing discograms.

It is possible that I only see those who are unhappy with the procedure, but the common complaint that I get from these patients who have had discograms performed is that it was so painful they would take anything except another discogram.

I wonder if Dr. Cloward would comment on the amount of pain involved in discography. Some patients say that it has been necessary for them to stay in bed between two and three weeks after a discogram.

Now, if anterior fusion has merit, I think, Ralph, it would be a good idea for you to instruct your followers carefully regarding the indications for this operation. The thing that brings this to mind is that about two weeks ago I saw a young woman who had been in an automobile accident and she had had what is commonly termed a whiplash injury, God forbid the term, but anyway you know what I mean by whiplash injury. The automobile accident had occurred only a month before she came to our hospital, and before that she had been a drug addict.

Anyway, already a discogram and anterior spinal fusion had been advised in that case. Now, if we are going to use those indications, it seems to me for anterior spinal fusion, I believe in Oregon we will have to appeal to our Senators for Federal aid for more hospitals.

You know, sometimes it doesn't make much difference what you do to a patient's spine; they get better anyway. I remember about eight or nine years ago I did a myelogram on a patient and the myelogram showed a very good or very nice -- if you want to call them nice -- cervical disc, and because there was a common spinous process for the second and third cervical vertebra, I explored the wrong space because I miscounted the spinous processes, not realizing that the second and third only had one together.

Well, I thought I found a disc and the patient had a very uneventful course and was perfectly happy and has been working for eight or nine years.

Later, recently, he fell, and again had cervical disc symptoms with pain down the arm. I took out the disc recently which had been visualized seven or eight years ago.

Additionally, I am taking the liberty of including John Raaf's note to the members of the ROGUE RIVER NEUROSURGICAL SOCIETY. (See pages 28 and 29.)

* * *

"You can't measure a person's happiness by the amount of money he has. A man with ten million dollars may be no happier than one with nine million."

"Many live wires would be dead ones if it were not for their connections."

* * *

S. R. SNODGRASS - July 23, 1958

Enclosed you will find a photograph of our two older boys. Both of them are in college with the older one to be a senior and shortly to be applying for admission to medical school. The younger will be a sophomore without anything too definite as to plans for a career but definitely interested in non-scientific pursuits. Our third child, an eleven year old boy, has been away most of the summer at camp. The dog in the picture has been in the family over six years and is recovering from some obscure severe illness. She is definitely my greatest admirer and the only one always glad to see me when I come home. She now feels well enough to bark at the mailman and threaten anyone having any legitimate business at our house -- she of course sleeps soundly all night.

I have been here in Galveston all summer and as I am not able to leave until August 20 am afraid



The Snodgrass Boys

that I may not get to Mexico as I had hoped. If I do not make it then I will probably go in November as I will be in Monterrey at a meeting of the Texas and Mexican Neuropsychiatric Societies November 14-15 (I am president of the Texas group this year.) We recently bought a small plot of ground near Mexico City - what we will use it for remains to be seen.

Next month the president of the University is to present to some of the budget boards a long-range 10 year \$15,000,000 plan for the medical branch here. I do not know what will come of it as there is, with the legislature meeting next year renewal of the clamor for additional state-supported medical schools. In addition to the school here and the one in Dallas, Austin is now asking for a medical school and San Antonio has long wished such. Houston also at times speaks of one to Augment Baylor.

Our work here has been mostly routine and we are getting accustomed to the departure of our senior resident, etc. We have a good group of residents on hand and as some of you know, hope to add a third neurosurgeon to our staff next year.

I am looking forward to the meeting in Toronto and hope it will be as enjoyable as the one at Sea Island.

Editorial Comment:

First of all, Margaret and Sam are to be congratulated on their very attractive sons. If medicine doesn't prove conducive, then the movies could improve themselves by having them around. Send us a photograph for the eleven year old for the next number. We hope to see you in Toronto

* * *

"Temper is a funny thing - it spoils children and ruins men, strengthens steel and weakens women."

"Old politicians never die; they just run once too often."

* * *

ARTHUR R. ELVIDGE - July 25, 1958

I recently attended a meeting of the World Veterans Association in Helsinki, Finland, concerning the overall rehabilitation of those with traumatic brain injuries. This was a very well organized meeting with one or two speakers starting the day with a more or less formal summary of the problems to be discussed by each member of the group. In addition, visits were made to rehabilitation centres. One of these was a farming project run by disabled veterans. The brain-injured are well looked after in Finland.

Helsinki is quite a fine city and I was only sorry that I could not stay there longer. However, I did hear something of the Sibelius Festival, saw the Olympic Stadium, took one or two boat trips and found some interesting book shops. The people are friendly, healthy and happy. On the way to Finland, I passed through the World's Fair and as everybody will no doubt see it this summer, I need make no comment.

Editorial Comment:

Another news note from our past president

who is probably the best traveled neurosurgeon in the Academy or at least right up there on the top rung of the ladder.

* * *

"A successful vacation is one that changes color of the circles under your eyes from black to tan."

"A nickel goes a long way these days - you can carry one for several days before you find anything it will buy."

* * *

ALFRED UIHLEIN - August 1, 1958

I am afraid that I do not have a great deal to offer for the Fall issue of THE NEUROSURGEON. The summer has been active with the usual run of clinical material. I am still using hypothermia, not only for vascular lesions, but for resections of hemispheres for glioma. I realize that there are some neurosurgeons who do not feel that hypothermia is essential but I certainly feel that hypothermia not only offers the surgeon a little more leeway in carrying out radical surgical procedures but believe it also offers the patient more reserve because of the lowered basal-metabolic requirements when undergoing difficult radical surgical operations that may be somewhat prolonged. It may well be that hypothermia will be discarded by us as the cardiac surgeons have done, though I still feel that it has a definite role in our specialty.

Ione and I have just completed a retreat house in Amery, Wisconsin, which is just two hours drive from here, where we are going to spend our spare time, not only in the summer, but also in the winter. We are situated in the center of the ski area of this part of the country and since we and our children all enjoy skiing, it offers us an excellent opportunity to combine a summer and a winter vacation spot whenever we want to get away for a few days. We are situated on a nice inland lake and have adequate property with wooded areas

containing not only deer, but grouse, pheasants and wild ducks. In the future, I hope to possibly fence in the area so as to protect the animals that are on our property now, as well as plant others and develop a small game farm. This would also help protect the wildlife from those who seem to desire hunting with reckless abandon and with no object in view other than collecting meat. The entire venture has been a family project and I can assure you, a most pleasant and enjoyable one for everyone concerned. I hope that we will have the opportunity in the future to take any members of the Academy, who might be out this way, to our hide-away and give them some true relaxation and some of the fresh outdoors. I failed to add that there are three delightful trout streams within a radius of about ten miles, which, in our estimation, combined with all the other facilities, offer us a variety of relaxation. I am sorry that our abode is not large enough to take care of the Academy, otherwise I am certain we could have a grand time there.

Looking forward to seeing you in Toronto.

Editorial Comment:

The retreat house of Ione and Al sounds most intriguing. Someone is going to think up an attractive and appropriate name for it. There will be no trouble about having the members of the Academy taking Al up on the invitation to be with them for relaxation and pleasure when they come by.

* * *

"Television - the box in which they buried vaudeville."

A music critic's comment on a woman singer: "All her high notes are promissory."

* * *

DEAN H. ECHOLS - August 2, 1958

It was most flattering to see my bald head

alongside a gin bottle in the last issue of THE NEURO-SURGEON in conjunction with my nomination to the Hall of Fame. The photo was made in this unguarded moment by the famous hunter and photographer, Ernie Mack.

Fran and I have missed seeing the members as regularly as formerly. One excuse is the two trips required each year to help with the Board exams in Neurosurgery.

Recently a young man presented himself because of an area of localized tenderness of the scalp near the hairline of the forehead. X-rays disclosed a punched out circular defect in the skull the size of a quarter. As this had all of the earmarks of an eosinophilic granuloma of the frontal bone, I advised curettage followed by x-ray therapy. However, the preoperative medical studies disclosed a spectacular abnormality in the chest film. Both lungs were riddled with small white opacities. It was finally decided that the patient had eosinophilic granulomas of the lungs as well as of the skull. The skull lesion was curetted and the slides showed typical eosinophilic granuloma. Biopsy of the lung showed the same thing. As this combination of pulmonary and bone lesions is new to me, I thought I would pass on a good reference: David Auld: Archives of Pathology, February, 1957, page 113. Apparently pulmonary eosinophilic granuloma was first described in 1951 and its relationship to eosinophilic granuloma of bone recognized. Eosinophilic granuloma of bone was described in 1940 and I recall that Dr. George Baker published a series of cases during the war. It seems that Hand-Schuller-Christian disease, Letterer-Siew disease, and eosinophilic granuloma are all variations of the same basic disorder. This disorder has been called "histiocytosis X". The disease may be a hypersensitive state. There have been no autopsies but lung biopsies show a necrotizing arteriolitis, a heavy eosinophilic infiltration, and there is an elevated globulin and a peripheral eosinophilia. Furthermore, the response to steroids and radiation is good.

The above example of multiple lesions brings

to mind the prettiest girl I have seen in a long time. In 1953 she was operated upon elsewhere for a malignant non-chromaffin paraganglioma of the leg. Reoperation one year later for a local recurrence. In September 1957, in spite of lung metastasis, I removed a ping-pong ball sized paraganglioma from the frontal lobe close to the sylvian fissure because of choked discs and headache. She is now working for one of my former residents and seems to be unaware of the indolent lung lesions. The May 1957 issue of the British Surgical Journal contains an identical case.

While on the subject of unusual cases, our most recent case of sciatica due to ruptured disc should be mentioned. A local surgeon brought his athletic 12-year old daughter (90 pounds) to us because of sciatica associated with loss of the ankle jerk. The myelogram showed nothing more than non-filling of S-1 root. We found a soft nodule under the root.

Finally, I have just operated upon my second case of tic douloureux and ipsilateral deafness due to a pearly tumor. The first patient regained auditory and vestibular function and was reported by our otologist in one of the E. N. T. journals. In the recent case, I did not sever the 5th nerve and will be awaiting future developments with special interest. He has had no pain so far and less hypesthesia of the face than before operation. It was easy to remove the tumor, as is always the case, even though it extended to the sella turcica. The 7th and 8th nerves are intact so there is hope for another case of return of auditory and vestibular function.

Editorial Comment:

Dean has included cases of considerable interest and such represent important features of our publication. Your reporter believes the photo Ernie Mack took of Dean was excellent and represented a neurosurgeon happy, relaxed, and in the happiest of masculine surroundings.

* * *

"The Chinese believe that when there are too many police, men can have no liberties; when there are too many lawyers there can be no justice; and when there are too many soldiers there can be no peace."

"It's only 18 inches between a pat on the back and a kick in the pants."

* * *

STUART N. ROWE - August 4, 1958

We are about to take off for a little boat trip on the Chesapeake Bay to Sarasota, Florida, and, as usual, the last minute rush has been on for about two weeks.

If THE NEUROSURGEON does not go to press too fast, perhaps I can get a contribution sent in to you within the next week while we are en route and have a little more time.

Editorial Comment:

No doubt we will be hearing from Stuart soon, and hopefully he will send on some photographs. Unfortunately so far we have had very few photographs to include in this number, but we hope to do better next time.

* * *

At a luncheon party an actress noted for her sarcastic tongue looked significantly at Rosaline Russell and said, "I dread to think of life at 45." "Why", asked Miss Russell, "What happened then?"

"In Hollywood, success is relative - the closer the relative the greater the success."

"Las Vegas: The land of the spree and the home of the knave."

* * *

WILLIAM F. MEACHAM - August 6, 1958

I was very sorry not to be able to get in a letter for the last issue of THE NEUROSURGEON. For some reason, the time slips by on me and I could not have any material prepared in time. I seldom like to be negligent about this since I think it is one of the best neurosurgical magazines available and by all means should be continued. I think whatever measures are necessary to continue THE NEUROSURGEON as close as possible to its present format would be worth a great deal to all of us.

Very little exciting or unusual has gone on here in Nashville neurosurgically. However, during the summer months, the Meacham family has turned rather nautical and with the purchase of our sixteen foot Avalon this spring, all of us are learning various and sundry things pertaining to the water. The boys are learning water skiing and the rest of us are enjoying boating and fishing at every available opportunity.

During a recent visit to Houston and Galveston, I enjoyed seeing Jim Greenwood and Robby Robertson and Keith Bradford. In Galveston, we had a nice visit with Sam Snodgrass one evening and among the group were Lyle French, Don Matson, and Frank Nulsen. Texas hospitality was quite outstanding and we all had a tremendous time. I enjoyed watching Robby do a pituitary tumor and was amazed at the beautiful exposure obtained apparently being augmented considerably by the use of intravenous urea. I had not previously used this, but if it seems to help as much as was apparent in this case, it would be very useful adjunct.

We have been very interested in using the Heyer valve and tube as recommended by Bob Pudenz and have now done several hydrocephalic children with this method and thus far it seems to be working beautifully. If it holds up, it certainly will be an apparent solution to many of the problems in hydrocephalus that have been rather insoluble so far. I would be very interested in hearing whether other people are becoming enthusiastic

about this particular method. We are all looking forward to the meeting in Toronto.

Editorial Comment:

Bill has written us an interesting and informative letter. I have not yet had an opportunity to use urea, but if it behaves as it is claimed, it should represent a most important adjunct in our procedures. I think Bob Pudenz' procedure for hydrocephalus most interesting, even though I can't see how it can function satisfactorily for long and physiologically seems to be for the birds, but then the aeronautical engineers looked over the bumblebee and said it was impossible functionally and still can't understand how it flies.

* * *

"If at first you can't succeed, try, try again, then quit - there is no use being a darn fool."

"No woman ever makes a fool out of a man without his full cooperation."

* * *

JOHN M. MEREDITH - August 8, 1958

I am sorry that I have been a little late in replying to your letter of last month about the 1958 NEUROSURGEON, but I have been out of town on vacation.

The Cushing meeting in Washington last April was certainly very well attended and presided over by you and Howard Brown very well, I thought. This is an enormous society now, and I wonder if it might not be feasible to break it down into a number of subsections on trauma, intracranial and spinal tumors, vascular lesions, etc. I would think that the individual members would get a good bit more out of it in that way, just as when one goes to the A.M.A. meeting he concentrates on what he is most interested in.

Charles Troland I both attended the meeting

in New York in May on Surgical Management of Parkinson's Disease, and it seemed that about all of the workers who have contributed to that interesting problem were present at the New York University - Bellevue Hospital Center last May. Some interesting progress reports were given and, as a matter of fact, we, here at the Medical College of Virginia, have about switched over from the chemopallidectomy to the McKinney pallidotomy instrument as we find it seems to make a very effective lesion, particularly with respect to elimination of tremor, much more so than the chemopallidectomy. However, we should state at this point that we have not been using the Balloon technique of Cooper nor the thick alcohol solution that he now favors so that perhaps the comparison is not as apt as it should be. At any rate, in the last few cases that we have done with the pallidotomy technique of McKinney, the results have been very gratifying, indeed, and so far the complications have been entirely nil. I also gained the definite impression from seeing the different cases presented there, that when the patient is over 60 or 62 years of age, most surgeons are extremely reluctant to do a bilateral operation even at different sessions now, and the ideal candidate, I think it was agreed on, was the one under 60 years of age who has the disease only on one side and who is ambulatory and still working but whose working capacity has begun to be cut down because of his disability. In other words, if one limits the surgery to this group, this constitutes only about 10 per cent, perhaps, of Parkinsonism as it exists in this country today. With such sharp limitation of cases, undoubtedly the results will be far better and the procedure will be more widely employed than it is now.

Etta and I certainly enjoyed the meeting at Sea Island, Georgia, which seemed to be very pleasant in every way. We regret exceedingly that we probably will not be able to make it to Toronto next November as we are obliged to go to another meeting in New Orleans on almost exactly the same date, so we do hope to see everyone again in 1959 in California.

Editorial Comment:

There has been much discussion about

breaking the Harvey Cushing Meeting into subsections as John has mentioned. This will probably come eventually. The progress and evaluation of the surgical treatment of Parkinson's disease continues and we will probably hear more about it during the Toronto meeting. We are sorry Etta and you will be among the missing in Toronto but we will look forward to seeing you at the beautiful Del Monte Lodge in California next year.

* * *

A distinguished gentleman upon paying a visit to the late George Bernard Shaw expressed surprise that the famous author had no flowers on display in his home. "I thought," said the visitor, "that you were exceedingly fond of flowers." "I am," answered Shaw abruptly, "I am very fond of flowers, I am very fond of children too, but I don't cut their heads off and put them in pots all over the house."

* * *

WALLACE B. HAMBY - August 13, 1958

The last "Neurosurgeon" seems to have polled up a pretty solid affirmative response to your oft-repeated old wife's query concerning the state of our affections.

After a very halting and dubious start, we are finally having some real summer and the golf courses were never prettier. Between our shortage of operating rooms and a widely gyrating schedule I have had time for only weekend golf with the usual disastrous results.

August always brings the inevitable birthday, but this one will never be forgotten. The boys who had trained with me connived with Hellyn, who by a typical feminine ruse, kept me at home that Saturday morning. An emergency call took me to the Hospital where I found them gathered with my Boss, Jim Gardner, who had come over from Cleveland. They read a series of very good papers, took us to lunch and in the evening

to the Country Club. After a fine dinner they presented me with an album of the papers and a camera. While such an affair definitely dates you, it also touches you where you live -- it was wonderful!

We have also moved this summer, to 70 Windsor Avenue, Buffalo 9, New York. The other house was too big, with the kids away most of the time, so we got into a smaller one. That is a mistake - always move into a larger one! After throwing away a lot of treasured junk, we fit into it and like it. We anticipate one move more, into an apartment, and we will have completed the cycle.

An interesting tumor case presented recently. A 35 year old man with no neurologic signs had suffered psychomotor seizures for seven years. Electro-encephalogram showed a left temporal focus and air studies and skull films suggested a sphenoid wing meningioma. Exploration showed a tough, gelatinous astrocytoma of the base of the frontal lobe extending upward into the region of the caudate nucleus and resting on the medial portion of the temporal lobe.

Hellyn and I will see some of you Californians the last of October at the Congress meeting, then back just in time for Toronto, where we hope to see you all. A happy summer to everyone.

Editorial Comment:

How nice and how appropriate that Wally's boys gave him such a thoughtful birthday remembrance. Usually this is not done until we have reached that age we fear is apt to date us. Wally will never grow old - his enthusiasm will never let him. When he reaches that age when all of the residents gather in remembrance, he will look younger than many of them.

* * *

"There are a few things that never go out of style, and a feminine woman is one of them."

SPENCER BRADEN - August 26, 1958

Your reminder of the 7th relative to The Neurosurgeon reached me with dispatch.

I really can't recall my last contribution, if such it could be called, and really don't have anything I could contribute at this time. This can at least be done to dispell my feelings of guilt.

Your receipt of an announcement recently mailed will inform you of some of my recent activities. We now find ourselves a going concern in a new office and there seem to be no clouds on the horizon.

I had the pleasure of attending the Neurosurgeon meeting in Durham where Barnes Woodhall really put on an excellent program. It was enthusiastically shared by all. We, as a group at the present time, are becoming interested in some of the more fundamental problems in connection with intra-cranial aneurysms. Perhaps we will have something to report in the not too distant future. My practice continues to be a busy one, but would not be to the extent that I will be prohibited from seeing you all in Toronto in November.

Editorial Comment:

*Spencer Braden, M. D., William V. Trowbridge, M. D. and Edward C. Ryan, M. D.
announce association in the practice of Neurological Surgery and the
moving of their respective offices to*

1130 HANNA BUILDING

SPENCER BRADEN, M. D.
PROSPECT 1-1527

WILLIAM V. TROWBRIDGE, M. D.
PROSPECT 1-4700

EDWARD C. RYAN, M. D.
PROSPECT 1-0111

Spence apparently has evolved a fair sized neurosurgical association which, I might add, seems to be the trend in the larger areas. It's too difficult to practice neurosurgery on a solo basis any longer. Your reporter hopes this proves a mutually beneficial arrangement



CROOKED RIFFLE CAMP ON THE ROGUE RIVER

Wedderburn, Oregon

July 2, 1958

To Members and all Prospective Members of the
Rogue River Neurosurgical Society:

The time has come to devote some thought to the next meeting of the Rogue River Neurosurgical Society. After last year's meeting the Executive Committee decided to change the style and the time of the meeting for this year. Heretofore, the meeting has been held in the latter part of August or the first week in September. However, the fishing is likely to be better later on and, therefore, it was decided to make the party this year stag and to select a time later in September. As I have explained on many occasions, fishing on the Rogue is unpredictable because it is a migratory stream. If one is present at the time a run of steelhead comes through, the fishing is very excellent. On the other hand, one can sit for a week and not do very much. Past experience indicates that one's best chances are somewhere between September 15 and October 15. The Executive Committee, therefore, believes that the members should gather at Sunset Inn in Gold Beach, Oregon on the evening of September 18 and should arrive in Gold Beach in a sufficiently good condition to catch the mail boat up the river the next morning at 8:15. At present, we have enough good papers for the meeting to run through until September 23, but this date could be extended, if you wish.

There are several ways to get to Gold Beach. One can fly regular air lines to Crescent City, California or to Coos Bay, Oregon. From those points, chartered small planes or surface transportation could take one to Gold Beach. Another method of arriving in Gold Beach would be fly to Portland and I'll be glad to furnish automobile transportation for those who want to go to Gold Beach by automobile (315 miles from Portland to Gold Beach). If you're hearty and venturesome -- (example: Raney, Murphy, Mack and McMasters), you can fly directly in to Agness (one mile from Crooked Riffle Lodge). In case you choose this latter method, I would recommend you pick a bush pilot in whom you have great confidence.

In the past, some guests have been very annoying by their insistence upon discussing finances. Therefore, I have consented to "lay it on the line" in this letter. The expense of getting to Gold Beach is your own affair. The round-trip boat fare from Gold Beach to Crooked Riffle is \$4.00. There is a slight extra charge if you carry too much luggage. We have decided to prorate the expenses while in camp. Last year the expenses ran \$8.92 per person per day. This includes everything, such as meals, liquor, laundry, cook's wages, etc.

Those who are interested, please let me know by August 15th when you will arrive and how long you can stay.

Sincerely,

John

It was pleasant hearing again from Spencer, one of the Founder Members of the Academy.

* * *

"When I found my husband trying to sew on a button, I told him the thimble was on the wrong finger." "Yes, I know," he answered, "it should be on yours!"

"Robinson Crusoe started the five day week plan - he had all his work done by Friday."

* * *

RUPERT B. RANEY - August 29, 1958

If I have not already put in my comments on THE NEUROSURGEON, let me do it now: It would be difficult to make improvement on its present state of development, and it certainly should be continued at its present level.

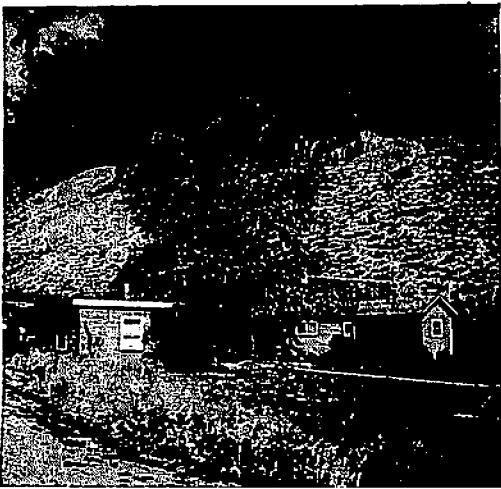
Of the many intracranial vascular lesions seen from time to time, something different is always making its appearance. A few weeks ago, we had a 60 year old man with rapidly failing vision for eleven months, and the only neurological findings present were optic atrophy and a very bizarre visual field loss in both eyes with some bitemporal characteristics but extending into the nasal sides as well. X-rays and angiograms did not help us much. Exploration revealed what we have never seen before, namely, an anterior communicating artery extending from one carotid artery to the other at a level of approximately 1 cm. above the entrance of the carotid artery into the cranial cavity. The vessel was approximately 2 mm. in diameter, and even on reviewing the angiograms post-operatively we still did not see the vessel. This vessel had made a deep groove in the optic chiasm, as though the carotid arteries had been migrating laterally, placing tension on the anterior communicating vessel and thereby bringing about pressure on the optic chiasm. Possibly this lateral migration and tension on the vessel, bringing it in sharp contact with the optic chiasm, may have been in some way associated with change in the position of the

carotids due to arteriosclerotic changes. At least, at present we have no other explanation. Clipping and severing the vessel has so far allowed considerable return of vision.

Since regional neurosurgical meetings are always of interest, the proceedings of the 1958 meeting of the Rogue River Neurosurgical Society will be available sometime after September 22. The meeting begins at the Sunset Inn, Gold Beach, Oregon, on September 18. It is my understanding that George Baker will have a very interesting paper on "The Embryological Development, Growth and Migration of the Troctes".

In going through my photographs, I find some snapshots taken about 25 miles north of Salmon, Idaho, a very beautiful place with somewhat primitive but very excellent accommodations (cold and running water in every room). The pictures were taken about the middle of July. It is my understanding, however, that fishing is at its best the latter part of August and the first of September.

We are all looking forward to the meeting in Toronto. I believe Alta is already in the process of arranging for the reservations, and we hope to arrive sometime the day before the meeting.





Editorial Comment:

Rupert's photographs of the country around Salmon, Idaho are much appreciated. They reveal scenery dear to the heart of the fisherman.

His case report of the anomaly of the anterior communicating artery was most interesting and unusual. Such reports make THE NEURO-SURGEON valuable reading.

The meeting of the fabulous Rogue River Neurosurgical Society should again be a highlight for those attending. Your correspondent regrets he will be unable to sneak away for the occasion.

* * *

Sign on a country road - "Drive carefully. There isn't a hospital for 50 miles."

"A fish gains weight slowly except the one that got away."

* * *

R. GLEN SPURLING - September 2, 1958

I attended the joint meeting of the British Neurosurgical Association and the Dutch Neurosurgical Association in The Hague and Utrecht in May of this year. Frank Mayfield was visiting his daughter in Paris and came to the meeting as my guest.

It was a rather extraordinary meeting in many respects. Perhaps the most impressive part of it was the fact that the Dutchmen presented their work in English - no member of the Dutch society required an interpreter. This example of linguist ability is quite uncommon, even on the Continent I am told. The Dutch

neurosurgeons are a live group. While some of their scientific thinking might have been somewhat fuzzy by American standards, a great deal of it was first class.

Both the British and the Dutch neurosurgical groups have planned their production program of young neurosurgeons to fit the pattern of their opportunities available in each country. If we attempted such a program in this Country, I am sure we would be cited for "restraint of trade" or some similar monopolistic jargon. But it has a lot to recommend it. Distances are short in both countries, and there are no isolated communities in the sense that we know them here in America.

When I explained to some of the Heads of various services about our requirement of verifying twenty-five brain tumors per year before a clinic was permitted to train a neurosurgeon, they were rather horrified. It would seem that very few training centers verify less than one hundred brain tumors each year. As an example, Professor Krehnbulle, Zurich, told me that he verified thirty-two acoustic nerve tumors last year!

Many of the men in both societies told me that they were eagerly awaiting the International Congress in Washington scheduled in 1961.

Editorial Comment:

Our Honorary Member must have had a most interesting meeting at The Hague. It does seem incredible the Dutchmen could present their work in English and that an interpreter was unnecessary. It is always a happy occasion to hear from Doctor Spurling who did so much for neurosurgery during the last war.

* * *

Teenager to chum: "My father used to help me with math, but since I started geometry he says I will get a lot more out of it if I do it myself."

"Nothing recedes like success."

Now that summer has come and gone, the Medical School year here gets under way in the next day or two, leaving little time for reflection on the summer's vacation activities, enjoyable as they were.

The Rasmussens spent the month of July at our little cottage in Northumberland Straits on the north coast of Nova Scotia, and were blessed with perfect weather with much of the normal July rain being fortunately (for us) transferred to the Montreal area. Catherine and the children stayed down during most of the month of August until I flew back down near the end of the month to drive them home.

The death on the highway of Dr. William Bauld, his wife and two of their four children while they were on their way to their Nova Scotia cottage emphasized to us in a fragic fashion the urgency of the highway safety program. Bill Bauld was in charge of the metabolic unit of the Montreal General Hospital, and one of the most brilliant of the younger members of the Montreal medical community.

Catherine and I are looking forward to the Toronto meeting and the opportunity to see everyone again.

Comment:

The really dangerous travel these days is on the highway. Whether or not safety programs can be very effective with the many morons behind the wheel is dubious.

The fall run of meetings and activity is now hard upon us.

* * *

"Everybody is able to give pleasure in some way - one person may do it by coming into a room and another by going out."

"Money may be the root of all evil but it seems to grow into some mighty fine shrubbery."

"Money only brings misery - but with money you can afford it."

* * *

JESS D. HERRMANN - September 2, 1958

We have nothing new to report from this neck of the woods. Our work is rather routine.

I have recently removed a saculated aneurysm arising from the right anterior cerebral artery which was quite unusual. The patient had evidence of an expanding right cerebral lesion. The majority of the aneurysm sac was filled with laminated clot and the combined weight of the sac and the clot was 150 grams. There was a smaller portion of the aneurysm which was quite active but fortunately the feeding vessel could be clipped quite handily.

I have heard from Harry Botterell and it seems the plans for the coming meeting in Toronto are progressing quite well. Remind all members to send their papers to the Program Committee.

I have had one new experience this year. My youngest daughter, Sally, was married July 2, 1958. So after that experience I went fishing for a couple of weeks to settle my nerves.

Will hope to see everyone at the Toronto meeting and would urge those that plan to attend, to plan to stay over for the activities on Saturday evening.

Comment:

All of us are looking forward to the 20th Anniversary Meeting in Toronto. It promises to be an outstanding affair.

* * *

"The only thing tax free these days is taxes."



The Tonight Show

Open House

Show

Because I had some of my training in Toronto before coming to Winston-Salem, I am looking forward particularly to the meeting this fall there. I hope that most of the members realize that Harry Botterell and Doctor McKenzie, the former Chief of the Service, have been looking forward to our meeting there for some time and have actually scheduled the opening of their new Neurosurgical Unit with our meeting. This does our Academy a great honor and in turn we hope that we can be a credit to the Toronto General Hospital when we meet there.

Courtland Davis and I are interested, as we have been for some years, in the bladder function of paraplegic patients and particularly of infants and children with myelomeningoceles who have bladder incontinence. We have explored a great many, doing as complete a job as we can in pre- and postoperative work-up and in trying to find a neurosurgical approach to the problem. We have found this in a few very impressive cases, but we are now accumulating all of the material with the idea of presenting it to show that one has to explore a great many cases to find a few that can be helped. It is this approach that should be taken, I believe, by the neurosurgeons without presenting a too optimistic point of view to the pediatricians and general surgeons. We all realize that this work is in its early stages and much more may come of it in the future, but such physiological explorations as we can carry out in the infants, both pre- and postoperatively and at the operating table, contribute considerably to our knowledge of this problem. We are fortunate in having a most cooperative and intelligent urological group here, and we feel we are making real progress along this line.

As the somewhat unwilling Chief of Professional Services of our teaching hospital for the past five years, I am and our whole group is now greatly concerned about the potential danger of wound infections. This is, as most of us know, a general problem over the country and a wound infection in a neurosurgical patient is a real catastrophe. This contrasts to the some-

what minor nature of certain general surgical wound infections, and it behooves us to be all the more conscientious in our approach to this problem. The time has long past that any individual should be condemned for the number of wound infections he has, since it is a public health and hospital problem rather than individual problem and no one in his right mind is careless or seeks a wound infection. I think the Academy might plan a program around this general subject sometime in the future, particularly as it relates to neurosurgical wounds. We have not had a greater proportion than we should have, but each one is such a depressive and catastrophic episode that we go into mourning for a few weeks after each particular bacteriological report of hemolytic Staph aureus.

Our own service has been damaged a good deal this year by unexpected happenings to our house officers. All told, we have lost three from one cause or another (Army, decision to change specialty, and other reasons) and for this reason our present year cannot be quite as productive as we had hoped it would be. We are anxious to build back our resident staff next year as it was last year, and if some of the members have men that they feel would be benefited by taking part in our program, we would be delighted to have them. We have a most cooperative group of neurologists under Dr. Martin Netsky and fine neuroradiological and neuropathological groups as well. The great abundance of service patients makes the residency a very fruitful one from the point of view of the man who is in it, and now that Courtland Davis and I have withdrawn our appointments from other hospitals, we can give our whole time to this particular project.

Comment:

Eben and Courtland Davis will have an interesting problem in the study of bladder dysfunction. Many years ago I did a lot of experimental work on the subject with Orthy Langworthy. Denny Brown, as I recall, had also done a great deal with the problem. It never seemed to me, however, that anyone had the answer.

* * *

One chorus girl to another: "He is only a tycoon, but he spends money like it was out of a Union Welfare Fund!"

The average girl would rather have beauty than brains because she knows the average man can see better than he can think.

* * *

J. LAWRENCE POOL - September 4, 1958

Just back from a grand long vacation in Maine with the whole family. Much cruising and racing, the latter in small boats with no bookies.

Henry Heyl and his wonderful family also on vacation in this same spot. Henry very active, missing nothing in the way of parties, picnics, fishing, and some sailing - thanks to his cross-country electric "Ike" car and a special boat chair. He has certainly shown what a good man can do.

Herb Parsons, another neurosurgeon many of you know, was also there winning all the races. The dinghies we race are quite remarkable in being the oldest class in America that have raced and are still racing continuously (since 1885). However, the New Englanders that started them won't change to a new type. Cost is one major item. Another factor is the idea that newer type craft might not capsize or swamp as easily, hence much sport could be lost.

Family all well and active and ready for the new round of schools, meetings, work and winter.

No special news here save that Houston Merritt is now Acting Dean of P. & S. Medical School and of course doing a very swell job.

1959 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Neurological Institute of New York, so we have been planning some kind of appropriate celebration for May 1959 and hope we can persuade some or all of you to

come. As you know, ours was the first wholly neurological hospital in this country.

Comment:

Sounds like a wonderful vacation. It is heart warming to learn of Henry Heyl's activities. It hardly seems possible 1959 will make the 50th anniversary of the Neurological Institute of New York. One might add it hardly seems possible Larry is Chief of Neurological Surgery there, because wasn't it only yesterday we were a bunch of youngsters just starting out in our careers?

* * *

"A man who thinks he can convince his wife he is right, soon finds out he is wrong."

"A woman who is always up in the air and harping on something is not necessarily an angel."

* * *

THE ELVIDGE BIRTHDAY:

The following is a report from Francis McNaughton of the Montreal Neurological Institute on the birthday party given for Arthur. It was believed of interest to the Academy members.

It is high time that I reported on Arthur Elvidge's birthday party to all of you who gathered with us in spirit in the Faculty Club on Wednesday evening, May 14th last. It was an occasion both gay and serious. Arthur seemed pleasantly surprised when Dr. Cone took over the Chair after the dinner and announced the purpose of the evening's program, and he seemed to relax and enjoy the proceedings almost as much as we did.

There was an early opportunity to read your affectionate greetings to Arthur, and we felt

your presence very much. There was word from the "old guard" - Joe Evans, Arne Torkildsen, George Chorobski, Lyle Gage, Max Tarlov - and many delightful messages like the following - "Frankly I do not believe that he is sixty and think someone ought to check his credentials." "Congratulations upon having retained your sense of humor so consistently for sixty years." "Congratulations on your continuous contribution to neurosurgery." "A toast to a distinguished surgeon, wonderful friend, and unfortunately for one but fortunately for many females, a bachelor." "Affectionate best wishes to my ablest teacher, fellow field gunner and Renaissance man."

From Aberdeen, Scotland, came one of the longest twenty-one word cables ever composed, and signed by Martin Nichols and Sloan Robertson. From Lebanon came greetings from Fuad Haddad on the occasion of the founding of the "Middle East Neurosurgical Society".

After tributes from Dr. Cone and The Chief, Arthur gave one of his masterly impromptu talks.

Bill Feindel was there to present the good wishes of the Saskatoon group in the form of a Western Stetson. Presty Robb presented other gifts, which included a light travelling case, a book and a pair of nylon pyjamas for the world traveller.

As the evening advanced the House Staff put on an uninhibited three act play featuring Arthur on the wards, in the X-ray Department, and finally in the Operating Room with his favorite head lamp (which you would all have enjoyed). It was so convincing that even Arthur asked, "Am I really as bad as that?".

The evening finished off with songs, including a new stanza composed by Bill Gibson of Vancouver and added to his famous song "An Epileptic's Adieu". Here it is:

There's a certain neurosurgeon who can
decompress the brain
There is one whose dissection I respect,
So I make but one exception when I sing
the old refrain
That I'll stick to the old dilantin pill.

Arthur Elvidge is the man; What a handsome
Dapper Dan!
Classifies his tumors either large or small,
If I can't have Arthur Elvidge as my doctor
on the hill,
Then I'm stuck with the old dilantin pill.

Although we did not know it that evening,
Arthur Elvidge was later presented with an Honorary
LL. D. at Bishop's University in June. He now wears
his honors with appropriate dignity.



Off for Texas

I hope that this letter and the enclosed photo will make you feel that you were here with us, and shared the warmth of our affection for Arthur Elvide.

* * *

A cynic was standing in front of an exhibition of local art that was labeled "Art Objects". "Well," he said, "I should think Art would object, and I can't say that I blame him."

Tact is the art of making people feel at home when you wish they were.

* * *

ROBERT G. FISHER - September 3, 1958

I hesitate very much in writing a great deal about my first letter to the 1958 NEUROSURGEON as I have just been accepted in the Society and am greatly honored. However, there are enough members of the Society who are interested in where we stand family-wise that I am forwarding a recent picture of our kids taken by a real amateur photographer and I thought that it might be worthwhile for other people to see them. We are most enthused about this tribe.

I think as far as further statements about work and interesting cases and what we are specifically planning I think it would be wise if this were to be talked over more with the members when we see them in November in Toronto. We are most anxious to come and meet everybody.

Comment:

We are very happy to receive a communication from one of our new members and hope the others will join in soon. After all it is the younger members who will be the Academy, and sooner than can readily be realized. The Fishers can justly be proud of such a "tribe".



The Robert G. Fisher Children

"There are two times in a man's life when he should not speculate: When he can't afford it and when he can."

"It is nice to be important but it is more important to be nice."

* * *

JAMES GREENWOOD, Jr. - September 9, 1958

We have had several interesting cases lately. One was a 69-year-old man with a hemangiomatic malformation of the lower thoracic cord who had failed to improve on decompression. It was possible to do an arteriogram or angiogram by injecting a vessel in the subarachnoid space, using a hypodermic needle and 2 cc. of hypaque. A fairly good picture was obtained, showing the malformation to be a single vessel, extending for at least ten segments. Under local anesthesia, ligation of the vessel in several places produced no dysfunction of the cord and has been followed by definite improvement.

We also ran into a fairly large vertebral aneurysm with a rather large base which we did not feel could be clipped, in spite of good success in aneurysms of similar size in more accessible locations. We have also been able to make rather nice localized chemopallidectomy lesions by using a small amount of coagulation, followed by suction on a catheter with a 10 cc. syringe, with injections every other day of Etopalin with pantopaque, preceding each injection by aspiration to get most of the air out of the catheter to avoid the complication of air producing a separate tract back along the catheter. Injection is made in small, sudden bursts of about 200ths of a centimeter.

On the lighter side, I could report that I won the first flight in the Kerrville Golf Tournament in August.

I am enclosing a letter which I think is a classic and is representative of the occasional bright interludes which add to the spice of medical practice. (See next page.)

Dear Sir:

This is to report that while my wife's back is mending, her ways are not. She has palpable and pronounced symptoms of mental chicanery - refusing even to walk through the kitchen. I have enrolled in a night course in Domestic Science and have purchased part interest in the neighborhood hamburger stand.

I have had her examined by a panel of redoubtable and doubtful experts composed of an Osteopath, two Chiropractors and one Orthodontist. Their report - which will appear in the next issue of Back Talk Magazine - indicates there was no pre-operative disc difficulty and suggests that surgery was performed on the wrong end of her spinal column.

I had intended to include a nice bonus with the enclosed check, but in view of your notarized letter which has aggravated an already serious condition you will understand that this planned bonus must now pay for maid service during the next year.

However, I have ordered for you a copy of Dr. Red's new book How to Halt Hiccups or Hypnosis the Catholicicon.

Yours very truly.

Comment:

Jim has given us some interesting case reports and comments which the members will appreciate.

I am sure the fact that Jim won the first flight in the Kerrville Golf Tournament is of more importance to him than anything else.

It may be interesting for others to send in some classic replies of patients.

* * *

"Lose as if you like it, win as if you are used to it. "

THOMAS A. WEAVER, Jr. - September 11, 1958

There is little to report from the Midwest. We have settled down more or less to routine after summer vacations and treks back and forth to lower Michigan where Mary and the children spend the summer on Lake George. We had more rain here this summer than the year of the great Dayton flood in 1913. This time, thanks to the series of conservation dams, there was no threat of flood.

For the first time, all six children are in school. Jim started first grade last week. Chuck, the oldest, is a Junior in High School - tips the scale at 195. He is busily engaged with football.

Neurosurgically speaking, we have been in our new office away from the downtown area since February and have found no disadvantages as yet. We have had a bad run of pediatric neurosurgery in the last month, two medulloblastomas and a glioblastoma of the right hemisphere in a nine year old. The latter is the first that I can recall seeing myself in this age group and I am not particularly anxious to see more.

We have done two large pituitary tumors under hypothermia in the past few months and were impressed with the ease of exposure, the decrease in blood loss and the unusually smooth post operative convalescence. We also have successfully and easily ligated two aneurysms both on the left internal carotid near the bifurcation which we would have found extremely difficult under our previous technique. I realize that we may be late in adopting this technique but that is bound to be true working in the wilderness away from the fountains of learning. We believe that we have demonstrated that hypothermia can be done in the ordinary private hospital with a fairly simple technique and an interested, capable, and reliable anesthetist.

Mary and I are looking forward to seeing everyone in Toronto.

Comment

It will be of interest to hear more about the use of urea for purposes of good exposure in comparison with hypothermia and the value of using both of them.

* * *

"The person who talks about his inferiors hasn't any."

"Thirty is a nice comforting age for a woman, especially if she happens to be forty." H. L. Mencken.

* * *

H. THOMAS BALLANTINE, Jr. - September 11, 1958

My nose has been at the grindstone all summer long, and it is now worn off just about even with my face! For this reason I shall be looking forward to a little rest and recreation in October and again in Toronto in November. I am particularly looking forward to learning from our host, Harry Botterell, the secret of dealing with anterior communicating aneurysms in the older age group. I have had two sad experiences in the past few weeks with such patients.

On the other hand, we have had a good run of luck with the series of operations upon the pituitary, and an elderly gentleman with a meningioma about the size of a billiard ball arising from his olfactory groove on the left has come out of his operation with no more increase in his deficiencies of judgment and memory than he showed prior to surgery.

We are looking forward with delight to the gathering of the Academy Clan here in Boston in 1960. Don Matson, Bill Sweet and I have made tentative reservations at the Sherator-Plaza for Wednesday, October 5 to Monday, October 10, and I hope that the Academy members will give us the benefit of their thoughts as to whether these dates are appropriate. Since Boston is more or less off the beaten track, we would also like to

suggest that our members gather before the meeting and stay on after it. We could try to arrange some operative clinics before the formal scientific sessions get under way, and after the meeting, if there were enough willing souls, we could transfer our activities either to the Cape or the hill country for a postmortem which might prove more salubrious than those which usually attend most neuro-surgical procedures!

Comment

Preliminary plans for the Boston meeting of the Academy sound most interesting. I for one believe the early October date is preferable to later in the year. It is interesting to find one from New England speaking about Boston being more or less off the beaten track because it has for so long been considered the hub of the universe. It would be nice to see some operative clinics before the formal scientific sessions get under way. Additionally, a postmeeting recovery period at the Cape or the hill country should be desirable.

* * *

THE ACADEMY AWARD WINNERS

- Paul M. Lin. 1955
- Hubert L. Rosomoff 1956
- Byron C. Pevehouse 1957

* * *

HERE and THERE

The Academy can take pride in the appointment of one of our Past Presidents to the Editorial Board of The Journal of Neurosurgery for 1959 - Henry Schwartz.

My agents tell me that Robert Snodgrass finished his junior year as a premedical student at Harvard in the highest scholastic group of the school, in the upper three per cent.

Due to a dearth of photographs your correspondent apologizes for including two of his family. The first is representative of the Santa Barbara Indian. In the last edition Lorene and John Raaf were quite representative of the Portland Indians. The second photograph shows how children grow up. Lander is now going to the Santa Catalina School in Monterey, so we frequently will take the trip to Carmel, Del Monte, and Monterey for visits.

We are happy to find that Bob Pudenz has recovered from his illness and operation and that he is again hale and hearty.

* * *

THE NEUROSURGEON AWARD WINNERS

Edwin B. Boldrey	1955
Georgia and John Green	1956
Dean Echols	1957

* * *



MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

1957-1958



MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

1957-1958

"PAST PRESIDENTS CLUB"

1938	Dean Echols	1949	John Raaf
1939	Dean Echols	1950	E. H. Botterell
1940	Spencer Braden	1951	Wallace B. Hamby
1941	Joseph P. Evans	1952	Henry G. Schwartz
1942	Francis Murphey	1953	J. Lawrence Pool
1943	Frank H. Mayfield	1954	Rupert B. Raney
1944	A. Earl Walker	1955	David L. Reeves
1946	Barnes Woodhall	1956	Stuart N. Rowe
1947	William S. Keith	1957	Arthur R. Elvidge
1948	Howard Brown		

PAST VICE-PRESIDENTS

1941	Francis Murphey	1950	David L. Reeves
1942	William S. Keith	1951	Henry G. Schwartz
1943	John Raaf	1952	J. Lawrence Pool
1944	Rupert B. Raney	1953	Rupert B. Raney
1946	Arthur R. Elvidge	1954	David L. Reeves
1947	John Raaf	1955	Stuart N. Rowe
1948	Arthur R. Elvidge	1956	Jess D. Herrmann
1949	F. Keith Bradford	1957	George S. Baker

PAST SECRETARY-TREASURERS

Francis Murphey	1938-39-40
A. Earl Walker	1941-42-43
Theodore C. Erickson	1944-46-47
Wallace B. Hamby	1948-49-50
Theodore Rasmussen	1951-52-53
Eben Alexander, Jr.	1954-55-56-57

The American Academy of Neurological Surgery

FOUNDED OCTOBER 28, 1938

HONORARY MEMBERS — 4	ELECTED
Dr. Winchell McK. Craig 901 Seventeenth Ave., S.E. Rochester, Minnesota	1942
Sir Geoffrey Jefferson Department of Neurosurgery The Royal Infirmary Manchester 13, England	1951
Dr. R. Eustace Semmes 899 Madison Ave. Memphis 3, Tennessee	1955
Dr. R. Glen Spurling 405 Heyburn Bldg. Louisville 2, Kentucky	1942

DECEASED MEMBERS — 2	
Dr. O. William Stewart (Corresponding) Montreal, Quebec	1948
Dr. W. Jason Mixter (Honorary) Nobska West Woods Hole, Massachusetts	1951

SENIOR MEMBERS — 1	
Dr. Olan R. Hyndman Veterans Administration Hospital Iowa City, Iowa	1941

ACTIVE MEMBERS — 66	
Dr. Eben Alexander, Jr. Bowman Gray Sch. of Medicine Winston-Salem 7, No. Carolina	Betty 521 Westover Ave. Winston-Salem, No. Carolina 1950
Dr. George S. Baker Section on Neurological Surgery Mayo Clinic Rochester, Minnesota	Enid Salem Road, Route 1 Rochester, Minn. 1940
Dr. H. Thomas Ballantine, Jr. Massachusetts General Hospital Boston 14, Massachusetts	Elizabeth 15 Common Street Dedham, Massachusetts 1951

		ELECTED
Dr. William F. Beswick 685 Delaware Avenue Buffalo 9, New York	Phyllis	1949
Dr. Edwin B. Boldrey Univ. of Calif. Medical School San Francisco 22, California	Helen 924 Hayne Road San Mateo, California	1941
Dr. E. Harry Botterell Medical Arts Building 280 Bloor Street, West Toronto 5, Ontario	Margaret 60 Bruscarth Road Toronto, Ontario, Canada	1938
Dr. Spencer Braden 1304 Hanna Building Cleveland 15, Ohio	Mary	Founder
Dr. F. Keith Bradford 410 Hermann Professional Bldg. 6410 Fannin Street Houston 25, Texas	Byra 3826 Linklea Drive Houston 25, Texas	1938
Dr. Howard A. Brown 384 Post Street San Francisco 8, California	Dorothy 127 San Pablo Avenue San Francisco, California	1939
Dr. Harvey Chenault 200 West Second Street Lexington 6, Kentucky	Margaret Alleghan, Nicholasville Road Lexington, Kentucky	1949
Dr. Donald F. Coburn 221 Plaza Time Building Country Club Plaza Kansas City 2, Missouri	Max	1938
Dr. Edward W. Davis 806 S. W. Broadway Portland 5, Oregon	Barbara 1714 N.W. 32nd Avenue Portland 10, Oregon	1949
Dr. Francis A. Echlin 164 East 74th St. New York 21, New York	Letitia 164 East 74th Street New York 21, New York	1944
Dr. Dean H. Echols 3503 Prytania Street New Orleans, Louisiana	Fran 1428 First Street New Orleans 13, Louisiana	Founder
Dr. Arthur R. Elvidge Montreal Neurological Institute 3801 University Street Montreal 2, Quebec		1939
Dr. Theodore C. Erickson 1300 University Avenue Madison 6, Wisconsin	Emily	1940

		ELECTED Founder
Dr. Joseph P. Evans University of Chicago Clinics Chicago 37, Illinois	Hermene 1234 East 56th Street	
Dr. Robert G. Fisher Hitchcock Clinic Hanover, N. H.		1957
Dr. John D. French Veterans Administration Hospital Long Beach 4, California	Dorothy 10772 Chalon Road Los Angeles 27, California	1951
Dr. Lyle A. French 2910 46th Avenue South Minneapolis 6, Minnesota	Gene 2868 West River Road Minneapolis 6, Minnesota	1954
Dr. James G. Galbraith 2020 15th Avenue South Birmingham, Alabama	Peggy 4227 Altamont Road Birmingham, Alabama	1947
Dr. Everett G. Grantham 405 Heyburn Building Louisville 2, Kentucky	Mary Carmel 410 Mockingbird Hill Road Louisville 7, Kentucky	1942
Dr. John R. Green 550 West Thomas Road Patio A, Suite 202 Phoenix, Arizona	Georgia 88 Country Club Drive Phoenix, Arizona	1953
Dr. James Greenwood, Jr. 1105 Hermann Prof. Bldg. 6410 Fannin Street Houston 25, Texas	Mary 3394 Chevy Chase Blvd. Houston 19, Texas	1952
Dr. Wesley A. Gustafson 700 North Michigan Avenue Chicago 11, Illinois	Jennie 2129 Central Park Evanston, Illinois	1942
Dr. Wallace B. Hamby 140 Linwood Avenue Buffalo 9, New York	Hellyn 19 Middlesex Road 70 Windsor Ave. Buffalo 15 , New York <i>Buffalo 9, N.Y.</i>	1941
Dr. Hannibal Hamlin 270 Benefit Street Providence 3, Rhode Island	Margaret	1948
Dr. Jess D. Herrmann 525 Northwest Eleventh Street Oklahoma City 3, Oklahoma	Mary Jo 1519 Glenwood Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	1938
Dr. Henry L. Heyl Hitchcock Clinic Hanover, New Hampshire	Katharine Norwich, Vermont	1951

	ELECTED
Dr. William S. Keith Toronto Western Hospital 399 Bathurst Street Toronto 2B, Ontario	Eleanor Founder
Dr. Ernest W. Mack 505 Arlington Ave., Suite 212 Reno, Nevada	Roberta 1956
Dr. George L. Maltby 203 State Street Portland 3, Maine	Sim Falmouth, Foreside, Maine 1942
Dr. Donald D. Matson 300 Longwood Avenue Boston 15, Massachusetts	Dorothy 44 Circuit Road Chestnut Hill 67, Massachusetts 1950
Dr. Frank H. Mayfield 506 Oak Street Cincinnati 19, Ohio	Queenee 3519 Principio Ave. Cincinnati 26, Ohio Founder
Dr. Augustus McCravey 540 McCallie Avenue Chattanooga 3, Tennessee	Helen 130 North Crest Road Chattanooga, Tennessee 1944
Dr. Robert L. McLaurin Cincinnati General Hospital Cincinnati, Ohio	Katherine 2470 Grandin Road Cincinnati 8, Ohio 1955
Dr. William F. Meacham 2122 West End Avenue Nashville 5, Tennessee	Alice 3513 Woodmont Blvd. Nashville 12, Tennessee 1952
Dr. John M. Meredith 1200 East Broad Street Richmond 19, Virginia	Etta 3 Greenway Lane Richmond, Virginia 1946
Dr. Edmund J. Morrissey 450 Sutter Street, Suite 520 San Francisco 8, California	Kate 2700 Vallejo Street San Francisco, California 1941
Dr. Francis Murphey Suite 525, Physicians & Surgeons Building Memphis 3, Tennessee	Roder Founder
Dr. Frank E. Nulsen Division of Neurosurgery University Hospitals Cleveland 6, Ohio	Ginny 2691 Landon Shaker Heights, Ohio 1956
Dr. Guy L. Odom Duke Univ. School of Medicine Durham, North Carolina	Suzanne 2812 Chelsea Circle 1946
Dr. J. Lawrence Pool 710 West 168th Street New York 32, New York	Angeline 1940

	ELECTED
Dr. Robert Pudenz 744 Fairmount Ave. Pasadena 1, California	Ruth 2036 San Pasqual Pasadena 10, California 1943
Dr. John Raaf 1010 Medical Dental Building Portland 5, Oregon	Lorene 390 S.W. Edgecliff Road Portland 1, Oregon Founder
Dr. Aidan A. Raney 2010 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles 57, California	Mary 1946
Dr. Rupert B. Raney 2010 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles 57, California	Alta 435 S. Curson Ave. Los Angeles 36, California 1939
Dr. Theodore B. Rasmussen Montreal Neurological Institute 3801 University Street Montreal 2, Quebec, Canada	Catherine 29 Surrey Drive Montreal 16, Quebec, Canada 1947
Dr. David L. Reeves 316 West Junipero Street Santa Barbara, California	Marjorie 595 Picacho Lane, Montecito Santa Barbara, California 1939
Dr. R. C. L. Robertson 411 Hermann Professional Bldg. 6410 Fannin Street Houston 25, Texas	Marjorie 1946
Dr. Stuart N. Rowe 302 Iroquois Building 3600 Forbes Street Pittsburgh 13, Pennsylvania	Elva 6847 Reynolds St. Pittsburgh 8, Pennsylvania 1938
Dr. Henry G. Schwartz Department of Surgery Washington University Saint Louis 10, Missouri	Reedie 2 Briar Oak Saint Louis 24, Missouri 1942
Dr. William B. Scoville 85 Jefferson Street Hartford 14, Connecticut	Emily 1944
Dr. C. Hunter Shelden 744 Fairmount Ave. Pasadena 1, California	Betty 1345 Bedford Road San Marino, California 1941
Dr. Samuel R. Snodgrass Univ. of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, Texas	Margaret 1939
Dr. Hendrik J. Svien 200 First St. S.W. Rochester, Minnesota	1957

	ELECTED
Dr. Homer S. Swanson 384 Peachtree Street, N. E. Atlanta 3, Georgia	La Myra 1951 Mt. Paran Road, West Atlanta, Georgia 1949
Dr. William H. Sweet Massachusetts General Hospital Boston 14, Massachusetts	Mary 35 Chestnut Place Brookline 46, Massachusetts 1950
Dr. Alfred Uihlein Section on Neurological Surgery Mayo Clinic Rochester, Minnesota	Ione Sunny Slopes, Route 1 Rochester, Minnesota 1950
Dr. A. Earl Walker Johns Hopkins Hospital Division of Neurological Surgery 601 N. Broadway Baltimore 5, Maryland	Terrye 601 N. Broadway 1938
Dr. Exum Walker 133 Doctors Building Atlanta 3, Georgia	Frances 1819 Greystone Road, N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 1938
Dr. Arthur A. Ward, Jr. Univ. of Wash. Sch. of Medicine Division of Neurosurgery Seattle 5, Washington	Janet 1953
Dr. Thomas A Weaver 146 Wyoming St. Dayton 9, Ohio	Mary 1943
Dr. W. Keasley Welch 4200 E. Ninth Ave. Denver 20, Colorado	1957
Dr. Benjamin B. Whitcomb 85 Jefferson Street Hartford 14, Connecticut	Margaret 38 High Farms Road West Hartford, Connecticut 1947
Dr. Barnes Woodhall Duke Univ. School of Medicine Durham, North Carolina	Frances 4006 Dover Road, Hope Valley Durham, North Carolina 1941

PAST MEETINGS OF THE ACADEMY

Hotel Peabody, Memphis, Tennessee	April 22, 1938
Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana	October 27-29, 1939
Tudor Arms Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio	October 21-22, 1940
Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California	November 11-15, 1941
The Palmer House, Chicago, Illinois	October 16-17, 1942
Hart Hotel, Battle Creek, Michigan	September 17-18, 1943
Ashford General Hospital, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia	September 7-9, 1944
The Homestead, Hot Springs, Virginia	September 9-11, 1946
Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colorado	October 9-11, 1947
Windsor Hotel, Montreal, Canada	September 20-28, 1948
Benson Hotel, Portland, Oregon	October 25-27, 1949
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota	September 28-30, 1950
Shamrock Hotel, Houston, Texas	October 4-6, 1951
Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York City	September 29-October 1, 1952
Biltmore Hotel, Santa Barbara, California	October 12-14, 1953
Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colorado	October 21-23, 1954
The Homestead, Hot Springs, Virginia	October 27-29, 1955
Camelback Inn, Phoenix, Arizona	November 8-10, 1956
The Cloister, Sea Island, Georgia	November 11-13, 1957