

Minutes of the First Business Meeting

of The Academy of Neurosurgery

-1938-

The first business session of The Academy of Neurosurgery was called to order by its president, Dr. Echols, at 4:50 pm. on October 28th, 1938. The first order of business was the selection of a name for the society. Numerous names were proposed, among them, The Third Neurosurgical Society, The Neurosurgical Club, and The Academy of Neurosurgery. After considerable discussion as to the merits of these names a motion was made by Dr. Evans that the society be named The Academy of Neurosurgery. The motion was seconded by Dr. Murphey. It was passed unanimously. Dr. Echols then submitted a tentative constitution which he had written and read part of it. The reading was interrupted by Dr. Mayfield who made a motion to accept the constitution until the new members had been elected. This motion also passed. The following men were then elected to the Society: Keith Bradford of Louisville, Harry Botterell of Toronto, Jesse Hermann of Oklahoma City, Don Coburn of Kansas City, Earl Walker of Chicago, Exum Walker of Atlanta, and Stewart Rowe of Pittsburgh. These men were to be notified of their election and asked to attend the business meeting on the following day.

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The business session was called together on October 29th, 1938 by Dr. Echols who outlined the history of the organization and discussed its purpose. He then read the constitution. Dr. Mayfield moved that a copy be sent to the members so that they might study it before adopting it permanently. This was seconded by Dr. Praden and the motion passed unanimously.

The following men were then suggested as possible future members of the society: John Meredith, Barnes Woodhall, Howard Brown, Arthur Eldridge, David Reeves, John Ambler, Sam Snodgrass, Wallace Hamby, Roland Bellows, Hunter Sheldon, and Olan Hyndman. Certain members of the society were appointed to investigate these men and to send to the secretary a detailed outline of their training, appointment, and bibliographies. The matter of expenses of future meetings was then discussed by the society, during which parliamentary laws were abandoned, and so many motions were made that it was impossible to get them all in the notes. Here are some of the motions which were made. Dr. Keith moved that those members who do not attend the meetings be assessed one-half of the amount paid by those who do attend. This was seconded by Dr. Evans, and the motion failed. Another motion was made that members who do not attend be assessed a certain amount. This motion was made by Dr. Walker and seconded by Dr. Evans. This, too, failed to pass. Finally, it was moved to pro-rate the entire expense among all of the members whether they attend the meeting or not, and at the next meeting any man who fails to pay in two months be dropped from the society. The motion was made by Dr. Mayfield, seconded by Dr. Raaf, and was passed.

Dr. Mayfield then moved that expenses be pro-rated among all members for future meetings and that this motion be placed in the constitution. This was seconded by Dr. Evans, and the motion was passed.

It was brought to the attention of the society by Dr. Echols that during the present meeting members of the society were scattered all over the hotel, and that it would be much more convenient to reserve a block of rooms on one floor for future meetings. It was moved that the meeting next year be held sometime during the fall. This motion was made by Dr. Botterell, seconded by Dr. Evans, and passed unanimously. It was also decided that the 1939 meeting should last two days.

Invitations to the Society for the next meeting were extended by Dr. Echols of New Orleans, Dr. Murphey of Memphis, Dr. Botterell and Dr. Keith of Toronto, Dr. Walker of Atlanta, and Dr. Raaf of Portland. It was finally decided that the next meeting be held in Toronto. The motion was made to retain the present officers for the ensuing year. This motion was made by Dr. Keith, seconded by Dr. Evans, and was passed unanimously.

An Executive Committee of the incumbent officers, Dr. Evans and Dr. Keith, was appointed by the President. It was then moved that a vote of thanks be given the hosts, Dr. Evans and Dr. Mayfield for a splendid program and their gracious hospitality. The motion was passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.

Francis Murphey