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THIRD CONGRESS OF THE SOCIEDAD LATINO AMERICANA DE ORTOPEDIA Y TRAUMATOLOGIA

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when further shortening of the long limb would be undesirable. He noted that the effect of stimulation wears off in twelve to eighteen months, but restimulation at the same site is effective.

Shoulder Arthrodesis. DR. R. E. CARROLL presented a technique of shoulder arthrodesis which allows postoperative correction of the relation of the humerus to the glenoid without loss of contact. He maintains contact with a wire loop. He had had no failure of fusions. The wire is passed through a drill hole approximately parallel to the bicipital groove, through the neck and head of the humerus into a hole in the glenoid drilled in the upper anterior quadrant after removal of cartilage from the head and glenoid.

Temperomandibular Arthroplasty. DR. LUIS IGLESIAS presented a technique for temperomandibular arthroplasty which he had employed with excellent results in four cases of pyogenic arthritis, two of traumatic arthritis, and one of congenital origin. A pre-auricular incision was used. The zygomatic arch, the tubercle, the roof of the condylar cavity and the neck of the condyle and the coronoid process were resected. Following operation skeletal traction prevented reankylosis.

The annual banquet was held on the night of March 24.

Over 90 per cent of the members attended the meeting which was one to be remembered. Dr. George Duncan was elected President for the current year, Dr. C. Fred Ferciot, Treasurer, Dr. Jack Wickstrom, Secretary, and Dr. William M. Deyerle, Chairman of the Interassociation Relationship Committee.

THIRD CONGRESS OF THE SOCIEDAD LATINO AMERICANA DE ORTOPEDIA Y TRAUMATOLOGIA

The Third Congress of the Sociedad Latino Americana de Ortopedia y Traumatología was held in Mexico City, at the site of the University City, from January 13 to 20, 1956, under the Presidency of Dr. Alejandro Velasco Zimbrón. This event was carried out under the auspices of the Mexican Government with His Excellency Adolfo Ruiz Cortines, the President of the Republic, present at the inaugural session. Among those present at the Congress were Dr. José Luis Bado, from Uruguay, President, and Dr. Juan Farill of Mexico, Honorary President. Members gathered from all of the Latin American Republics. There were many orthopaedists from the United States of America, Canada, Spain, France, England, Belgium, Germany, and Portugal. In all there was a total of 650 present. Many men were accompanied by their wives.

The Scientific Program extended throughout the Congress. The official papers were on Legg-Calvé-Perthes Disease and The Treatment of Forearm Fractures. Two symposia were presented, one on Flat-Foot and the other on Traumatic Lesions of the Distal End of the Femur and Proximal End of the Tibia. An interesting round-table discussion was held on The Study and Modernization of Workmen's Compensation Laws for Industrial Accidents. Five short instructional courses were given: (1) Lumbosciatic Pain; (2) Traumatic Vascular and Nervous Lesions; (3) Treatment of the Spastic; (4) Skeletal Tumors of the Connective Tissue Series; and (5) Plastic Surgery in Orthopaedics and Traumatology. These courses were given by specialists from different Latin American countries. In addition, there were twenty-one lectures in the general assemblies given by well known Latin American, American, and European specialists. Almost seventy papers were presented and there was an excellent Audio-Visual Program. During the Congress, Scientific Exhibits of great interest were available, one of the most noteworthy being presented by the Oakland Naval Hospital, Oakland, California, showing the recent advances in artificial limbs and rehabilitation of the amputee. Also included was a commercial exhibit. Several operations were performed which were televised in color and many hospital rounds were made, among which were those at the Hospital de la Raza and at the Hospital Militar.

Social activities made possible by an organizing committee were available for guests and their wives; these included visits to places of interest in the city. Folk festivals, such as the Mexican Night and the festival of the Charros, were most enjoyable.

SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

Monday, January 16

Morning Session: Legg-Calvé-Perthes Disease

A number of papers were presented reporting the results of treatment, operative and non-operative, of Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease. The following observations were made:

1. The most important problem presented by this disease is its etiology and pathogenesis; there seem to be a number of causes which may act simultaneously. Racial predilection was insisted upon (white race). All were greatly impressed by the experimental work done by Ponseti and Trueta.

2. The treatment universally tried, which had proved its worth, was the withholding of weight-bearing while permitting movement. The length of this treatment led to the trial of other methods (surgical) which tended to shorten the course without danger; however, a longer period of observation is necessary to judge results properly.

Afternoon Session: Symposium on Flat-Foot

The most important consideration today in treating flat-foot, as in the case of Perthes disease, is knowledge of its etiology and pathogenesis. Treatment, generally outlined, was conservative. Some authors preferred arthrodesis. It was emphasized that great care must be exercised in selecting cases for surgery.

Tuesday, January 17

Morning Session: Fractures of the Forearm

The consensus was as follows: fracture of the forearm in children is a distinct clinical entity and the opinion was unanimous that:

1. The treatment of choice for these fractures in children is closed manipulation and plaster fixation;
2. The correction of rotation need not be as perfect as that in the adult, as growth has a modeling and corrective action;
3. Indications for surgical correction are exceptional.

In the adult there was agreement that: (1) fracture of both bones of the forearm with displacement is an indication for surgical correction; (2) the most used procedure to date is intramedullary fixation with Kirschner wire followed by the application of a cast. Emphasis was placed on the importance of correction of rotation. J. L. Bado (Uruguay) presented a well illustrated paper on the value of x-ray study of the location of the bicipital tuberosity (tuberosity view) to determine the degree of rotation of the proximal fragment, together with the study of the relationship of the ulnar styloid to the distal end of the radius to measure the degree of rotation of the distal portion.

For the Monteggia fractures closed reduction usually gives good results, but when reduction of the dislocated radius is carried out without successful reduction of the ulnar fracture, open reduction with intramedullary nailing is done.

Afternoon Session

Eight papers were presented in each of three sectional meetings by authors selected by the Local Committees of the Sociedad Latino Americana de Ortopedia y Traumatología in each country. Thirty minutes was devoted to discussion.

Wednesday, January 18

The morning session was devoted to conferences and visits to the scientific and commercial exhibits.

Afternoon Session: Symposium on Traumatic Lesions of the Distal End of the Femur and Proximal End of the Tibia, Including Lesions of the Cartilage.

The classification of these fractures was discussed and the functional results with relation to the patellar articulation, early and late, were reported in different types of fractures. Emphasis was placed on the good results which could be obtained with conservative measures. The indications for surgery were well set forth.

The remainder of the Congress was devoted to conferences and selected papers.

The papers presented at this Latin American Congress were of high quality, recording accurate clinical observations, clinical statistical studies, and sound scientific investigations as well as improved techniques.

Among the distinguished guests who came from countries out of Latin America were: from Belgium, Dr. Octavio Coquelet; from Canada, Dr. Calixte Favreau and Dr. Edouard Samson; from England, Dr. J. Trueta; from France, Dr. Paul Padovani; from Germany, Dr. Herbert Gardemin, Dr. Max Lange, and Dr. F. Loeffler; from Spain, Dr. Manuel Bastos Ansart, Dr. Antonio Hernández Ros Codorníu and other delegates; and from the United States, Dr. Harold B. Boyd, Dr. Guy A. Caldwell, Dr. James Callahan, Dr. Alan DeForest Smith, Dr. Fred Ferciot, Dr. Alfred Gallant, Dr. Ralph K. Ghormley, Dr. Beckett Howorth, Dr. Earl D. McBride, Dr. Ignacio Ponseti, Dr. Joseph Risser, Dr. Arthur Steindler, and many others.

The Congress came to a close with a formal Banquet held in the Grand Ballroom of Chandeliers in the Hotel Del Prado, where it was announced that the next Congress will take place in the city of Caracas, in January 1959, under the Presidency of Dr. Juan Colmenares. Dr. Oscar Maróttoli, from Rosario, Argentina, was inaugurated as the next President of the Sociedad Latino Americana de Ortopedia y Traumatología for the period running from 1956 to 1962.