

## NOTES

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL CONGRESS, 1953

At the 121st Annual Congress of the B.M.A., held in Cardiff, J. W. Tudor Thomas was installed as President on July 13, 1953. It will be recalled that only five ophthalmologists—Reeve (*Toronto*), Snell (*Sheffield*), Harvey Smith (*Winnipeg*), Sir James Barrett (*Melbourne*), and Sichel (*Capetown*)—have previously been honoured with the presidency of the Association, and Tudor Thomas's year falls exactly 100 years after the first occasion when the Annual Meeting was held in Wales (Swansea, 1853). Charles Hastings, the founder of the Association, once enjoined his colleagues to serve "with head, and heart, and hand"; and this phrase was a happy choice for the title of Mr. Tudor Thomas's presidential address, which ranged widely over the field of general medicine, as well as dealing with advances in ophthalmology.

The President's Reception was held at the National Museum of Wales. On this occasion, and in the course of their numerous other engagements throughout the Congress, Mr. and Mrs. Tudor Thomas communicated an atmosphere of informality and individual welcome. He presided with a distinction which was rendered all the more effective by the support of his charming lady.

Mr. Tudor Thomas also found time to attend part of the meeting of the Section of Ophthalmology, where two subjects were discussed. Mr. G. I. Scott (*Edinburgh*) and Dr. Leonard Howells (*Cardiff*) gave opening papers on "The Ocular Complications of Diabetes", and were followed by Mr. A. B. Nutt (*Sheffield*). The other subject, "The Scope of Corneal Graft Surgery", was opened by Mr. B. W. Rycroft (*London*), and subsequent speakers were Mr. E. C. Zorab (*Southampton*), Mr. J. Ayoub (*London*), and Mr. A. G. Leigh (*London*).

The officers of the Section were:

PRESIDENT: J. H. Doggart (*London*).

VICE-PRESIDENTS: Rupert J. Parry (*Cardiff*), Roy Thomas (*Swansea*), Eugene Wolff (*London*);

HONORARY SECRETARIES: Bernard Gluck (*Cardiff*), A. J. B. GOLDSMITH (*London*).

## XVII INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF OPHTHALMOLOGY, 1954

READERS of the Journal will recall from the minutes of the International Council published in our August issue that this body recommended that the XVII International Congress should be extended in scope and time, the suggestion being that it should open in Montreal on September 10, 1954, and that Congressists should travel from that city on September 12 to New York, where meetings will be continued until September 17. The following week the Annual meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology will also be held in New York. Final particulars of these arrangements will be published in the immediate future by the Executive Committee of the Congress in the U.S.A.

*Finance*.—In order to help those who would find it difficult to attend the Congress for financial reasons, two potential sources of money are available:

(a) The Faculty of Ophthalmologists has set aside a fund in sterling for financial assistance in this respect. A sub-committee has been set up to recommend to the Faculty the allocation of this money; those wishing to make application should do so to Mr. Frank Law at 36, Devonshire Place, London, S.W.1. Such applicants should be of British nationality.

(b) The International Council of Ophthalmology has allocated the surplus funds available from the XVI International Congress (London, 1952) to the same object. The committee in charge of the allocation of these funds is composed of the officers of the Council, and application should be made to Dr. Edward Hartmann at 2, Avenue Ingres, Paris, XVIe. Applicants for a grant from this source may be of any nationality.

In each case grants will be given to those who propose to make a substantial contribution to the proceedings of the Congress, but who would otherwise find it difficult to meet the whole of the necessary financial outlay of travel to North America. Applications should be made before December 31, 1953.

*Travel.*—The task of making provisional travel arrangements in connection with the XVII International Congress of Ophthalmology has been entrusted by the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom and the Faculty of Ophthalmologists to Sir Stewart Duke-Elder and Mr. Frank Law.

Special arrangements have been made by the Cunard Line for the *Samaria* (20,000 tons) to sail from Southampton and Le Havre on September 1, 1954, so that delegates to the Congress may arrive directly in Canada on September 9, in good time for the opening meeting. It is imperative that intending delegates should communicate immediately with the Cunard Steamship Company Ltd. (Mr. H. S. Taylor), Cunard Bldg., 15, Lower Regent Street, London, S.W.1., stating whether tourist or first class berths are required.

Single fares by sea from Southampton: Tourist Class, £55 10s; First Class, £83 upwards; from Le Havre: Tourist Class, \$160; First Class, \$240.50 upwards.

Delegates who prefer to arrive in Montreal a few days before the Congress begins will have a choice of suitable sailings with either the Cunard or the Canadian Pacific Line (e.g., *Empress of France*, arriving Montreal September 3).

Eastbound sailings from New York after the Congress are scheduled as follows:

September 17 *Media* (New York to Liverpool).

September 18 *Mauretania* (New York to Southampton *via* Cobh [Queenstown] and Le Havre).

September 22 *Queen Mary* (New York to Southampton *via* Cherbourg).

September 29 *Queen Elizabeth* (New York to Southampton *via* Cherbourg).

Ocean fares for the homeward passage will be subject to the lower off-season rates.

The officially appointed agents in the U.S.A. are the American Express Co. Inc. Messrs Thomas Cook and Son Ltd., are also acting as agents in the United Kingdom. Detailed information regarding air and sea passages, and also air and rail fares between Montreal and New York will be available next month.

## HONOURS

MR. J. H. DOGGART, F.R.C.S., has been elected to the Court of Examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons of England as an examiner in the final F.R.C.S. with Ophthalmology.

MR. A. B. NUTT, F.R.C.S., has been appointed to a Hunterian Professorship at the Royal College of Surgeons of England.