

Report of the CNS Representative to the American Association of Neurological Surgeons - 1969

Your representative attended four meetings of the Board of Directors of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons during the past year. The first was in September 1968 and the other three were in April during the annual meeting in Cleveland. Interim reports have already been submitted regarding these meetings.

It has previously been pointed out that there is increasing participation by Congress members in the activities of the Cushing Society. Dr. Richard DeSaussure and his By-Laws Committee did an outstanding job in reshaping part of the structure of the AANS particularly in reference to the planning and management of the annual meeting.

One outstanding lesson to be learned from the annual meeting of the AANS in Cleveland was that over-reliance on professional management may have serious shortcomings. It seems obvious to me that the Congress should go exceedingly cautiously in making any commitments to professionals for the management of our organization and/or annual meetings.

The AANS is pushing forward with the efforts to study the problems involved in professional liability insurance. Dr. William Hunt is chairman of a committee to study and recommend in this area. To my knowledge, no concrete proposals have been made as yet.

Dr. Robert King's Committee on Education has also been very active. There are subcommittees in the following areas: 1) health services and delivery systems; 2) undergraduate education; 3) graduate education; 4) continuing education; 5) public education.

The AANS continues to foster the activities and growth of the American Association of Neurosurgical Nurses. Perhaps some attempt should be made to coordinate and correlate the proposed activities of the CNS Auxiliary in this same area rather than to proceed unilaterally.

The Planning Liaison Committee under the direction of Charlie Drake and on which we have Congress representation submitted an excellent report to the Board of Directors. They supported in detail the By-Laws Committee's recommendations regarding restructuring of the AANS committee effort for planning and conducting the annual meeting.

Concern was voiced regarding the role of the Education Committee of the Denver Workshop of Program Directors. It was feared that this committee would be a duplication of effort of the already existing AANS committee.

The question of establishment of a full time office representing neurosurgery in Washington was discussed. No definite decision was made about this.



Other items that were discussed by the Liaison Committee: 1) guidelines for the program committees of the American College of Surgeons and the neurosurgical section of the American Medical Association; 2) colation of postgraduate neurosurgery and allied sciences instructional courses; 3) the streamlining of the AANS Board meetings; 4) residency review; 5) involvement of the membership in the society; 6) handbook for those putting on the annual meeting; 7) quality control of neurosurgical practice; 8) the role of the neurosurgical societies in study and prevention of trauma.

In regards to item 6 above (handbooks), your representative has been given the job of preparing protocol books for the various chairmen somewhat similar to the Congress.

The next Board meeting will be held October 31 and November 1, 1969.

Respectfully submitted,

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Donald F. Dohn, M.D.