NOTES

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

BUSINESS MEETING, JULY, 1952

THE following is a short résumé of the main business conducted by the International Council of Ophthalmology at its meeting at Oxford on July 3 and 4, 1952.

Those present were Duke-Elder (*President*—in the Chair), Berens (*Vice-President*), Hartmann (*Secretary*), Alvaro (*Brazil*), Argañaraz (*Argentine*), Bietti (*Italy*), Law (*Great Britain*), Löhlein (*Germany*), Samuels (*U.S.A.*), Velter (*France*), Bailliar (Committee for the Prevention of Blindness), MacCallan (League against Trachoma). Copper (Secretary for the *Indicia*), Fritz (Secretary for Internationalization), and Dunnington (Vice-President of the International Congress, 1954) were also in attendance.

The deaths of van der Hoeve and Kapuściński were regretfully recorded and the resignations of Tooke and Nakamura received. Charamis (*Greece*), Duggan (*India*), and Stuart Ramsay (*Canada*) were elected in their places.

In the internationalization of visual standards the questions of standardizing optotypes, colour vision, light sense, visual requirements for transport, and tonometry were referred to their respective committees for further study. The study of the requirements of education in ophthalmology in different countries of the world was similarly referred.

The future of the *Indicia* was discussed and it was decided that a more comprehensive volume should be published at each International Congress, containing, in addition to a directory of ophthalmologists, a list of ophthalmological hospitals and journals throughout the world, as well as extracts of the minutes and activities of the International Council. It was suggested that the volume should be sold at each International Congress and that its name should be changed in the interests of linguistic purity to *Index Ophthalmologicus*.

New statutes for the International Federation,* the International Council, and the International Congresses were further studied; these will be presented to the Federation at the International Congress in New York in 1954.

The University of Lausanne is again to present a Gonin Medal at this Congress and it was agreed that the recipient chosen by the Council should first give a lecture at the University of Lausanne before he receives the award at the International Congress.

The Treasurer's report showed that a number of countries were in considerable arrears in their subscriptions to the International Council. It was confirmed that such countries should not participate in the deliberations of the Federation unless their subscriptions were fully paid before 1954.

The "International Dictionary of Ophthalmological Terms" which is being prepared under the authority of the Council will be published in Switzerland by Karger without financial responsibility on the part of the Council.

* It may not be universally known that the International Federation is made up of a delegate from each National Society and meets at each International Congress; the International Council is appointed by the Federation and acts as its executive body.

The following decisions were made regarding the International Congress to be held in 1954. The Congress will take place in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City, from September 13-17, 1954. The three administrative languages will be English, French, and Spanish. The two main subjects for discussion will be

- (1) Primary Glaucoma—to be opened by Vail of Chicago (general considerations and aetiology), Thiel of Frankfurt (medical treatment), and Sourdille of Nantes (surgical treatment);
- (2) Aetiology of Uveitis—to be opened by Woods of Baltimore (general considerations), Ashton of London (allergic factors), and Cavara of Rome (role of viruses).

Subscription to the Congress will be, for those living outside the North American continent, full members 15\$, associate and scientific associate members 5\$; that for those living within the North American continent will be fixed by the American Committee organizing the Congress.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in Paris on June 20, 1953.

E. HARTMANN (*Secretary*)

FACULTY OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

STUDY TOURS, 1952

FRANCE

Nantes.—Professor Sourdille did an intracapsular extraction, two iridencleises, and two lamellar and two perforating grafts with consummate skill at his private clinic. Owing to war damage, the hospital services are now carried on in St. Jaques, previously a mental hospital, reconstructed. The wards are divided into small units containing three beds only. There are two theatres where we watched operating by Professor Sourdille and Professor Legrand. It was a joy to see the latter remove an intumescent cataract using a syringe type erisophake. The pathology department contained the latest equipment and there we saw numbers of pathological and experimental sections and sensitivity tests for antibiotics. More operations were seen at the private clinics.

Bordeaux.—Here we visited the Hospital of St. Andrew where Professor Beauvieux and his colleagues showed several cases in the wards and afterwards demonstrated sections of sclerectomies made by the great master, Lagrange. This was a great occasion. Professor Beauvieux showed slides of the lamina cribrosa after injection of the central retinal artery to prove that it is not supplied by this vessel. The importance of the circulation here was stressed in relation to the genesis of cupping. At the Children's Hospital, Professor Pesme operated and showed a large number of cases, retrolental fibroplasia, buphthalmia, retinitis pigmentosa sine pigmento, aniridia, and a suspect toxoplasmosis.

Tours.—Professor Mercier showed us the Eye Department of the State Hospital. A portable applicator for beta-irradiation of the cornea, and the container used for transport of cadaver eyes were objects of interest. Clinical cases included retrolental