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NEWSLETTER



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DR. HENRY SCHWARTZ TO BE HONORED GUEST IN HAWAII

Henry Gerard Schwartz was born in New York City in 1909. In 1928 he received his undergraduate degree from Princeton University and his M.D. from The Johns Hopkins University in 1932. Following a general surgery internship at Hopkins he pursued his interest in anatomy as the National Research Council Fellow at Harvard Medical School for two years where he also served as Instructor in Anatomy in 1935-36.

He began his training in neurological surgery with Dr. Earnest Sachs at Washington University School of Medicine in 1936. From 1942-45 he served in the Army as a member of the Washington University 21st Hospital in the African Theatre and in Italy, achieving the rank of Lt. Col. and receiving the Legion of Merit in 1945. His loyalty and devotion to maintenance of the highest standards of neurosurgical care in Military Services has continued over the years in his capacity as Consultant to the Surgeon General of the U.S. Army.

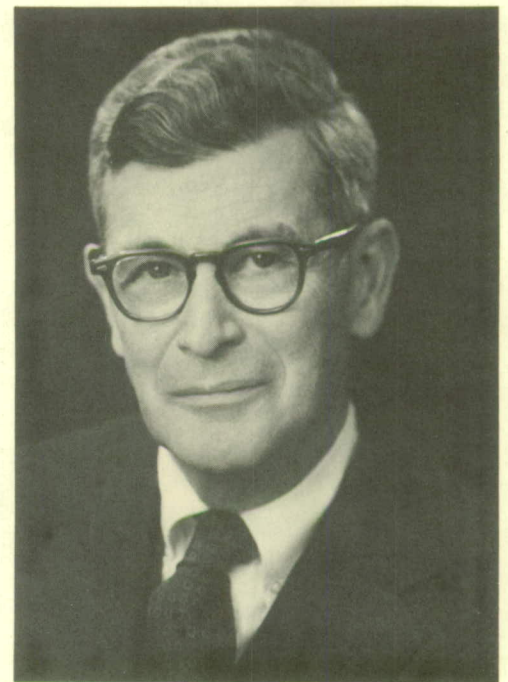
In 1945 he returned to St. Louis and in 1946 was appointed Professor and Chairman of the Division of Neurological Surgery at Washington University, inaugurating the period of his most consuming professional interest since that time, the training of neurological surgeons and investigators. Many have established their own training programs and have achieved distinction in neurological surgery.

Dr. Schwartz's own distinctions and contributions to neurological surgery are numerous. His clinical interests have centered on surgery of pain, intracranial aneurysms, pituitary surgery and angle tumors. He designed one of the first spring vascular clips, subsequently elaborated upon by many others. His leadership in societies and associations related to neurosurgery has continued to the present. He served on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Neurosurgery from 1958-67 and as Chairman in 1968. He worked as a member of the American Board of Neurosurgery from 1964 to 1970, serving as Chairman from 1968-70 and received their Distinguished Service Award in 1970.

He has willingly accepted many special committee responsibilities over the years with agencies of the government and national societies, reflecting his concern for academic excellence and post graduate training. Despite these time-consuming responsibilities, he served as Acting Head of the Department of Surgery of Washington University School of Medicine from 1965 through 1967 and in 1970 was named the August A. Busch Jr. Professor of Neurological Surgery. His outstanding contributions to Washington University were recognized in 1969 by his selection as recipient of the Alumni Federation Faculty Award.

As Honored Guest of the Congress, Dr. Schwartz will present two lectures: "Education of the Neurosurgical Resident and his Future", and "Pituitary Adenomas — Surgical Technique and Results".

- William S. Coxe, M.D.



Dr. Henry G. Schwartz

JOINT SOCIO-ECONOMIC COMMITTEE REPORT

Highlights of the April '73 meeting of the Joint Socio-Economic Committee of the CNS and AANS (Co-Chairmen - Edwin W. Amyes and Russel Patterson):

1. **National Procedural Terminology.** A national neurosurgical terminology including descriptors and a 5-digit code was recommended, and was presented to the Board of Directors of the AANS. The merit of a national terminology for neurosurgery lies in having a uniform description of what neurosurgeons are doing so that it may be available for computers of third party carriers and hospitals. The descriptors and code currently most popular are those in the 1973 California Relative Value Scale (RVS). Considerable problems will have to be worked out in adding a relative value scale to the present terminology.
2. **National Neurosurgical Advisory Group.** In order that the Joint Committee may have input on national socio-economic problems, an advisory group was formed with representatives from all areas of the country.
3. **State Neurosurgical Societies.** The Joint Committee strongly recommended that state neurosurgical societies or associations be formed so that neurosurgeons can insure adequate representation on PSRO (Professional Standards Review Organization) and in other socio-economic matters.
4. **How PSRO Will Affect Neurosurgeons.** The federally legislated Professional Standards Review Organization will affect and involve every neurosurgeon within 1-3 years. One or more PSRO will be set up in each state to review the quality of any health care that is paid for in whole or in part under the Social Security Act. This covers such matters as the necessity of hospital admission, appropriateness of rendered treatment, and includes the maintenance of profiles on each health care practitioner. PSRO areas will be designated by January 1974 and the PSRO should be functioning as soon thereafter as possible, certainly by January 1, 1976. The exact nature of the review mechanism is not yet defined.
5. **Evidence of Professional Competence.** There are increasing public demands for evidence of professional competence. This may be achieved through programs of continuing education. In this regard, neurosurgery already has available a broad program of post-graduate educational programs and modern educational methods are being explored, such as the AVENS television project and the self-assessment opportunity provided by the American Board of Neurological Surgery. The Joint Committee recommended that the AANS and the CNS consider methods by which they can encourage, and possibly document, continuing education among their membership. It was felt that perhaps documentation can be deferred for the present until we see how effective PSRO proves to be in maintaining good standards of neurosurgical care, which should be judged on the basis of actual performance as reflected by morbidity and mortality; the Joint Committee regarded these factors as the best indicators that the material of continuing education has been absorbed and utilized.

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