



CONGRESS OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS

Volume V

March, 1956

Number 2

Dear Fellow Congressmen:

The wheels are rolling, rolling, rolling! Several of the active committees of the Congress met last month in Chicago prior to the meeting of the Interurban Neurosurgical Society. The program committee reports that our Honored Guest at the SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 1, 2, and 3, 1956 at THE PALMER HOUSE IN CHICAGO will be a man of great honor indeed. DOCTOR WILDER PENFIELD has accepted the invitation and we are looking forward to his participation in the program. The program will include the general topic of the many aspects of pituitary and parasellar lesions. DOCTOR OLAF PEARSON, an outstanding endocrinologist will participate. DOCTOR JOHN CAMP, a prominent radiologist who has had a life long interest in Neurologic Radiology will be a participant. In case you have forgotten, the other members on the program will be DOCTORS J. GRAFTON LOVE, WILBUR RUCKER, AND BRONSON RAY. The men mentioned above are distinguished not only for their extensive knowledge of the subject to be discussed, but for their ability to dynamically express it.

The present officers of the Congress are very anxious to keep the society serving the needs of its members. They are anxious to obtain "grass roots" opinions about future programs, meeting places, and activities. Above all, if you have an idea, write to your "Congressman." We have compiled a Directory of "Where to Write."

General Information, Membership
Applications, Dues and Certificates

Philip D. Gordy, M. D.
1007 Delaware Avenue
Wilmington, Delaware

Matters of Policy and Requests
to Work on Committees

Bland W. Cannon, M. D.
1092 Madison Avenue
Memphis 3, Tennessee

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Membership Recommendations and
Status of Applications

John R. Williams, M. D.
833 Lake Drive
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Program Suggestions for 1956
Movies
(Chicago Meeting)

Richard L. DeSaussure, M. D.
Suite 525
Physicians and Surgeons Bldg.
Memphis, Tennessee

Exhibit Suggestions for 1956
(Chicago Meeting)

Thomas M. Nash, M. D.
730 Medical Arts Bldg.
Dallas, Texas

Program Ideas for 1957
(Washington Meeting)

Frederick C. Rehfeldt, M. D.
1001 Pennsylvania Ave.
Fort Worth, Texas

Orders for Clinical Neurosurgery
(Volume I or II)

Williams and Wilkins Co.
Baltimore, Maryland

Suggestions for Clinical
Neurosurgery

Raymond K. Thompson, M. D.
11 East Chase Street
Baltimore, Maryland

News Items for News Letter

Robert D. Weyand, M. D.
411 - 30th Street
Oakland 9, California

New Projects and Techniques
for Congress Program

James R. Gay, M. D.
316 West Broad Street
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Hank Svien expressed the idea that the West Coast is too far for the majority of our members to travel to the meetings. Is his idea a Hit or a Miss? You the People should help decide, via letter. In line with this, we received very little comment on our question concerning positioning in Neurosurgical procedures. One letter that we received was from Prof. August Flussbaum postmarked Sudbahnhof, Wisconsin. Here are a few quotes from that letter:

"The position that gets the nod here in Sudbahnhof is the position of comfort for the surgeon and the assistant. The barber knows the importance of moving the customer into a position comfortable for him and many neurosurgeons overlook this. The reason I know this so well is that I always give one hair trim as part of my follow up care."

At the meeting in Los Angeles, twenty four new members were accepted into membership. This brings the total membership to 314. The following is a list of the new members:

Amerongen, Frederick, M. D.
4418 Vineland Avenue
Hollywood, California

Arnold, James, M. D.
11 East Chase Street
Baltimore, Maryland

Culbreth, George, M. D.
207 Hawthorne Lane
Charlotte, North Carolina

Glass, Bernard, M. D.
Suite 814
National Bank Building
Lima, Ohio

Haines, Gerald L., M. D.
1001 Union Street
Schenectady, New York

Hastings, Nelson, M. D.
34 Arnold Street
New Bedford, Massachusetts

Huff, Thomas J., M. D.
216 Medico-Dental Building
Stockton, California

Kvernland, Bruce N., M. D.
627 Medical Arts Building
Portland, Oregon

McAlhany, Howard J., M. D.
Scott and White Clinic
Temple, Texas

McGuire, John Francis, M. D.
612 Kales Building
76 West Adams
Detroit 26, Michigan

Markham, James, M. D.
235 East Santa Clara
San Jose, California

Padberg, Frank, M. D.
432 Waldon Building
Little Rock, Arkansas

Perese, Dogan Mustafa, M. D.
141 Princeton Avenue
Buffalo, New York

Rafes, Earl H., M. D.
Beaumont Neurologic Center
675 Fifth Street
Beaumont, Texas

Raney, Aidan A., M. D.
2010 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles 57, California

Reilly, Francis G., M. D.
85 Jefferson Street
Hartford, Connecticut

Rutledge, Robert, M. D.
1200 North Walker Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Schaerer, Jacques P., M. D.
307 Handy Circle
El Paso, Texas

Sengstaken, Robert W., M. D.
520 Franklin Street
Garden City, New York

Scott, Thomas E., Jr., M. D.
2507 Union Central Building
Cincinnati, Ohio

Stafford, Donald E., M. D.
902 Boren Avenue
Seattle, Washington

Westhaysen, Peter Vander, M. D.
6223 Hohman Avenue
Hammond, Indiana

O'Connell, Frank B., Jr., M. D.
120 West Ravine Street
Kinsport, Tennessee

Wiley, J. LaRue, M. D.
1079 Park Avenue
Rochester 10, New York

As a postscript to the Los Angeles meeting reporter Roy Tyrer comes through with an exclusive report of the Mexico Trip.

"Olai! Olai! for Me'ico - So resound the exultations of the Bakodys, Kinalns, Lamberts, Landrys, Menses, Shuers, Scheuermans, Slepians, Sweeneys, Tyrers and Kent Olson, for the multitude of delights shared on the action-packed postconvention trip to Mexico. Mexiana de Aviacion safely, tequila et al, deposited us shortly before midnight in the ancient capital of the Aztecs and Toltecs, where we were greeted in a very impressive way by representatives of the Mexican Travel Advisors Service, a service which we came to appreciate and rely on a great deal during our nine days in Mexico. Fatigue engulfed most of us but a few hearty souls enjoyed watching some of the local señoritas do the "cha-cha" before retiring.

The following day carried us to the Floating Gardens of Xochimilco, a delightful and colorful place where native boatmen in flower bedecked boats poled us along some of the ancient Aztec canals. After a short siesta, it was "Le Brave Fiesta" time - bull fight to us uncultured Americans. As the novilleros (amateur matadors, since this was the amateur season) met the not-the-least-bit-friendly bulls, bred especially to fight, emotions ran amix from joyful "olais" to buried faces. Our group survived well, however, and without major casualty or need for extensive first aid, but the same cannot be said for the bull ring. That evening Dr. Hernando Guzman and his delightful wife entertained the group at their home. The other neurosurgeons of Mexico City and additional friends were invited and the evening was characterized by that genial hospitality so generally practiced by our Latin-American friends. The evening was a social occasion and the newspapers the following day devoted half of the front society page to the party.

The next day the scientific meeting was held. This was a very worthwhile session and was unique in that UNESCO interpreters for both Spanish and English were present. Each of us wore head-phones and listened in the language we desired. If one wished for a siesta, which of course we did not, one had merely to leave on the phone and turn to a neutral channel. An excellent symposium on the various aspects of cysticercosis was presented, embellished by a delightful noon-day garden luncheon. That evening we were dined, wined and entertained at the beautiful "Jacarandas" a night club designed by the builder of the Tropicana in Havana. T'was Halloween night and a more festive occasion you cannot imagine. Streamers filled the room, fireworks the patio, and a costumed orchestra entertained the crowd. It was great fun and the AM came all too soon.

The next day was Mexico City sightseeing and shopping day. The latter most of the male members would prefer to forget. However, Uncle Sam was helpful, permitting "only" the purchase of \$200.00 worth of merchandise per person to be carried back to the States. Mexican silver was abundant and

beautiful, and 'nary a suitcase returned but what contained at least one piece of silver. The City of Mexico was filled with interesting places to visit, such as the Presidential Palace, National pawnshop, and Chapultepec castle, not to mention the many murals and mosaics, plus the beautiful new University City.

Bright and early the following morning we motored to the interesting native town of Guernavaca, where the late American Ambassador to Mexico and father-in-law of Colonel Charles Lindbergh, the Honorable Dwight Morrow, had a home. Then, farther down the road we moistened our parched lips at truly one of the most attractive places we visited in Mexico, the Hacienda vista Hermosa. This was an old country home of the Cortez family back in the 16th century and today is an intriguing small pleasure resort. It was a most inviting place, and in my mind could truly boast the most beautiful swimming pool in the world. By early afternoon we reached Taxco, the silver center of Mexico, with its cobblestone streets and beautiful cathedral, clinging as it were to the side of a mountain. After lunch at Hotel De La Borda followed by that delight of Mexican tradition, le siesta, it was time for more silver shopping. The quotas that hadn't been met in Mexico City were soon filled.

An early breakfast and we were off to Acapulco. Acapulco Bay with its many yachts and colorful setting was a beautiful sight, but one perhaps tarnished a bit in the course of years by the multitude of American visitors, like as we. Two thrilling spectacles will indelibly memorialize Acapulco in the minds of all of us. Sail fishing knows no greener pastures than the adjacent blue Pacific and almost every one of us had the pleasure of catching at least one of these beautiful creatures of the sea, boasting a length of nine plus feet, and weighing at least one hundred pounds. As the fighting monster is reeled in, you are sure he weighs a ton. The second impressive spectacle was the native divers, diving for a few pesos from the rugged cliffs into the boiling and turbulent sea, one hundred thirty-six feet beneath, timing their dive of death with the crest of the wave, as the depth of the water into which they dove was reportedly but eight to twelve feet deep. The only American, a national diving champion, to attempt the feat was killed. Perhaps to these, I should add a third spectacle, for many of the group saw the figuresque Jane Russell in life, and her football husband, Bob Waterfield, at the Club de Pesca. I was not so privileged. I should not fail to mention also the cocktail party with fourteen piece band, given by Dr. Falconer at his Acapulco home, for the Texas and Mexican Neuropsychiatric Society, to which we were so graciously invited.

The drive back to Mexico City passed quickly and we then bade farewell to our Mexican guides. Each of the group seemed personally impressed with their own individual guide, for without exception all were courteous, spoke good English, and were intent upon seeing that we had a pleasant time. I

think their courteousness was well repaid. That evening the group enjoyed a pleasant farewell dinner of superb French cuisine at the Villa Fontana, while the music of seven violins melodiously whetted our digestive enzymes and danced away any post prandial sluggishness.

The next morning it was "adios" hither and yon, but the excitement was not over for the Lamberts had lost their tourist cards, a document which on arrival we were admonished to guard with virginal fortuitism. The cards had been left in Acapulco. That was the least of the problem - "Vangie" was deathly ill. After much conniving and "pesoing" the chasm was crossed and Vangie and Austin boarded the plane three minutes before departure time. It looked like all was well - then came San Anton' and the American Customs. Vangie was ill and the nasty rumor hurriedly circulated that we might all be quarantined. No such luck - t'was an idle rumor, and shortly we were all headed for home faced with the paradox of a happy family reunion and the grim task of getting back to work. Mexico had treated us well, and with no hesitation we all again proclaim - "Olai! for Me'ico." (Many thanks to Roy for this excellent report.)

Trips such as this one certainly do make you want to leave home. In fact there is no reason why such clinical trips and meetings could not be organized under Congress auspices for small groups between our regular meetings. Such a meeting just prior to the Board exams might serve a useful purpose for our new members.

Tom Nash wants to hear from anyone interested in setting up an exhibit. The facilities at the Palmer House will be excellent and will show off to good advantage your latest brain storms. Just let Tom know how many hundred square feet of space that you need. Incidentally, a word to the wise -- the booth with the biggest attendance at the Los Angeles meeting was the cervical traction exhibit with mmmmodels (live). Also remember to plan to show your latest movies. Time has been set aside on Friday afternoon for this. Write to Dick DeSaussure giving him the Title and the running time.

For members who are not well acquainted with the lure of Chicago, medically speaking, Josh Spiegel has compiled some very interesting information, and we quote from his letter.

"The following is a list of all the neurosurgical services associated with the Universities in Chicago. I am listing only the heads of the departments at any of the hospitals named. One can almost dependably see a major surgical procedure any morning or afternoon. It would, of course, be advisable to call to determine at what time the procedure is scheduled.

1. The University of Illinois
 - (a) The Illinois Neuropsychiatric Institute at 912 South Wood Street, under the direction of Dr. Eric Oldberg.
 - (b) The Presbyterian Hospital, under the direction of Doctor Adrien VerBruggen.
 - (c) The St. Luke's Hospital, under the direction of Doctor Eric Oldberg.

2. Northwestern Medical School
 - (a) The Passavant Hospital, under the direction of Doctor Loyal Davis.
 - (b) The Veteran's Research Hospital, under the direction of Doctor Loyal Davis.
 - (c) The Wesley Hospital, under the direction of Doctor Paul Bucy.

3. The University of Chicago Medical School
 - (a) The Billings Hospital, under the direction of Doctor Joseph Evans.

4. Loyola Medical School
 - (a) The Mercy Hospital, under the direction of Doctor Harold C. Voris.

5. The Chicago Medical School
 - (a) Michael Reese Hospital, under the direction of Doctors Milton Tinsley and Joshua Speigel.
 - (b) The Mount Sinai Hospital, under the direction of Doctors Milton Tinsley and Joshua Speigel.

The above are all the University services in the city. Needless to say, there are other neurosurgical services in the city which are quite busy but it would be redundant to mention them since all one has to do is look into the directory of medical specialists to see the list of neurosurgeons in Chicago. The hospitals closest to the Palmer House Hotel are the Passavant (Dr. Loyal Davis), Wesley (Dr. Paul Bucy), St. Luke's (Dr. Eric Oldberg) and the Michael Reese Hospital (Drs. Tinsley and Speigel). All the other hospitals are a substantial distance away from the Palmer House. If a sufficient number of individuals make their desires known, a specific procedure will be scheduled at a time and date indicated."

We will continue to welcome suggestions, comments, items, and ads.

Yours truly,
ROBERT D. WEYAND, M.D.
News Editor