

Minutes of the 25th General Assembly of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes

Held in Hall A of the Lisbon International Fair, Lisbon, Portugal on Friday, 22 September, 1989 at 10.30 hours

Present: Dr. P. Freychet (President, in the Chair)
Dr. C. Hellerström (Editor-in-Chief, *Diabetologia*)
Dr. R. Landgraf (Honorary Secretary)
Dr. J. Ward (Honorary Treasurer)
and 287 Members

The President welcomed all those present and expressed the Association's thanks to Dr. Nunes-Correa and the members of the Local Organising Committee for the arrangements which had been made for the meeting in Lisbon, which had attracted the largest attendance of any Annual Meeting to date. He also thanked the Portuguese Diabetic Association, the oldest such organisation in the world, for their cooperation in hosting the Meeting.

With much regret, the President reported the death of Professor Sir Frank Young, a former President of the Association; and commented briefly on his many contributions throughout a long and distinguished career. Dr. Freychet further reported the deaths of Dr. Fikret Biyal, former President of the Turkish Diabetes Association and of Dr. Ivo Drury, President of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, an exceptional colleague who contributed both professionally and personally to diabetology in Ireland and in service to the Association. The General Assembly stood in silence in their memory.

1. Minutes, 24th General Assembly, 1988

The Minutes of the 24th General Assembly held in Paris on 7 September, 1988, having been printed in *Diabetologia*, Vol. 32, No. 7, 1989 and in the Volume of Abstracts were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the President.

2. Reports

a) President: The President began his report by expressing his thanks to the local organisers of the 1988 Annual Meeting in Paris, especially Drs. Tchobroutsky, Lubetzki and Guillausseau, for their efforts in arranging this very successful meeting.

Dr. Freychet continued by reporting that the past year had been very active, and the membership of the Association continues to grow. He reported that the Secretariat had now been in full operation in Düsseldorf for over a year, and thanked the Executive Director, Dr. V. Jörgens and the Administrator, Ms. C. Tripp for their smooth handling of the transition and assumption of their responsibilities. He thanked Mr. J. Jackson, former Executive Director, for his continuing assistance and help on some matters of accounts. The President commented that the finances of the Association are in a healthy state, and would be reported on further by the Honorary Treasurer, Dr. Ward; and that the Honorary Secretary, Dr. Landgraf would be reporting on the first Albert Renold Fellowship. He looked forward to receiving the first report of Dr. Hellerström as the

Editor-in-Chief of *Diabetologia*, and expressed his thanks for the smooth transition of the editorial office from Düsseldorf to Uppsala.

Dr. Freychet expressed the Association's gratitude to the family of the late Maria Carla Castelli Pedrolì for their sponsorship of the Camillo Golgi Lecture, delivered this year by Dr. G. Bolli. He also

Table 1. Income and expenditure account for year ended 31 December, 1988

Income	1987		1988	
	£	£	£	£
<i>Subscriptions</i>				
Active Members	37,506		43,569	
Supporting/Associate Members	<u>11,005</u>		<u>10,039</u>	
		48,511		53,608
Donations and other income		<u>10,575</u>		<u>12,739</u>
		59,086		66,347
<i>EASD Travel Fund:</i>				
Novo Industri A/S Grant	4,874		4,606	
Pfizer International Grant	3,127		2,934	
Donations and other income	<u>1,741</u>		<u>1,187</u>	
		9,742		8,727
<i>EASD Annual Meetings Fund:</i>				
Surplus: 1986 Meeting	20,000		—	
Surplus: 1988 Meeting	—		25,000	
Repayment of Loan: 1988 Mtg	—		4,000	
Other income	<u>2,906</u>		<u>3,134</u>	
		22,906		32,134
<i>EASD Guarantee Fund:</i>				
Interest earned		1,744		3,471
<i>EASD Journal Fund:</i>				
Interest & other income		1,736		—
<i>Mollegaard BB RAT Fellowship Fund:</i>				
Receipts		—		1,380
Total Income	£	<u>95,214</u>	£	<u>112,059</u>
<i>Expenditure:</i>				
<i>London Office:</i>				
Salaries	27,045		23,011	
Rent	2,500		1,667	
Office expenses	5,409		1,426	
Audit Fee	300		250	
Executive Ctee expenses	1,309		1,352	
Bank charges	592		241	
Depreciation	1,329		—	
Travel costs	1,971		726	
Membership List	2,245		—	
Office transfer costs	—		<u>4,862</u>	
		42,700		33,535
<i>Düsseldorf Office:</i>				
Salaries	—		10,671	
Rent	—		1,210	
Office expenses	—		5,203	
Office transfer costs	—		458	
13th IDF Congress attendance	—		1,164	
Bank charges	—		<u>378</u>	
				19,084
				<u>52,619</u>

Table 1. Income and expenditure account for year ended 31 december, 1988

Income	1987		1988	
	£	£	£	£
<i>Allocations:</i>				
Grant Postgraduate Education		—, —		9,499
Annual Meeting: Secretariat expenses		7,776		8,244
Travel Grants awarded		18,472		17,966
Mollegaard BB Rat Fellowship		—, —		—, 500
Total Expenditure:		£ 68,948		£ 88,828
<i>Surplus/Deficit carried to Balance Sheet:</i>				
EASD Travel Fund		(8,731)		(9,239)
EASD Annual Meetings Fund		15,131		23,890
EASD Guarantee Fund		1,744		3,471
EASD Journal Fund		1,736		—, —
Mollegaard BB Rat Fellowship Fund		—, —		880
Accumulated General Fund		16,386		4,229
		£ 26,266		£ 23,231
<i>Cash at banks:</i>				
London	258,196		245,713	
Geneva	32,245		21,643	
Düsseldorf	—, —		32,752	
		290,441		300,108
Add: Sums receivable		24,049		30,835
		314,490		330,943
Less: Sums payable		(3,501)		(6,443)
		£ 310,989		£ 324,500
<i>Represented by:</i>				
<i>Accumulated General Fund:</i>				
Balance at 1 January 1988	117,255		135,385	
Less: Difference on conversion	—, —		(4,456)	
	117,255		130,929	
ADD: Surplus for year	16,386		4,229	
Transfer from Ann. Mtg. Fd.	1,744		7,758	
		135,385		142,916
<i>EASD Travel Fund:</i>				
Balance at 1 January 1988	25,000		16,269	
Less: Deficit for year	(8,731)		(9,239)	
Add: Transfer from Ann. Mtg. Fd.	—, —		12,970	
		16,269		20,000
<i>EASD Annual Meetings Fund:</i>				
Balance at 1 January 1988	50,000		45,131	
Add: — Surplus for year	15,131		23,890	
	65,131		69,021	
Transfer to General Fund	(1,744)		(7,758)	
Transfer to Travel Fund	—, —		(12,970)	
Transfer to Journal Fund	—, —		(1,764)	
Transfer to Guarantee Fund	(18,256)		(6,529)	
		45,131		40,000
<i>EASD Guarantee Fund:</i>				
Balance at 1 January 1988	30,000		50,000	
Add: — Surplus for year	1,744		3,471	
Transfer from Ann. Mtg. Fd.	18,256		6,529	
		50,000		60,000
<i>EASD Journal Fund:</i>				
Balance at 1 January 1988	2,500		4,236	
Add: Surplus for year	1,736		—, —	
Transfer from Ann. Mtg. Fd.	—, —		1,764	
		4,236		6,000
<i>Mollegaard BB Rat Fellowship Fund:</i>				
Balance at 1 January 1988	—, —		—, —	
Add: — Surplus for year	—, —		880	
		—, —		880
<i>Subscriptions Received in Advance:</i>				
Active Members	32,222		28,615	
Journal subscriptions	27,746		26,089	
		59,968		54,704
		£ 310,989		£ 324,500

expressed gratitude to Hoechst AG for their sponsorship of the Minkowski Prize; the lecture this year given by Dr. H. Häring; and to Association de Recherches Paul Neumann for their continued sponsorship of the Claude Bernard Lecture, this year given by Dr. G. Tchobroutsky. The President expressed his pleasure in announcing that the Council had elected Dr. K. G. M. M. Alberti to give the Claude Bernard Lecture in Copenhagen in 1990.

The President concluded his remarks by expressing the Association's gratitude to Novo-Nordisk for their support of the Volume of Abstracts; to Novo-Nordisk and Pfizer Int'l for their continued generous support of travel grants to younger members of the Association; and to the Supporting and Associate Members of the Association for their continued support and participation in the commercial exhibitions at the annual meetings.

b) Honorary Treasurer: Dr. Ward began his report by referring to the Income and Expenditure Account, drawing attention to the fact that membership income increased by 6000 pounds sterling. Income from bank interest and donations rose slightly, but travel grant and corporate membership income fell. The final amount of the surplus received from the Paris meeting is not yet known; an estimated amount has been included in these accounts. Total income rose by over 16,000 pounds sterling.

Against this, total expenditure rose by nearly 20,000 pounds sterling, representing the expected increase in administrative costs during the transition of the Secretariat from London to Düsseldorf. Despite the burden of maintaining two offices during the year, the Association was able to achieve a modest surplus of 4000 pounds sterling on general funds, even after allowing for the grant of 10,000 pounds made to the Post Graduate Education Subcommittee. The Association's total reserves at year end amounted to 324,000 pounds sterling, the bulk of which is held in London, where the interest rates are more favourable.

Dr. Ward pointed out that the Funds are a representation of how the monies of the Association are spent. He further commented that the Travel Fund, although increased to 20,000 pounds for 1988, was not fully spent, and encouraged younger members of the Association who would like to attend the Annual Meetings to apply for these funds. Regarding the Journal Fund, the Honorary Treasurer pointed out that, due to German tax regulations the funds for journals should be handled from London. Further, he reported that the Council had decided that the Secretariat administration of journal subscriptions for the membership would, effective 1 January 1990, be limited to orders for *Diabetologia* only.

Dr. Ward continued his report by pointing out that the steady-state costs for the Düsseldorf Secretariat were not yet possible to ascertain from these accounts, although it is clear that the increase in membership has greatly increased the administrative workload. He commented that, although the assets of the Association seem high for a non-profit organisation, he has received expert advice that for the amount of turnover on the accounts, this is a normal balance.

The Honorary Treasurer summarised his report by stating that, given the current health of the Association's finances, there is no need to increase the annual membership fee; further, regarding the Annual Meeting in Copenhagen, he announced that the registration fees would remain the same as for Lisbon, which had been reduced from the previous year; this would represent a further reduction in the cost of registration, because the Copenhagen meeting will be more expensive than Lisbon.

Dr. Ward concluded his remarks by expressing his thanks to Dr. Jörgens, Ms. Tripp and Mr. Jackson for their cooperation and extra work during the transition of the Secretariat.

Dr. H. Keen, commenting on the very healthy assets of the Association, agreed that the Association's current turnover between as-

Table 2. Membership. Figures for membership at the end of 1988 compared to previous years

	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983
At 31 Dec.	2918	2317	2181	1839	1901	1677

Table 3. Breakdown of membership

	31.12. 1988	31.12. 1987
Algeria	0	0
Argentina	8	7
Australia	42	33
Austria	34	28
Bahrain	1	1
Bangladesh	1	1
Belgium	111	103
Brazil	4	1
Bulgaria	16	12
Canada	26	22
Chile	3	1
China, P.R.	1	0
Colombia	1	1
Costa Rica	0	0
Cuba	1	0
Cyprus	5	3
Czechoslovakia	46	43
Denmark	212	179
Dominican Republic	1	1
Egypt	8	6
Finland	68	50
France	237	116
Germany (GDR)	40	37
Germany (FRG)	218	180
Greece	82	61
Hong Kong	0	1
Hungary	34	30
Iceland	2	2
India	6	6
Indonesia	0	1
Ireland	13	12
Israel	36	30
Italy	284	264
Jamaica	0	0
Japan	32	23
Kenya	0	1
Korea (South)	4	4
Kuwait	3	3
Lebanon	1	0
Libya	0	0
Luxembourg	1	1
Malaysia	2	2
Mexico	1	0
Morocco	1	1
Netherlands	123	112
New Zealand	5	1
Norway	56	45
Oman	0	0
Pakistan	0	0
Paraguay	1	1
Peru	0	0
Poland	21	16
Portugal	40	28
Qatar	1	0
Romania	41	15
Saudi Arabia	10	10
South Africa	8	4
Spain	96	68
Sudan	0	0
Sweden	219	166
Switzerland	101	82
Taiwan	3	1
Tanzania	1	0
Thailand	2	1
Tunisia	1	0
Turkey	9	6
United Emirates	1	0
United Kingdom	404	349
USA	164	138
USSR	13	1
Yugoslavia	9	6
Zimbabwe	1	1

Table 4. EASD Annual Meetings

1990	10-14 September	Copenhagen	Denmark
1991	10-14 September	Dublin	Ireland
1992	September	Prague	Czechoslovakia
1993	September	Istanbul	Turkey
1994	September	Düsseldorf	West Germany
1995	September	Stockholm	Sweden

sets and expenditure was most probably the norm, but suggested other possibilities for investment should be investigated. Dr. Ward pointed out that the funds of the Association are currently invested in non-speculative, interest-bearing accounts, but agreed that more advantageous investment possibilities could be considered.

c) Honorary Auditors: Drs. H. Beck-Nielsen and D. Pometta confirmed that the 1988 accounts were in good order, and discharged the Honorary Treasurer from responsibility. Having asked for comments or questions, the President received the approval of the General Assembly of the accounts for 1988.

d) Honorary Secretary: Dr. Landgraf began his report by reporting that the number of active members of the Association now exceeds well over 3000, with a considerable number of new members being enrolled during the Lisbon meeting. He pointed out that only members who are recorded by the Secretariat as paid-up would be included in the new directory of members, to be published later this year. He encouraged members to check their addresses at the EASD stand before the close of the Meeting.

Dr. Landgraf reported that the Association had received the greatest number of abstracts ever submitted for an annual meeting, 1227; a considerable number were over-length. In May the members of the Programme Committee, Drs. Micossi, Nielsen, Nunes-Correa and Pipeleers, met with the Honorary Secretary and, having completed anonymous review accepted 569 abstracts for presentation at the Lisbon meeting. This resulted in an acceptance rate of 46%, with a mean score cut-off 3.4 for acceptance. The number of accepted abstracts was approximately the same as for the Rome and Paris meetings. He pointed out that accepting scores above 3.8 would have yielded an increase of 327 abstracts at a 73% acceptance rate. He further commented on the high acceptance rate of multi-national studies and that Great Britain and Italy continue to lead in the number of submitted abstracts, as well as, with Denmark, to produce the highest number of abstracts accepted for presentation.

In response to criticism over the scoring and acceptance rate of abstracts, the Honorary Secretary summarised the results of a pilot programme comparing the scores of a sampling of abstracts by three referees with the scores of the Programme Committee in each of four topics: Immunology (Drs. Bottazzo, Di Maria, Lernmark), Islets (Drs. Hahn, Henquin, Sehlin), Metabolism (Drs. Ferrannini, Jeanrenaud, Koivisto) and Nephropathy (Drs. Jervell, Mathiesen, Viberti). The scoring of the referees was completely separate from that of the Programme Committee and also anonymous. In general, there was 80% compatibility between the scores of the Programme Committee and the referees; the topic with the greatest degree of scoring discrepancy was Metabolism. Dr. Landgraf stated his recommendation that the current system of anonymous review by a programme committee instituted six years ago be continued in order to avoid introducing bias and other priorities into the abstract evaluation process. He warmly thanked the members of the Programme Committee, Dr. Jörgens and Ms. Tripp for their thorough work and efforts for this year's programme.

Dr. Landgraf reported that out of 117 travel grant applications received, 106 had been awarded, totalling nearly 18,000 pounds sterling; no more than 3 awards had been given to one department. He expressed the Association's thanks to Novo-Nordisk and Pfizer for their continued support of this funding. The Honorary Secretary reported that the first Albert Renold Fellowship had been awarded to Dr. S. Sasson (Israel) for his collaborative research with Dr. Jeanrenaud in Geneva. Regarding other awards, he reported that the Møllegaard BB Rat Travel Fellowship had been awarded to Dr. J. Hoor-

far (Canada), the 1989 Minkowski Prize to Dr. H. Häring (FRG), and the 1989 Castelli Pedrolini Prize to Dr. G. Bolli (Italy). He congratulated the winners of these awards. Dr. Landgrad informed the Assembly that the 1990 closing date for submission of applications for these awards will be 1 February 1990; he further strongly encouraged younger members to apply for travel grants.

The Honorary Secretary concluded his remarks by thanking the members of the Lisbon Local Organising Committee, especially Dr. Nunes-Correa and Mrs. M. Nolasco, the Executive Committee and the Secretariat staff for their help in making the Lisbon meeting so successful.

The discussion which followed concerned the annual meeting programme. Dr. P. Randle commented that an increase in the accepted number of abstracts for poster presentation at the Copenhagen meeting would be most welcome; he also referred to discussion with other members and his letter sent to the President-Elect, Dr. Lefèbvre recommending that the acceptance rate be increased to 90%, eliminating only the abstracts of poorest quality. He stated that all members of the Association are equal, and all should be able to make a contribution to the Annual Meeting programme; he confirmed his confidence in the Programme Committee, but stated his opinion that members need to be able to decide for themselves which abstracts are of value, and which are not. In other remarks, it was mentioned that poster presentations should not be scheduled during the lunch period; that the quality of poster discussion sessions was of mixed quality; and that all abstracts submitted should be published.

Responding to these comments, the Honorary Secretary pointed out that increasing the number of accepted abstracts would increase both the number of participants at the Annual Meeting and the number of days to present all the data; this would drastically limit the number of suitable meeting venues and increase registration costs. He also pointed out that the poster discussion sessions were the responsibility of the Chairpersons; and that publication of all submitted abstracts would be very expensive and delay publication due to the necessary increase in editorial processing.

Dr. G. Menzinger commented that increasing the number of posters would not increase the efficacy of communication, and that the number of oral presentations could perhaps be reduced; he further recommended that Association funds be used to increase the participation of less active countries, especially the East Bloc, by means of travel and stayment grants. Dr. Keen commented that it should be a goal to include as many as possible of the submitted abstracts, and that more creative ways of presentation for the data should be found.

The President concluded the discussion by noting that, as members take the initiative to apply, the travel grants (given even to younger colleagues who are not authors or co-authors of accepted abstracts) and other forms of support would be increased, and that the percentage of accepted abstracts would depend on the number submitted and the local meeting venue capacity, which could fluctuate from year to year. He took this opportunity to relay the apology of Dr. R. Levine, who was unable to present his invited lecture on the centennial of Minkowski's discovery for the Lisbon meeting.

e) Editor-in-Chief, Diabetologia: Dr. Hellerström began his report by commenting on the successful transition of the editorial office from Düsseldorf to Uppsala, which after a three month overlap, took place on October 1, 1988. The editorial office, located in the same complex as Dr. Hellerström's department, is staffed by two editorial assistants (one full and one half time), who have very successfully adapted the editorial process to the new office. The finances of the editorial office are handled through the university.

The Editor-in-Chief reported that the anticipated annual number of manuscripts submitted for publication was approaching 500; he remarked that the global scope of the journal is reflected by the number and variety in countries from which manuscripts originate. Denmark continues to produce the greatest number of manuscripts accepted for publication. Dr. Hellerström remarked that out of 457 manuscripts submitted, less than 35% (158) came from English-speaking countries; 40% came from countries outside continental Europe.

Summarising the statistics presented, the Editor-in-Chief reported that the number of accepted manuscripts had increased by 10%, the number of referees had been reduced to two in most cases, and the required time for revision of manuscripts reduced from two to one month. This had resulted in allowing for a backlog of publishable manuscripts, and will hopefully aid the publisher in correcting the late publication schedule which is still a problem. Nevertheless, the journal maintains one of the fastest publication schedules of any comparable scientific journal.

Dr. Hellerström further commented on the trend towards a decrease in the total number of subscribers which stands at 2150; and that there had been no increase in the number of membership subscriptions, despite a dramatic increase in the Association's membership. He stated his hope that both the volume of the journal and the number of membership subscriptions would increase. Dr. Hellerström concluded his report by expressing his thanks to the editorial team in Uppsala, the Editorial Board, Deputy Editors Drs. Denton and Keller, the Associate Editors and all the referees.

3. Elections

a) Honorary Treasurer, 1990–1992. The President stated that as the affairs of the Association were still somewhat in a state of transition from London, the need for continuity in the leadership of the Association would be greatly served by asking Dr. Ward, who has served with great dedication and excellence, to continue in his capacity as Honorary Treasurer for a period of two more years, expiring in 1992; the Council had unanimously agreed to this proposal. The General Assembly approved this election.

b) Council Members, 1990–1993. Drs. De Leeuw (B), Guillausseau (F), Ionescu-Tirgoviste (ROM), Mogensen (DK) and Papadopoulos (GR) were proposed to succeed Drs. Balasse, Damjanova, Persson, Vague and Zoupas, retiring by rotation in Copenhagen in 1990. The General Assembly approved these elections.

c) Honorary Auditors, 1990. Drs. Attali (F) and Muggeo (I) were proposed as Honorary Auditors for 1990. The General Assembly approved these elections.

4. Postgraduate Education Subcommittee

The President, expressing the Association's gratitude to Dr. J.-P. Assal and his colleagues for their efforts and success in developing and implementing the programme of the Post Graduate Education Subcommittee, called on Dr. Assal, Chair of the PGESC to report. Dr. Assal reported that the committee has actively continued its programme, primarily through three major activities including: 1) The participation of the Study Groups in the Programme of the Annual Meetings. 2) A reparatory workshop in the host country for the Annual Meeting, bringing together faculty to discuss educational strategies and participation in the post graduate course. 3) A post graduate course in the host country involving local diabetes clinicians and educators.

Dr. Assal reported that the Diabetes Education and Pregnancy Study Groups had presented symposia prior to the Lisbon Annual Meeting which were very well attended. The Lisbon preparatory two-day workshop held in May of this year was organised by Drs. J. Boavida, J. Portugal and R. Duarte, in close collaboration with Dr. Nunes-Correa, General Secretary of the EASD Lisbon meeting. The Lisbon Post Graduate Course was under the honorary presidency of Drs. M. Sà Marques and P. Lisboa; the proceedings of this course were published in the official journal of the Portuguese Medical Association. The content of this course, which attracted 200 participants, included lectures on 15 different topics followed by discussion groups numbering 20–30.

Dr. Assal commented that, with the experience gained thus far, the EASD has created an educational model which has been enthusiastically received by practitioners and diabetologists; further,

that it is an example of how the latest biomedical concepts can be brought to local practitioners through organised training in educational strategies.

Dr. Assal reported that Drs. D. Andreani (I) and J. Day (UK) were incoming members of the committee replacing retiring members Drs. Menzinger and Michaelis. He concluded his report by expressing his thanks to the Portuguese local organisers, Dr. P. Home (PGESC Secretary), and Dr. Freychet for his encouragement of these activities.

5. Study Groups

The President pointed out that the annual reports of the Study Groups had been published in the July issue of *Diabetologia*, and also in the Volume of Abstracts for the Lisbon meeting. He mentioned that there will be symposia presented by two study groups for the Copenhagen meeting; and as the purpose of these symposia is primarily to inform and involve the membership, encouraged the members to attend.

6. Any other business

The President called on Dr. A. Froland, President of the Local Organising Committee to report on the 1990 Annual Meeting in Copenhagen. Dr. Froland encouraged the members of the Association to attend the 26th Annual Meeting which will be September 10-13, 1990 at the Bella Centre in downtown Copenhagen.

Dr. Bennett raised the question of paying registration fees by means of credit cards; the President responded that this question would be discussed by the Council and the Secretariat.

Dr. Freychet expressed the Association's thanks to the retiring members of the Council, Drs. Federlin, Home, Micossi and Nunes-Correa; and welcomed Drs. Erkelens (NL), Keller (CH), Lefèbvre (B), Segal (IS) and Tomkin (IR) as new members of the Council.

Dr. Freychet stated that his tenure as President had been both challenging and rewarding. During this time there were numerous changes in the life of the Association including the retirement of the Executive Director, Mr. J. Jackson, and changes in the members serving as Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and Editor-in-Chief of the journal. As President, he had the unique opportunity to work with many stimulating people. He warmly thanked J. Jackson, J.-P. Assal, J. Baird, E. Balasse, M. Berger, C. Hellerström, M. Krans, R. Landgraf, A. Lernmark, G. Slama, M. Taskinen, J. Ward, and all who had served with him as members of the Executive Committee and the Council during these three years. Dr. Freychet remarked on the spirit of the Association, incorporating a subtle balance of basic science, clinical research, patient care and teaching activities; and drawing on, as a free and independent association of professionals, a great diversity of experience and knowledge – a resource that should be preserved. Dr. Freychet concluded his remarks as President by expressing his best wishes to his successor, Dr. Lefèbvre.

Dr. Lefèbvre opened his remarks by expressing his gratitude to the Association for his election as President, and his admiration for Dr. Freychet, upon whose expertise he would like to count on in the future. The President remarked that in 1963 he was one of seventy colleagues who agreed to start the Association, and has attended all of the twenty-five ensuing annual meetings. During this time, the Association has grown from 70 to over 3000, and its activities and prestige have also grown. Dr. Lefèbvre stated that all of the concerns expressed at the meeting must be considered and dealt with; and, with the support of the Executive Committee, Council and membership, will do his best to follow in the example of his prestigious predecessors in guiding the Association during the next three years.

Dr. Ward expressed the Association's gratitude to Dr. Freychet for his total dedication and leadership during the many recent transitions in the life of the Association. He further commented on Dr. Freychet's thoughtful and sympathetic approach to leadership, which had so greatly enhanced the relationships of those in authority in the Association, and made his tenure as President truly outstanding.

The President then closed the meeting.