

2 HISTORY OF THE WORLD FEDERATION
OF NEUROSURGICAL SOCIETIES FROM
CONGRESS TO CONGRESS

H. AUGUST VAN ALPHEN

2.1 FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

BRUSSELS 1957

The first congress of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies was part of the First International Congress of Neurological Sciences held in Brussels, 21st - 28th July 1957 under the High Patronage of His Majesty Baudouin I, the King of Belgium. Other congresses simultaneously held under the auspices of the International Congress of Neurological Sciences were: the Sixth International Congress of Neurology, the Fourth International Congress of Electroencephalography and Clinical Neurophysiology, the Third International Congress of Neuropathology, the Fifth Meeting of the International League Against Epilepsy and the Fifth Symposium Neuroradiologicum. The umbrella congress was especially dedicated to the memory of the famous Belgian neuroanatomist and neurologist, Dr. Arthur van Gehuchten of Louvain (1861-1914). In addition, the year 1957 marked the hundredth anniversary of the birth of three men noted for their particular contributions to the neurological sciences: Sir Charles Sherrington of Oxford (1857-1952), Joseph Babinski of Paris (1857-1932), and Sir Victor Horsley of London (1857-1916). In honour of these four men, a jubilee medallion, made by the artist, A. Crommelynck, had been cast with the likeness of Van Gehuchten imprinted on one side and the names of the other three on the reverse side.

The First International Congress of Neurological Sciences was organized by an Executive Committee composed of the following members:

- P. van Gehuchten, President
- L. van Bogaert, Secretary-General of the International Neurological Congress and the International Neuropathology Congress
- G.J. Melot, Secretary-General of the Symposium Neuroradiologicum
- M. David, Secretary-General of the International Congress of Neurological Surgery
- J. Radermecker, Secretary-General of the International Congress of Electroencephalography and Clinical Neurophysiology and of the Meeting of the International League Against Epilepsy
- J. Titeca, Treasurer
- R.A. Ley, Editor of Transactions
- A. Dewulf, Scientific Exhibition

This Executive Committee also took care of the administration and logistics of the Congress of Neurological Surgery because of the limited time available to the neurosurgeons.

The Congress

The First International Congress of Neurological Surgery was attended by four hundred and forty-one neurosurgical participants with sixty-six accompanying persons. All participants wore a badge comprising an identification label (name and country) and a ribbon, the colour of which varied according to the discipline of the bearer: neurology, yellow; neuropathology, orange; neurosurgery, red; electroencephalography, blue and neuroradiology, green.

The registration fee for the participants amounted to US \$ 15 for active members, US \$ 10 for associate members and US \$ 5 for accompanying persons. The fee included a programme book, the book of abstracts and the proceedings, and also entitled the registrants to attend the social events arranged by the Congress, except for the official Banquet and Ball, for which an additional charge of US \$ 9 was made.



Sir Geoffrey Jefferson †
President WFNS 1955-1957
Honorary President

Opening Ceremony

The Congress in its entirety was held at the Palais des Beaux Arts de Bruxelles. The combined formal opening took place on Sunday, 21st July in the late afternoon, in the presence of His Majesty the King and members of the Belgian Government.

After a musical overture, the presidents of the various neuroscience organizations participating in the congress delivered brief addresses of welcome. They were then introduced to the King of Belgium who extended greetings and wishes for a successful congress. Following this official ceremony, the Minister of Public Health and Family, who was Honorary President of the Congress, received the members and guests at the Musée d'Art et d'Histoire du Palais du Cinquanteenaire.

Scientific Programme

The scientific sessions were held in the Palais des Beaux Arts, a magnificent edifice in the heart of Brussels, large enough to provide ample auditoria, exhibition space and offices for all the organizations. In spite of the spacious quarters, the assistance of 'Fair Hostesses' (trained for the 1958 Brussels World Fair) and well sign-posted meeting halls, the presence of five specialty groups initially caused some confusion. Once the strangeness had worn off, however, sessions ran smoothly.

The scientific presentations included invited reports, discussions and free communications, which had already been published. The authors spoke in the language of their choice, but usually in one of the four official languages of the Congress, namely English, French, Spanish or German. Two amphitheatres were equipped for simultaneous translation; a large one for all four languages, and a smaller one for two languages (English and French). When the author followed the prepared manuscript which had been provided to the translators the renditions were good, but when the speaker improvised, the translators, unfamiliar with neurological terms, often had problems.

The free communications were grouped into clusters of related papers which a topic director condensed, usually into a few sentences, followed by invited questions from the floor. Authors were usually allowed a few minutes to highlight the salient points of their paper and to reply to queries. Although the digest made it

Scientific Neurosurgical Programme 1957

Monday, 22 July

First Joint Meeting dedicated to the Memory of Sir Charles Sherrington

Topic: EXTRAPYRAMIDAL PATHOLOGY

R. Garcin (France): Evocation of Sir Charles Sherrington

Tuesday, 23 July

Second Joint Meeting dedicated to the Memory of J. Babinski

Topic: STATES OF CONSCIOUSNESS IN NEUROLOGY

Sir Geoffrey Jefferson (UK): Evocation of Dr. J. Babinski

Wednesday, 24 July, 9 A.M.

Meeting of the First International Congress of Neurological Surgery

Topic: THERAPEUTIC APPLICATIONS OF HYPOTHERMIA

Wednesday, 24 July, 3 P.M.

Plenary Session dedicated to the Memory of Sir Victor Horsley

Topic: STEREOTAXIC METHODS

Ernest Sachs (USA): Evocation of Sir Victor Horsley

Thursday, 25 July

Plenary and Joint Meetings of the First International Congress of Neurological Surgery with the Fifth Symposium Neuroradiologicum

Topic: SUPRATENTORIAL ANGIOMAS

possible to present a large number of papers in a short time, many of the speakers disliked the format. This feeling was accentuated when authors were not present to reply to queries. As a result some sessions were over in less than half of the allotted time and members arriving at the scheduled time were liable to find that the presentation, and even the session, had already finished. However, apart from these minor annoyances the scientific programmes were well organized, stimulating and enlightening.

The programme of the neurosurgical congress was composed of joint meetings with the whole congress or one of the other organizations, and separate neurosurgical sessions.

On Monday, 22nd July, a joint meeting of all disciplines was held in commemoration of Sir Charles S. Sherrington. Dr. R. Garcin from France commenced the session with a tribute to Sir Charles. The theme of the meeting was Extraparapyramidal Pathology. Six papers were presented on the anatomy, physiology, pathology and medical and surgical treatment of extrapyramidal disorders. The surgical aspects were discussed by Drs. P. Bucy and A.E. Walker. The session ended with a summary by Dr. R. Garcin.

A second joint meeting was held on Tuesday, 23rd July in memory of Joseph Babinski. A eulogy was read by Sir Geoffrey Jefferson. This was followed by eleven presentations on the States of Consciousness in Neurology, including a discussion by Dr. P. Bailey of the surgical data on this topic. Sir Geoffrey Jefferson closed the session with a summary.

The neurosurgical session on the Wednesday afternoon was dedicated to the memory of Sir Victor Horsley. The eulogy was given by Dr. E. Sachs (USA). On the Wednesday evening, films on stereotactic methods were shown.

General meetings marking the end of the Congress were held on the Saturday afternoon. In honour of Dr. Arthur van Gehuchten, there was a special celebration on Sunday, 28th July at Louvain under the Patronage of His Excellency Mr. Van Wayenbergh, Rector Magnificus of the Catholic University of Louvain and presided over by Professor Van Campenhout, Dean of the Medical Faculty. During a ceremonial session in the morning, four addresses were delivered. At noon a reception was given by His Excellency the Rector, followed by a lunch. In the afternoon the jubilee medallion in honour of Arthur van Gehuchten was inaugurated in the ancient anatomical amphitheatre and there was an opportunity for all active participants to visit the neurological institute and university clinics. The congress closed with a Tea Party in Château d'Arenberg.

All papers on the techniques, theory and practice of neurosurgery were published in a combined Congress volume. The papers and discussions presented at the two joint sessions were published in two separate volumes as supplements to *Acta Medica Belgica*.

Social Programme

The social events were held in magnificent buildings in the elegant surroundings of Brussels.

The Monday evening saw the inauguration of an exhibition of documents on the History of Medicine, dedicated to 'Andreas Vesalius and the history of the human body'. This exhibition was organized on the occasion of the Congress by the Royal Library and was open to participants every evening during the Congress. On the evening of Thursday, 25th July, there was an official Banquet in the Salle des Pas-Perdus of the majestic Palais de Justice de Bruxelles, followed by music and dancing. On the Friday a symphonic concert was performed with the cooperation of the violinist, Carlo van Neste in the Grand Hall of the Palais des Beaux-Arts.

The organizing committee had also compiled an extensive and varied ladies' programme.

Executive Committee Meetings

The meetings of the Executive Committee during the First International Congress of Neurological Surgery were held in the Palais des Beaux Arts on Saturday, 20th, Monday, 22nd and Wednesday, 24th July 1957. The President, Sir Geoffrey Jefferson, welcomed the thirty-nine officers and delegates. He noted that two years previously representatives of thirteen neurosurgical societies had met and planned a world organization to advance the scientific knowledge and practice of neurosurgery by holding an International Congress every four years. The neurologists who were prepared for an International Congress of Neurological Sciences invited the neurosurgeons to participate with a separate neurosurgical congress and graciously offered assistance in the administration of their programme. This had successfully resulted in the present First International Congress of Neurosurgical Surgery.

Since the inaugural meeting in Brussels in 1955, twelve new member societies had been admitted by the Administrative Council, bringing the total number to twenty-five. These new members were the neurosurgical societies of Buenos Aires (Argentina), Australasia, Austria, Brazil, Chile, India, Japan, Mexico, Middle East, Poland,

Portugal/Spain and Switzerland.

The plans for the next congress in 1961 gave rise to much, varied discussion. There was a general consensus that the combined neuroscience congress, as held in Brussels, was too large to permit a small, developing specialty to organize the relevant aspects effectively. Accordingly, an independent congress was favoured. The European delegates, in particular, although aware of the difficulties involved in holding an overseas congress, were keen to meet in North America the next time. They finally resolved to hold the 1961 congress on the east coast of the United States of



The first Chain of Office to be worn by the President

America at a time and place to be set by the officers of the Federation. The location having been decided, the Executive Committee elected a nominating committee to make appropriate recommendations concerning the Federation officers.

The Constitution Committee which had drafted and circulated a proposed Constitution to all member societies reported that the document, with a few minor changes and additions, had been ratified unanimously. The Constitution was approved by the Executive Committee. Inherent in this, the definitive names of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies and the International Congress of Neurological Surgery were also accepted. The Executive Committee was to serve as the governing body of the Federation and the International Congress and should meet in accordance with the rules of order two years prior to each Congress, during the Congress, and at other times as designated by the Administrative Council. In addition to the Executive Committee and the Administrative Council, six committees were laid down in the Constitution: Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, Programme and Liaison Committee, Finance Committee, Nominating Committee, Membership Committee (executed by the Administrative Council) and Committee on Local Arrangements for the International Neurosurgical Congress.

During the second meeting on Monday, 22nd July, the Nominating Committee proposed the slate of officers for the 1961 congress with Dr. P.C. Bucy as President. Sir Geoffrey Jefferson was proposed as Honorary President. The report of the Nominating Committee was endorsed by general consent on Wednesday, 24th July.

Then, Dr. E. Sachs, Jr., on behalf of the five American neurosurgical societies, presented a president's gavel to the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies. The original idea was suggested by the Project Committee of the Women's Auxiliary of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons and developed by Dr. J.R. Gay and

Dr. R.G. Fisher, who selected the artisan and assisted him in the manufacture of the gavel. Dr. Sachs explained the background to the gift in the following address accompanying its presentation:

The support of five neurosurgical societies was enlisted at the request of Sir Geoffrey Jefferson, who was the first President, and Marcel David of Paris, the first Secretary-General.

The entire gavel, handle, striking block and carrying case were designed and made in Hanover, New Hampshire. The artisan was Virgil Poling, instructor in woodwork at Dartmouth from 1941 until his retirement. In 1949, he was awarded an Honorary Master of Arts from Dartmouth College.

The basic design of the mallet was taken from that used by carpenters at the beginning of the 20th Century, when neurosurgery was emerging as a distinct and important medical specialty. A dummy gavel was fabricated to ensure that the size and balance of the finished gavel would be practical.

The wood selected for the handle and striking block was native American bird's-eye maple. The head of the gavel was constructed from native American birch. The carrying case was made of black cherry wood. These woods were commonly used in colonial America to construct useful household items. The timber source was Dartmouth College Grant Forests, income from which had been used for Dartmouth College Scholarships for many years.

The neurosurgical relic embedded in plastic and secured to the lid of the carrying case is a double-ended gasserian ganglion hook, used by Sir Victor Horsley of England (1857-1916). This was presented to Dr. Ernest Sachs, Sr. by Sir Victor Horsley, with whom he trained and was given to the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies by Dr. Sachs.

Sir Geoffrey Jefferson, Earl Walker and Marcel David asked Dr. Sachs to make the formal presentation on behalf of the five American Societies. The gavel would be in the possession of the President of the International Neurosurgical Congress.

The inscription plate reads as follow:

Presented to the International Federation of Neurosurgical Societies by the National Neurosurgical Societies of the United States of America at Brussels, Belgium in July, 1957.

Sir Geoffrey Jefferson on behalf of the Federation thanked the donors for this symbol of office which he would pass on to his successor, Dr. P.C. Bucy. The new president expressed his appreciation of the honour and welcomed all members to participate in the next Congress to be held in the United States of America.

References

- First International Congress of Neurological Sciences. Joint Meetings, journées communes. Abstracts of reports, discussions and free communications, résumés des rapports, discussions et communications libres. Eds.: L. van Bogaert, J. Radermecker. 1957, xii + 64 pp
- Premier Congrès International des Sciences Neurologiques. Livre de Programme. Anvers, J.-E. Buschmann, 1957, 127 pp

- Premier Congrès International des Sciences Neurologiques. Première journée commune, Réunions plénières, rapports et discussions. Les Editions 'Acta Medica Belgica', 1957, 189 pp
- Premier Congrès International des Sciences Neurologiques. Seconde journée commune, Réunions plénières, rapports et discussions. Les Editions 'Acta Medica Belgica', 1957, 237 pp
- Walker, E.A.: The History of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies. New Mexico, University of New Mexico Printing Plant, 1985, 141 pp
- Walker, E.A.: The Evolution of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies. Acta Neurochir. (Wien), 94: 99-102, 1988

HONORARY PRESIDENT AND OFFICERS ELECTED IN BRUSSELS 1957**Honorary President**

Sir Geoffrey Jefferson (UK)

Federation Officers 1957-1961**President:**

P.C. Bucy (USA)

Vice-President:

E.H. Botterell (Canada)

Secretary-General:

B.S. Ray (USA)

Assistant Secretary-General:

W.B. Scoville (USA)

Treasurer:

B. Woodhall (USA)

Assistant Treasurer:

W.B. Hamby (USA)

Editor of Transactions:

D.L. Reeves (USA)

2.2 SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

WASHINGTON 1961

Interim Planning Meeting Copenhagen 1959

Plans for the Second International Congress to be held in the United States of America were formulated soon after the Brussels Meeting. The Federation President, Dr. P. Bucy, convened the Administrative Council, which had been delegated the task of making all arrangements, in Atlantic City in October 1957. Five officers were present, all from the United States. They first discussed an appropriate location for the Congress. Dr. W. Scoville, in particular, believed that it had been an unfortunate error to plan the Congress in the United States since the next International Congress of Neurological Sciences was to be held in Rome in 1961. It was felt that it would have been more appropriate to hold the Congress somewhere in Europe at a contiguous time. The president, however, argued that as one of the Executive Committee Meetings in Brussels had voted to separate from the International Congress of Neurological Sciences and to hold the next International Congress in the United States, the officers present would not be justified in attempting any rearrangement. He pointed out that as the representatives from the United States had not taken part in the vote, to try to change the decision of the Executive Committee would seem ungracious. This decision had to be accepted. Of the cities considered along the Eastern seaboard, Washington DC seemed to be conveniently situated and to offer the most attractions. The Statler Hotel, centrally located, with ample space for the scientific programme and rooms for the out-of-town members, had all the facilities necessary to hold a congress to be attended by approximately fifteen hundred people. The scientific meetings would be held in the host hotel with no overlapping sessions except for a televised programme of surgical procedures. A ladies' programme would provide an opportunity for the members, their spouses and guests to absorb the natural beauty and visit the monuments, art galleries and museums of this Capitol city.

The funding of the Congress depended on a variety of sources, the most important being a contribution of US \$ 10 a year for four years (total of \$ 40) by every member of each of the five official neurosurgical societies of the United States. The total membership of these five societies was estimated at about twelve hundred. It was also estimated that there were about seven hundred and fifty members of recognized societies of neurosurgeons elsewhere in the world. Each of these members from outside the United States was required to contribute US \$ 2 for four years.



Paul C. Bucy †
President WFNS 1957-1961
Honorary President

In addition, a registration fee of US \$ 15 for all participants would be charged. A profit of US \$ 5,000 was expected from exhibits and advertising.

The official languages would be English, French, German and Spanish.

These basic plans formalized early in 1958 were presented to the Executive Committee of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies when it met at the Rigs-hospitalets Neurokirurgiske Afdeling, Copenhagen, Denmark on 1st September 1959.

Dr. J. White, Chairman of the Congress Programme Committee, reported that the following subjects would be covered in morning symposia:

1. Radioactivity and heavy radiation particles in neurosurgery
2. Re-evaluation of surgery in the treatment of pain
3. Space-occupying lesions of the central nervous system
4. A. Management of hydrocephalus
B. Biology and chemistry of the nervous system

The plenary sessions would be held on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 16th-20th October 1961. There would be no other scientific meetings with the exception of a programme of surgical operations televised from the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

It was decided that the senior delegates of all member societies would act as Honorary Presidents of the Congress.

During a delightful dinner held at the Nimb Restaurant in the Tivoli on the first evening, Dr. E. Busch of Copenhagen welcomed the Committee to Denmark. Dr. H. Botterell responded by graciously thanking the hosts for their hospitality and extending a cordial invitation to all delegates to attend the Congress.

The Congress

The meetings of the Second International Congress of Neurological Surgery including scientific sessions, exhibitions and closed circuit television were held at the Statler Hilton Hotel in downtown Washington, DC, USA, 15th-20th October 1961. The congress was attended by about fourteen hundred members and accompanying persons. The registration fee was fixed at US \$ 50 for both neurologists and neurosurgeons. For the social programme, transport by bus was arranged to nearby concert halls. Fortunately, neither climatic nor other circumstances marred the enjoyment of the many cultural activities.

Opening Ceremony

The official opening of the Congress was held in Constitution Hall in the late afternoon of Sunday, 15th October 1961. After an orchestral prelude by the Orchestra of the United States Marine Band, Dr. P.C. Bucy, President of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies opened the Congress with these words.



Medal presented to all participants as a souvenir of the Second International Congress

‘It is a great pleasure and honour for me to have this opportunity to open the Second International Congress of Neurological Surgery and to welcome all of you.

This event is noteworthy for many reasons. It is the first independent international meeting of neurological surgeons ever to be held anywhere. It is also the first time that an international congress dealing with clinical neurological sciences has ever been held in the United States. The neurological surgeons of the United States and Canada who have joined together in organizing this meeting are delighted that so many of you have journeyed here for this occasion. I also bring you greetings from our Latin American colleagues whose congress has just been concluded in Mexico City.

Neurological surgery is one of the youngest of the clinical sciences. Its growth and development have been arduous. The efforts which have been required to bring our specialty to its present state of progress have united the neurological surgeons of the world with bonds of close personal friendship. Until recent years most neurological surgeons have been known personally to each other. Their associations have been ones of friendship, as well as of science. With the great augmentation of our numbers in recent years, it has become increasingly difficult to maintain friendly personal acquaintanceships with all neurological surgeons. It is my sincere hope that this, and those international congresses of neurological surgery which will follow in the years to come will serve to bind us all together in this spirit of friendship which characterizes our specialty. Here we will renew old friendships and make new ones. But ours is an organization which is interested in far more than friendships. It is interested in advancing and disseminating knowledge for the benefit of all mankind. It is for this purpose in particular that we are assembled.

One of the pioneers in neurological surgery who was particularly cognizant of its international nature, who was intensely interested in developing our specialty, and who opened the doors of his clinic and his laboratories so that men from all parts of the world might learn, was Harvey Cushing. It is significant that this is almost the anniversary of his death on 7th October, twenty-two years ago. He was known personally to many of us, and not a few of us were his pupils. All of us are the beneficiaries of his great contributions. We, in North America, are proud that he was one of us, but we cannot keep him to ourselves. He belongs to all mankind. It is particularly fitting that this first independent international congress of neurological surgery should be held in the country of Harvey Cushing and in his honor. Our Congress will be held in the spirit of the advancement of medical knowledge which characterized his life and its success will be assured. In commemoration of this event you have received a medal bearing his likeness. These have been made possible by the generosity of his children.

Your officers have made every effort to insure that all neurological surgeons from every country in the world would be invited to attend this Congress. The attendance of so many neurological surgeons from over fifty different countries throughout the world is most encouraging to us. Our meeting here together serves to re-emphasize that medicine like other sciences knows no political or national boundaries. This meeting and others of a similar nature being held in other countries are designed to advance and disseminate knowledge and to relieve human suffering without regard to race, or to political or religious beliefs. It is important that we members of the medical profession present to the world a united front in our constant struggle against disease.

During this Congress I sincerely hope that we will all get to know each other better, and that we shall benefit from the scientific sessions and that all of you who have come here from abroad will become better acquainted with us here in North

America and with our countries. Each and every one of us is anxious to help you to do so in any way that we can.

It was our sincere hope that the President of the United States would be present to welcome you on this occasion. He, too, had hoped to be able to speak to you. He withheld his decision on this matter until very recently and then because of international developments with which you are all familiar he found it impossible to be here. However, he has sent a special message of welcome and at this time I should like to read it to you:

It is a great pleasure to extend greetings to the distinguished participants in the Second International Congress of Neurological Surgery.

It is often pointed out that the practice of medicine is an art as well as a science. Surely this is true of your difficult and crucially important specialty. The remarkable progress wrought through your individual and combined efforts is only a preamble to the even greater advances which you will attain.

It is an honour to have your Congress convene in the nation's capital. I am sure that your meeting here will be a clear reminder of the significance of the great work in which you are engaged.

I congratulate you and wish you every success now and in the future. People the world over will ultimately benefit from your every achievement.

(Signed) John F. Kennedy

Of the various agencies of the United States Government directly concerned with medical progress, the National Institutes of Health are among the more prominent. Their generous financial assistance has materially helped the neurological surgeons of the United States and Canada in making this Congress possible. It is particularly fitting, therefore, that Dr. James A. Shannon, Director of the National Institutes of Health, is here today to extend an official welcome to you.

Dr. Shannon is a graduate of New York University and became Director of Research at the Goldwater Memorial Hospital of that University. His particular field of interest has been in research in renal function and the therapy of malaria. For these latter studies he received the Presidential Medal of Merit. He has been Director of the National Institutes of Health since 1955.

Dr. Shannon, it is a pleasure to have you with us on this auspicious occasion.'

Dr. James A. Shannon opened the Congress with these words of greeting.

'I am deeply grateful for this opportunity to welcome the distinguished Second International Congress of Neurological Surgery. This privilege falls to me because of the role which the National Institutes of Health is now playing in the support of neurological research and the continuing interest of the Institutes in the World Federation of Neurological Societies. It is indeed an honor to welcome this assemblage of workers representing so many countries and professional points of view.

One cannot overstate the value of such a meeting for the communication of new knowledge and the stimulation of further endeavour. We will hear original reports and will have an opportunity to discuss them with the authors themselves. We will be able to compare notes on practical techniques in diagnosis and therapy, and we will benefit from an exchange of ideas and information in one of today's most productive medical science fields.

I am sure that you share my pleasure in the fact that Paul Bucy, your Federation's eminent President, has been appointed by Surgeon General Terry to serve on the

National Advisory Neurological Diseases and Blindness Council. As a member of the non federal body of medical scientists and civic leaders, Dr. Bucy will help advise the Surgeon General on Public Health Service research grants and training awards administered by the National Institutes of Health.

It is now ten years since the establishment of our own National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, with laboratories and clinical facilities at Bethesda, Maryland. In retrospect it is obvious, even to one who is not a member of your field, that neurology has undergone a tremendous growth and development. Broad studies begun in the 1930's continued in the 40's and flowered in the 50's, aided in this country by congressional support through NIH programs. It is plain that what was heretofore the operating theatre of the neurosurgeon has become a physiological laboratory with an impressive record of contributions to such fields as psychiatry, pharmacology and biochemistry. The neurosurgeon has achieved a broad conception of his role, not only in medical practice but in a very sophisticated area of medical research.

During the past decade, our neurological investigations drew heavily on the substantial background of other countries, their knowledge, techniques and talent. Let me acknowledge with gratitude that this nation's present ability to make its own significant contributions in neurology reflects our indebtedness to early and contemporary foreign workers. NIH interests in neurology continue to be international. We are actively engaged in supporting research, abroad as well as in this country, according to the merits of the proposals and investigators.

Your interest in this meeting, of course, is broader than research; it includes your wish to review and assimilate new knowledge and techniques. Neurosurgery has entered upon an era in which procedures considered visionary a few years ago are now ripe for application or await only further improvement or evaluation. Among the most important medical advances of recent years have been the methods for diagnosis and surgical treatment of epilepsy, tumors, Parkinsonism, cerebrovascular lesions, and other prevalent disorders. The programme of this meeting offers a most impressive array of original and review articles on those practical aspects of your field.

Other procedures even more advanced, though still in experimental stages, held great promise for the future. That future will be realized if research progresses freely, if full advantage is taken of advances in other specialties, and if the fine spirit that has drawn you together here prevails in the years to come.

Let me conclude with a few words written by the great surgeon Edward Archibald upon the opening of the Montreal Neurological Institute:

To gather knowledge, and to find out new knowledge, is the noblest occupation of the physician. To apply that knowledge with understanding, and with sympathy born of understanding, to the relief of human suffering is his loveliest occupation, and to do both with an unassuming faithfulness sets the seal on the whole.

May I wish you a very successful meeting, and for those from beyond our borders, a most enjoyable visit to the United States.'

Scientific Programme

The scientific programme consisted of general sessions (symposia and papers), films and televised neurosurgical operations. There were twenty-eight scientific and twenty commercial exhibits.

The four morning symposia, presented in English, were simultaneously translated into French, German and Spanish. On the Monday the subject of the symposium was Radioactivity and heavy radiation particles in neurosurgery; on the Tuesday,

Space-occupying intracranial lesions (tumours and parasites and infectious granulomas); on the Thursday, Re-evaluation of surgery in the treatment of pain; and on the Friday, the Biology of the nervous system and Hydrocephalus. In the afternoons, general sessions for free papers were organized. In total, sixty papers were presented and ninety-eight papers were read by title. On the Wednesday, a film programme was arranged without a discussion session. Thirty films were shown.

Neurosurgical operations performed at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore were televised to the Federal Room of the Statler Hotel, where a moderator along with a panel of neurosurgeons discussed the procedure with the surgeon while the operation was in progress. These live performances attracted a great deal of attention from surgeons from countries where such educational aids were not available. The operations performed included removal of brain tumours (one by Dr. E. Walker and one by Dr. J. Chambers), anterior cervical fusion (by Drs. R. Robinson and G. Udvarhelyi), carotid endarterectomy (Dr. N. Aronson), cortical resection for epilepsy (Drs. E. Walker, M. Murray and A. Falconer), cranioplasty (Dr. D. McQueen), retrogasserian neurectomy (Dr. N. Aronson), lumbar disk (Dr. E. Walker) and surgery for involuntary movements (Dr. G. Udvarhelyi).

The scientific presentations were summarized in a book of abstracts.

Social Programme

On the Monday evening in Constitution Hall a concert was given by the National Symphony Orchestra and the Howard University Choir, conducted by Howard Mitchell. The programme included the Overture to Oberon by Carl Maria von Weber, Barber's Symphony No. 1, Villa-Lobos' Choros No. 10, and after the intermission Symphony No. 5 in E Minor by Peter I. Tchaikovsky. The following evening, the National Gallery of Art was open to give members of the Second International Congress of Neurological Surgery the opportunity to view this aspect of American heritage.

Arrangements were made for visits to the National Institutes of Health on the Wednesday, participation being restricted to physicians, surgeons and scientists.

The official banquet was held in the Presidential Ballroom of the Statler Hotel on the evening of Thursday, 19th October 1961. After the introduction of the current and incoming officers of the World Federation, the President, Dr. P. Bucy, expressed his appreciation to all the members of the Congress who had travelled so far. Greetings from the World Federation of Neurology were presented by Dr. M. Fog. Remarks from the Honorary Presidents were delivered by Dr. P. Martin, Dr. N. Dott (on behalf of the late Sir Geoffrey Jefferson), Dr. M. David (on behalf of Dr. D. Petit-Dutaillis) and Dr. E. Busch (on behalf of Dr. H. Olivecrona).

Dr. E.H. Botterell presented the Fedor Krause Memorial Medal to Dr. W. Tönnis of Berlin.

The incoming President of the Federation, Dr. E. Busch, expressed his appreciation for the honour and privilege to lead the neurosurgeons of the world for the next quadrennium.

The remainder of the delightful evening was devoted to conviviality and dancing to the music of Lester Lanin and his orchestra.

The spouses of the local neurosurgeons provided a fascinating programme for the ladies attending the Congress. This included a bus tour of Washington, a fashion show, a visit to the White House, a cruise to Mount Vernon and a visit to the residence and gardens of the historic Dumbarton Oaks, 'Hillwood'.



Congress Banquet 19th October 1961 At the main table from left to right: D. Northfield's daughter (UK), Dr. Mogens Fog, neurologist (Denmark), K. Shimizu (Japan), Mrs. B. Ray (USA), E. Busch (Denmark), P. Bucy (USA), P. Martin (Belgium), M. David (France) and Mrs. P. Bucy (USA)

Executive Committee Meetings

The meetings of the Executive Committee of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies during the congress were held in the Statler Hotel on Sunday, 15th, Monday, 16th and Tuesday, 17th October.

At the beginning of the first meeting the President, Dr. P. Bucy, commemorated those colleagues who had passed away since the last congress, including the Honorary President, Sir Geoffrey Jefferson.

The World Federation comprised twenty-five member societies.

An ad hoc committee on Federation membership composed of Drs. R. Malmros (Chairman), A. de Vasconcellos Marques, H. Schwartz, J. Sirois and H. Verbiest discussed an application for membership from the Asociación Argentina de Neurocirugía. It was pointed out that during the Interim Planning Meeting in Copenhagen, an Argentinean Society, Sociedad de Neurología, Neurocirugía y Psiquiatría de Buenos Aires, had been admitted to Federation membership. Because this was a local group, the committee thought that it should be asked to relinquish its membership in favour of the national Argentinian Association of Neurosurgery.



WFNS Executive Committee 1961

Dr. Morea, a delegate of the former organization, admitted that the Society was composed of neuroscientists and neurosurgeons almost entirely from Buenos Aires, but emphasized that although the new society was national, it did not include all neurosurgeons from this city. He noted that the Federation had dual representation from certain other countries particularly the USA. After considerable debate, the recommendation was approved. It was pointed out, however, that the Constitution did not provide for the dismissal of an elected society. After further discussion by Dr. Malmros' committee, Dr. Bucy ruled that it was within the power of the Federation to remove an elected society. Thereupon it was voted to admit the Asociación de Neurocirugía de Argentina and to terminate the membership of the Sociedad de Neurología, Neurocirugía y Psiquiatría de Buenos Aires.

An ad hoc committee for reviewing constitutional amendments, chaired by Dr. D. Northfield, recommended (1) that the office of Secretary-General be divided into two positions: a Secretary for Congress Affairs and a Secretary for Federation Affairs with a view to improving continuity, and (2) that the Programme and Liaison Committee be split into a Programme Committee and a Liaison Committee since their functions were becoming quite disparate. These amendments were approved.

The Nominating Committee composed of Drs. A.E. Walker (Chairman), H. Verbiest, A. Asenjo, K. Tanaka and G. Norlén recommended that the Interim Meeting of the Executive Committee be held in Vienna in 1963 at the time of the meeting of the World Federation of Neurology, and that the Congress of the Federation be held in Copenhagen from 3rd to 8th September 1965.

The committee also presented the slate of officers of the Federation for the period 1961-1965. Dr. E. Busch (Denmark) was nominated for President. Dr. P. Bucy (USA) was proposed as Honorary President. There being no other nominations, the President declared the slate elected. Dr. Bucy announced that the new Liaison Committee would have as ex officio members, Drs. E. Busch, A.E. Walker and D. Northfield; as elected members, Drs. M. David, H. Verbiest and P. Bucy. This committee was to elect its own chairman and to meet with six members from the World Federation of Neurology.

Dr. Obrador expressed a vote of thanks to the retiring president, officers and American committeemen for their splendid congress programme.

References

- Second International Congress of Neurological Surgery. Program Book. Washington 1961, 156 pp
- Second International Congress of Neurological Surgery. Abstracts and descriptions of contributions to the scientific program. Amsterdam, Excerpta Medica Foundation, 1961, 185 pp
- Walker, E.A.: The History of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies. New Mexico, University of New Mexico Printing Plant, 1985, 141 pp

HONORARY PRESIDENT AND OFFICERS ELECTED IN WASHINGTON 1961**Honorary President**

P.C. Bucy (USA)

Federation Officers 1961-1965**President:**

E. Busch (Denmark)

Vice-President:

K. Shimizu (Japan)

Secretary for Federation Affairs:

A.E. Walker (USA)

Secretary for Congress Affairs:

D.W.C. Northfield (UK)

Assistant Secretary of Congress Affairs:

B. Broager (Denmark)

Treasurer:

H. Krayenbühl (Switzerland)

Assistant Treasurer:

R. Malmros (Denmark)

Editor of Federation Bulletin:

W.B. Scoville (USA)

Editor of Congress Publications:

A.C. de Vet (The Netherlands)

2.3 THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

COPENHAGEN 1965

Interim Planning Meeting Vienna 1963

The Executive Committee met for its Interim Meeting in Vienna, Austria on 19th-20th June 1963, between the meetings of the World Federation of Neurology and the International Congress of Neuropathology. The gathering was attended by nine officers of the Federation, thirty-six delegates representing twenty member societies, and two visitors. Special guests were the representatives of the World Federation of Neurology, the Federation of Electroencephalography and Clinical Neurophysiology, the W.F.N. Problem Commission on Neuroanaesthesiology, and an observer from the USSR. All present were welcomed by the host, Dr. H. Kraus, and the President, Dr. E. Busch.

The Administrative Council reported on its interim activities: the setting up of a survey of neurosurgical facilities and resources in the world, the publication of a biannual news bulletin, of which the first issue was published in May 1963, with Dr. W.B. Scoville as Editor, and a recommendation to increase the dues to US \$ 1 per year per member. These proposals were approved.

The recommendation by the Membership Committee that the Czechoslovakian Neurosurgical Society, a section of the Czechoslovakian Medical Society, be admitted to membership was approved.

Dr. J. Sirois, Chairman of the Constitution Committee, reported that the committee had reviewed the Constitution and was considering extensive revisions. Only minor amendments were, however, recommended and approved at that time to provide for a listing of the qualifications of all officers and members of societies applying for membership, and for the termination of membership of a society for due cause.

The report of the Liaison Committee of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies and the World Federation of Neurology emphasized the desirability of holding the congresses of neurology and neurosurgery, as well as congresses in related disciplines, in close temporal and spatial proximity. To allow such arrangements, plans would have to be made at least five years in advance. It was suggested that the next congresses be held on the East Coast of the United States of America in the autumn of 1969. The Executive Committee approved this recommendation in principle, and authorized its members in the Liaison Committee to submit a questionnaire to all neurosurgical societies regarding desirability of such a coopera-



Eduard Busch †
President WFNS 1961-1965
Honorary President



Administrative Council of the WFSN 1961-1965 From left to right: W.B. Scoville, A.C. de Vet, H. Krayenbühl, A.E. Walker, D.W.C. Northfield, B. Broager, R. Malmros and E. Busch (seated)

tive congress in the United States of America, and to carry on negotiations with the other members of the Liaison Committee from the World Federation of Neurology. This joint committee was to meet in May 1964 for further discussion.

The Committee on International Affairs, under the chairmanship of Dr. B. Ray, recommended the exploration of means of lending assistance to teaching centres in developing areas, the development of standards of training for international qualifications for the practice of neurosurgery, and the institution of a world registry for the exchange of information regarding available training, research, and teaching facilities throughout the world.

Plans for the Third International Neurosurgical Congress, which would be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, 23rd-28th August 1965, were discussed. The Chairman of the Programme Committee, Dr. D. Northfield, presented the preliminary schedule for the scientific meeting. The following main topics were proposed: Acute Head Injuries, Acute Spinal Injuries, and The Brain Stem. Speakers from various geographical areas would be invited for a discussion of epidemiological aspects of acute head injuries. They should present a review of the organization of services in their areas, including statistical surveys, both local and national; methods of handling cerebral trauma by general surgeons and other medical specialists; effects of population density, traffic and industrial elements. The Executive Committee approved the proposed programme in principle and asked the Programme Committee to arrange the details.

The report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Chairman, Dr. H.

Krayenbühl. He pointed out that estimates of the costs of the congress indicated there would be a considerable deficit. There was a possibility that this would be met by a gift from the Danish government and a grant from the National Institute of Health, USA. But even with this support, it was felt necessary to charge a registration fee of approximately Dkr 300 (US \$ 40). One way of reducing costs would be to publish the abstracts of the papers in only one language, effectively saving US \$ 13,000.

This suggestion, however, drew considerable criticism. The official languages of the Congress would be English, French, German and Spanish. Simultaneous translation of the meetings in the Main Hall would be provided in these four languages. One of the delegates noted that the desire to have the abstracts in four languages stemmed partly from the prestige this gave to those nations whose native tongues were used in the programme. A number of combinations of languages was suggested. The ultimate proposal was that all abstracts would be published in English and that those submitted in one of the other official languages would also appear in that language. The move to adopt this plan was carried. The editor of the proceedings, Dr. A. de Vet, stated that *Excerpta Medica* would publish the congress volumes.

The Congress

The Third International Congress was held in the Falkoner Centret in Copenhagen, Denmark, 22nd-27th August 1965 under the High Patronage of His Majesty the King of Denmark. It was attended by eight hundred and fifty-four active partici-



Audience at Opening Ceremony Third International Congress, Copenhagen 1965

pants from fifty-one countries, and three hundred and twenty-nine accompanying persons. In Copenhagen there was an Honorary Committee to the Congress composed of the Minister of Education, the Director and Former Director of National Health Service, the Mayor of Copenhagen and the Mayor of Frederiksberg.

Opening Ceremony

The Congress was inaugurated on Sunday evening, 22nd August, by a well-attended and delightful welcoming reception at the Falkoner Centret during which refreshments were served. The official opening, held on Monday morning, featured an enjoyable choral presentation. President Busch greeted the Congress with the following address.

‘To you, members of our World Federation, a most hearty welcome! It is with special gratification that we note the presence of two of our Honorary Presidents, Herbert Olivecrona, my teacher, and Paul Bucy, the President of the never-to-be-forgotten congress in Washington. To these and some others I am able to say welcome back again to Copenhagen, because the first international meeting of neurosurgeons was held in this city in August 1939 as a section of the International Congress of Neurology in those last fateful days just before World War II. At that time, twenty-four persons from seven countries were present, this number including wives; today we are more than one thousand from fifty-one different countries.

Since our last meeting, some of our friends are no longer with us; we treasure their memory. They have set their mark upon our work and have trained worthy successors who fill this hall.

Problems have changed, some have been solved and others arisen. One of the greatest problems of modern society, that of traumatic injury to the nervous system, especially by traffic accidents, is one of our main themes at this meeting and for the first time we shall have an overall picture of the magnitude and seriousness of this world problem which every year claims an ever greater number of victims. Neurosurgery must assume an increasingly important part in meeting this challenge. Our second main theme is the brain stem which through new techniques has become a central problem; in addition, many carefully selected papers deal with other important aspects of our work.

To gather knowledge and to apply that knowledge to human beings with all the skill and sympathy we can command is our daily work. To share knowledge is the purpose of this congress, where we meet, not divided by race, creed or colour, but as fellow neurosurgeons, and consequently, as friends.

In the hope that we, in the words of Steno, by combining our labours, our industries and our studies, shall make some progress in our task, I declare the Third International Congress of Neurological Surgery open.’

Scientific Programme

The Programme Committee had felt it important that all participants should have a chance to listen to all papers of the congress, including the films. All parts of the programme had, therefore, been included in general sessions to be held in the Main Hall of the Centre. This was also the reason that only a minority of the large number of papers sent to the committee could be selected to be read.

The opening programme on the morning of Monday 23rd August was a broad survey, reporting from a number of areas of the world with effective neurosurgical service, of the organization required to cope with patients with acute head injury, including transport problems. This survey was followed by a panel discussion. The rest of the day dealt with problems related to acute head injuries, in films and

World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies
Third International Congress of Neurological Surgery
Copenhagen, August 23-28, 1965
November 2, 1965

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

At the Third International Congress of Neurological Surgery held in Copenhagen, August 21-27, 1965, the primary theme was trauma to the nervous system. Reports were made by representatives of many nations of the world regarding the frequency, severity and sequelae of injuries to the nervous system. On the basis of these reports which indicated that injuries were the most common cause of death in people between the ages of 1 and 44, that head injuries were responsible for approximately 2/3 of these deaths and that the frequency and severity of head injuries was progressively increasing in all countries of the world, the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies, unanimously passed the following resolution which they asked that I bring to your attention.

‘The World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies, having devoted the first day of the III International Congress of Neurological Surgery to the subject of Acute Head Injuries, wishes to draw the attention of all appropriate Government authorities, Universities and centres of medical education to the increasing frequency and severity of head injury due to traffic, industry, sport and home accidents and the consequent mortality and economic disability.

The World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies recommends that the appropriate Government authorities, the Universities and centres of medical education explore ways and means of meeting this problem by:

1. Energetic propaganda for prevention (for instance, improved designs of both vehicles and roads, research into the mechanics of crash-injuries).
2. Improving and expanding accident services.
3. Creating and expanding the facilities for neurosurgical care and here the Neurosurgical Societies are in a particularly favourable position to offer specific and detailed recommendation.’

The representative of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies in your country and its delegate or delegates is given below, in case you would wish to communicate with them in setting up a national program related to head injuries.

Sincerely yours,
(signed)
A. Earl Walker, M.D.

AEW/ke



President E. Busch (centre) and the Secretaries, A.E. Walker and D.W.C. Northfield at the technical exhibition during the Third International Congress

free papers. The Tuesday morning session was devoted to acute spinal injury with spinal cord damage. It was opened by some invited speakers, and followed by free papers on the same theme.

A symposium on the brainstem with papers by invited speakers followed by a panel discussion filled the entire Wednesday morning session. Wednesday afternoon was free for leisure. The remaining part of the scientific programme was spent on voluntary papers. The congress sessions were concluded on Friday afternoon with the reading of four selected papers, all discussed by a panel. In total, ninety-one papers were presented. Between the morning and afternoon sessions, twenty-six films were shown on a great variety of subjects. There were one hundred and ninety papers read by title. During the congress a scientific exhibition was also arranged consisting of ten stands and a technical exhibition with twenty stands.

The sessions on acute head and spinal cord injury were planned by President Busch himself, with the special purpose of facilitating the development and the organization of such a service and treatment in countries where, at that time, plans were being made to improve the neurosurgical treatment of patients with traumatic lesion of the brain and spinal cord. For this reason the full proceedings of the scientific programme were published by *Excerpta Medica* in two volumes. Volume II contained all papers and discussions dealing with traumatic lesions of the brain and spinal cord, useful not only to neurosurgeons, but also to other medical disciplines, hospital administrators and authorities in those countries planning a better neu-

rosurgical service for their population. Volume 1 contained all papers not dealing with acute lesions of the brain and spinal cord.

Soon after the congress, a letter was sent by the Secretary for Federation Affairs, Dr. A.E. Walker, to each individual Prime Minister of the countries of the member societies, to demand that attention be given to the increasing problems related to injuries of the nervous system due to accidents, and to the need for active governmental involvement.

Social Programme

On Wednesday evening the official Banquet took place at the Falkoner Centret, preceded by cocktails. During the banquet, the officers of the Federation expressed the gratitude of the congress members for the superb hospitality and conviviality of their Danish friends. After the dinner there was music, dancing and an open bar.

On the evening of Thursday, 26th August, a reception was given by the City Council of Copenhagen at the City Hall. Later, there was a reception by the Town Council of Frederiksberg at the Town Hall of Frederiksberg where a buffet supper was served. Both receptions were accessible to all active participants and associate members.

An extensive Ladies' Programme was organized by the spouses of Danish officers and colleagues, including a sightseeing tour of Copenhagen, an excursion by bus to North Zealand with lunch, a fur fashion show and tea at the Hotel d'Angleterre, visits to some social institutions, and a demonstration of Danish cooking at Axelberg, Hammerichsgade. Several informal parties were a feature of the hospitality of the Danish colleagues and their families.

On the afternoon of Friday, 27th August, a short and colourful Concluding Ceremony took place at the Falkoner Centret. The newly elected officers of the Federation were introduced. President Busch bade the participants of the Congress a fond farewell with the following speech.

'And now, in this our third neurosurgical congress, the last paper is finished and the last discussion closed. Old friends have met and many new friendships, I am sure, have been formed. I want to thank you, members of the Federation, for the work done here and for the spirit in which it was done. At our opening meeting we stated that the purpose of the congress was to share knowledge. In view of the new knowledge presented in the many splendid papers I believe that this purpose has been achieved to a quite satisfactory degree.

I was today informed that I have been chosen Honorary President of this Federation, an offer I accept with the greatest appreciation and with a very good conscience, because I know that I have been admirably trained to be just that, having been nothing else during the whole four years of my presidency. All the real work has been done by others. I thank the various committees, most especially the Executive Committee, for work seriously and responsibly done. But most of all, and from the bottom of my heart. I thank my officers. I am sure that no president has had officers more loyal, hard-working and friendly, Earl Walker, Douglas Northfield, Bendt Broager, Hugo Krayenbühl, Richard Malmros, Arnold de Vet, William Beecher Scoville. Only I know what this Federation and I, personally, owe to you. For my part, I shall never forget.

And so this congress comes to its end. I hand over the gavel to your new President after having used it for the last time, and I do it with the wish that this World Federation in the time to come will go forward in a spirit of vigour, thoughtfulness and friendship.'

Executive Committee Meetings

The Executive Committee of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies convened on Sunday morning, 22nd, Tuesday afternoon, 24th, and Thursday morning, 26th August 1965 at the Falkoner Centret, Copenhagen. The meetings were attended by eight officers and forty-two delegates representing twenty-five member societies.

At the beginning of the congress the World Federation consisted of twenty-eight national, regional and continental member societies and seven affiliate member societies, representing well over three thousand neurosurgeons. At the time the members of the Administrative Council also constituted the Congress Committee. Dr. E. Busch was President of the Federation and the Congress. In addition to the Administrative Council and the Executive Committee, the Federation had seven other committees, namely: Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, Programme Committee, Liaison Committee of the Federation, Finance Committee, Nominating Committee, Membership Committee and Committee on Local Arrangements for the International Neurosurgical Congress.

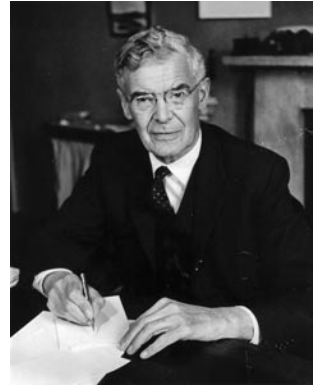
The Secretary for Federation Affairs announced that a number of neurologists had requested one day visits to the Congress. For that purpose a special one day fee of Dkr 50 (us \$ 6.70) had been arranged, entitling the visitor to a copy of the programme and attendance at the meetings for one day.

Some remaining copies of the abstracts would be sold during the congress for Dkr 40 (us \$ 5.30) or could be obtained free by delegates of smaller countries on the last day of the congress for distribution to their young neurosurgeons. The Editor of Publications, Dr. A de Vet, reported that the final proceedings of the congress would be published by Excerpta Medica in about six months.

Seven national societies had applied for membership of the Federation, namely those of Korea, South Africa, Yugoslavia, Peru, Iran, Colombia and the USSR. Following a motion, the recommendations of the Administrative Council to accept these societies were approved. The Congreso Latino-Americano de Neurocirugía, represented by Dr. A. Asenjo, requested that its affiliation with the Federation be terminated since most of the South American Societies had independent national neurosurgical organizations affiliated with the WFNS. This request was accepted with regret.

Two amendments to the Constitution, involving the recognition of the Editor of the Publications and the Editor of the Federation Bulletin as members of the Administrative Council, were approved. The Secretary of the Liaison Committee, Dr. E. Walker, reported that arrangements had been made for a semi-combined congress with the World Federation of Neurology in New York, 21st-27th September 1969 at the New York Hilton Hotel.

The Treasurer, Dr. H. Krayenbühl, reported that approximately us \$ 10,000 had been collected in fees, us \$ 3,000 in gifts for the congress and that some us \$ 6,000 would remain in the treasury at the end of the fiscal year. With a donation of Dkr 50,000 (us \$ 6,667) from the Danish government, the expenses of the Congress could be met.



Norman McO. Dott †
Honorary President

Following a ballot, Drs. P. Bucy, G. Norlén, D. Northfield, S. Obrador and K. Sano were elected as members of the Nominating Committee, which was installed by the President. This committee was to present the slate of new officers at the last meeting of the Executive Committee.

The President also appointed an Ad Hoc Committee of those reporting on acute head injuries in the Scientific Programme, to advise the Federation on appropriate measures for bringing this matter to the attention of governmental and medical bodies. The Ad Hoc Committee had drawn up the statement which they recommended be transmitted to governmental and medical authorities, as mentioned above. After extensive discussion, the recommendation of the committee was approved. Then, another Ad Hoc Committee was appointed by the President to continue studies on ways and means of maintaining interest and activity in the resolution of the problems of head injury. The membership of this committee consisted of Drs. K. Elliot, R. Frowein, E. Gurdjian, K. Jamieson, A. de Vasconcellos Marques (Chairman), J. Potter, K. Sano, R. Vigouroux, K. Kristiansen, and as ex officio members E. Busch (President), D. Northfield (Secretary of Congress Affairs) and A.E. Walker (Secretary of Federation Affairs). This marked the birth of the present Committee on Neurotraumatology, the name adopted in Prague in 1971. In New York in 1969, new members would reinforce the committee. They were: Drs. J. Brihaye, J. Christensen, A. El-Banhawy, J. Evans, B. Guidetti, S. Ishii, S. Lindgren, A. Ommaya, A. Taylor and E. Zander.

The Nominating Committee presented the slate of officers, which was approved by the Executive Committee. Dr. A.E. Walker was elected President; Drs. E. Busch and N. Dott were appointed Honorary Presidents. It was also decided to create the offices of the First and Second Vice-Presidents in place of that of Vice-President. Dr. A. Asenjo was elected as Second Vice-President.

References

- Anonymous: World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies. Meeting of Executive Committee. *J. Neurosurg.* 1964, 21: 163-164
- Brihaye, J.: Some Notes on the History of the Committee on Neurotraumatology (CNT) of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies (WFNS) from 1965 to 1979. In: N. Nakamura, T. Hashimoto, M. Yasue (eds.): *Recent Advances in Neurotraumatology*. Tokyo, Springer-Verlag 1993: xxiii-xxxvi
- Programme Book of the III International Congress of Neurological Surgery, Copenhagen 1965
- Vet, A.C. de (ed.): *Third International Congress of Neurological Surgery, Copenhagen 1965*. Vol. 1.: Invited lectures, abstracts motion pictures, scientific exhibits. Amsterdam, Excerpta Medica Foundation, 1965, 241 pp
- Vet, A.C. de (ed.): *Third International Congress of Neurological Surgery, Copenhagen 1965*. Vol.2. Proceedings: I. Acute head injuries, II Acute spinal injuries, III Brain stem, IV Recent advances in Neurosurgery. Amsterdam, Excerpta Medica Foundation, 1966, 879 pp
- Walker, A.E.: *The History of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies*. New Mexico, University of New Mexico Printing Plant, 1985, 141 pp

 HONORARY PRESIDENTS AND OFFICERS ELECTED IN COPENHAGEN 1965

Honorary Presidents

E. Busch (Denmark)
N. Dott (UK)

Federation Officers 1965-1969
President:

A.E. Walker (USA)

1st Vice-President:

A.I. Arutyunov (USSR)

2nd Vice-President:

A. Asenjo (Chile)

Secretary for Federation Affairs:

K. Kristiansen (Norway)

Secretary for Congress Affairs:

C.S. MacCarty (USA)

Assistant Secretary for Congress Affairs:

R. King (USA)

Treasurer:

L. Pool (USA)

Assistant Treasurer:

R. Arana Iñiguez (Uruguay)

Editor of Federation Bulletin:

W.B. Scoville (USA)

Editor of Congress Publications:

C.G. Drake (Canada)

**Liaison Committee of the combined International Neurological /
Neurosurgical Congresses New York 1969:**

(all from USA)

H.H. Merritt	President of the International Neurological Congress
A.E. Walker	President of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies
M.D. Yahr	Secretary-General of the International Neurological Congress
C.S. MacCarty	Secretary of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies
M. Bender	Treasurer of the International Neurological Congress
L.J. Pool	Treasurer of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies
