

**1949**

TRANSACTIONS  
*of the*  
**American Otological Society**  
INC.

EIGHTY-SECOND  
ANNUAL MEETING  
HOTEL BILTMORE  
New York City

May 18th and 19th, 1949

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VOL. XXXVII

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PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY  
ZIMMERMAN-PETTY  
ST. LOUIS  
1949

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# THE AMERICAN OTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

## REGISTRATION

Members and Guests Attending the Eighty-Second Annual Meeting of the American Otological Society, Inc., which was held at the Hotel Biltmore, New York City on May 18th and 19th, 1949.

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## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

MARVIN F. JONES, M.D.

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

We are living during great times. We are singularly blest by being in the medical profession and especially in otology during these great times. Are we using our maximum mental and physical efforts to the best advantage?

The American Otological Society has among its members the majority of proven leaders in American otology. Because our eminent membership places us in a position of leadership, there are responsibilities which the American Otological Society must accept. Our responsibility is to maintain that which is good in the traditional and disseminate knowledge of that which seems to be good in the innovations. Another responsibility which we must accept to ensure a healthy future for our society is the recognition and encouragement of young, thinking workers. Still another responsibility is the broadening of interest and opportunity in the fields of science which can contribute to otology. Advance in knowledge can best be made through our co-operative effort.

As otologists, it is desirable for us to encourage other scientists to work with us. No otologist can possess all the important knowledge necessary for our development.

The American Otological Society is rightly considered a senior society. As such we are expected to give counsel and encouragement to younger men. Such encouragement to the younger men should be valuable, available and active. Perhaps our most valuable asset is the mature judgment which can only be acquired as the result of many years of thoughtful experience. This last sentiment is a heritage from my very dear friend, the late Dr. John B. Rae.

Each member of our American Otological Society has, at some time, made his contribution to otology. Such contributions are among our requirements for membership. Each member can therefore feel a justified pride in belonging to at least one society in our modern world which holds "giving" instead of "getting" as one

of its membership requirements. The contributions which each member has made are for the benefit of every individual in this world. Our gift is not made with a label designating which color, race or creed shall receive it. And no comment is made in the distribution of our gift which would make us conscious of the existence of such divisions.

This society also places honesty, fairness, mutual confidence and ethical conduct high in its required qualifications for desirable members.

The citation of these attributes is not to be dismissed as trite; these qualifications in potential members are carefully considered. Modesty and humility in candidates are preferred to beating of personal drums and beating of personal gums. Such discordant sounds emanating from candidates fall on the ears of men who suffer from an unsympathetic perceptive deafness.

Every person who meets our scientific, mental, moral and ethical standards is cordially welcomed to our membership and to our meetings. We welcome you to this, our eighty-second, annual meeting, at the Biltmore Hotel in New York City.

A loved and famous New Yorker made one phrase popular with those who seek the truth: "Let's look at the record," said Al Smith. A critical time has arrived when we should examine our own record of the past, consider our present and plan for our future intelligently.

A few years ago (about 400 B. C.), Hippocrates formulated a moral code for medicine. This code is accepted under oath by those entering the practice of medicine today. Medicine as a whole has lived by this code in a surprisingly faithful manner. Almost universally medical men agree on what is right and wrong in medical conduct. There is no force which compels doctors of medicine to live by these moral laws. The only enforcement agent is the desired good opinion of medical brotherhood. When we look at our record, we can be proud of our accomplishment. There is also a universal religious code of right and wrong which in its essentials is common to all religions. Medical men have joined, with a minimum of prejudice, in following not only their own medical codes but also deep down in their thoughts men of medicine hold to a universal religion which is so simple and elemental that it approaches eternal truth. Many serious shocks to our brothers in medicine have not