

4. The TRANSACTIONS

The Transactions is the most important part of the association.

OTTO J. STEIN
TREASURER, 1907

A FEW of the papers presented at the first meeting of the Western Ophthalmological, Otological, Laryngological and Rhinological Association in 1896 were published in the *American Journal of Ophthalmology* at the request of President Adolph Alt, who was the founder, editor, and in fact, sole owner of the journal at that time.^{15,16} (Adolph Alt's *American Journal of Ophthalmology*, which began publication in 1884,* eventually merged with other ophthalmic journals to form the *American Journal of Ophthalmology* as we know it today, first published in 1918 with Edward Jackson as editor.¹⁷)

The *Laryngoscope*, a brand new journal founded by Max A. Goldstein in the same year as the Academy, published otolaryngology papers from the 1897 meeting.^{†9,18}

*The journal founded by Adolph Alt in 1884 was not a continuation of, or derivation of, an earlier journal of the same name started in 1862 by Julius Homberger. In 1918, at the time Dr Alt's journal merged with others, he points out that when founding and naming his journal, he was unaware that a previous journal had carried the same name.^{16(p146)} For more information on Homberger's journal, see "An Ophthalmic Adventurer—Julius Homberger" (*Am J Ophthalmol* [series 3] 1:689, 1918).

†As a note of interest, Dr Goldstein also founded the Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis in 1914, now an internationally recognized center.¹⁸

It was at the second meeting that a Committee on Publications was established, "consisting of three members, the chairman of which committee shall be Editor, which committee shall attend to the papers and proceedings of the Association, with discretionary powers."^{18(p3)} A resolution empowered this committee to select official organs for publication of the society's proceedings. With alacrity, the committee made Dr Alt's *American Journal of Ophthalmology* and Dr Goldstein's *Laryngoscope* the official publication outlets for the Association.

Through an arrangement with Drs Alt and Goldstein beginning in 1898, the papers, after they had been published in the respective journals, were put into the form of paperbound volumes, one for each specialty, and sent to the membership (Fig 7, right).¹⁹ When in later years it was suggested that the 1896 and 1897 meeting papers be bound, it was discovered that a fire in the printer's office had destroyed them.^{20,21} A call was put out for all members having copies of the journals in which they appeared to send them to the secretary; however, there is no record that the papers were ever compiled. The only remnant of them is a single copy of the 1897 otolaryngology transactions reprinted from the *Laryngoscope*; the printed papers are tied together with yellow string and covered with a wraparound piece of purple cardboard (Fig 7, left).⁹



Fig 7.—Center, First hardcover bound volume of TRANSACTIONS in 1903 (published by Drs Alt and Goldstein and sent to members). Left, Printed otolaryngology papers from 1897 meeting, tied together with string and covered with piece of cardboard. Faintly visible on cardboard cover are words written in yellow crayon: "Second Annual Meeting/Western O-O-L-R Association/St. Louis—Apr. 8-9-1897." Right, Only surviving copy of paperbound volumes supplied to members by Drs Alt and Goldstein between years 1893 and 1902. This volume contains otolaryngology papers from 1901 meeting. Name appearing on front is shorter title adopted by association in 1898.

In 1903, Dr Goldstein moved that the Academy allocate the funds for the annual proceedings to be published by the two official publications in "one cloth bound volume with gilt title"^{13(p25)} and that this be delivered to each Member and Fellow of the Academy. The motion carried, and the first hard cover volume of the TRANSACTIONS, including both ophthalmology and otolaryngology papers, appeared in 1903 (Fig 7, center).

By 1907, the Academy treasury had grown sufficiently to permit the society to consider independent publication of its proceedings. Leaders hoped this would expedite the process of getting the published papers to members as soon as possible after the meeting. The importance of the TRANSACTIONS to the Academy at that time, before development of year-round educational programs, can be gleaned from a few remarks made by Treasurer Otto J. Stein during discussion of this proposition.

We receive communications from members wanting to know what they are paying their dues for. . . . The bone of contention with many members who do not attend the society is the Transactions. . . . It is a question of satisfying the members and giving them something for their money. The papers are what they want, and as soon as possible.^{21(pp11,12)}

The Council favored independent publication, which began in 1907. The TRANSACTIONS was published annually in a single bound volume up until 1941, at which time bimonthly publication was initiated. Since 1941, bound volumes of the six yearly periodical issues have been available upon request.

CONTENT OF TRANSACTIONS

The primary purpose of the TRANSACTIONS has always been the publication of scientific material. Publication of papers presented at the meeting was started so that the data could be disseminated and preserved outside the narrow bounds of the meeting halls, and this is so today.

Papers and Publication Policies

Selection of papers for presentation at the Annual Meeting and subsequent publication in the TRANSACTIONS was vested in a Committee on Program. The minutes from the 1897 meeting note a section from the original constitution written in 1896 which reads: "Committee on Program, consisting of three members, of which committee the Secretary of the Association shall be chairman, who [sic] duty it shall be to arrange a suitable program for each meeting."^{8(p3)} The 1903 constitution changed the make-up of this committee somewhat: "The Program Committee shall consist of the President and the Secretary."^{13(p34)}

A few of the rules adopted early in Academy history governing the presentation of papers are noteworthy, because they prevailed throughout the years.

No paper intended for presentation before the Association shall be published, through any medium, prior to its having been read.^{8(p3)}

AMENDMENT TO 1896 CONSTITUTION ADOPTED 1897

As the American Journal of Ophthalmology and the Laryngoscope have yearly gone to the expense of printing the papers with illustrations and of furnishing the Association with volumes of transactions, . . . no paper announced to be read before this Association shall be published elsewhere until it has appeared in one of these two Journals.^{19(p6)} [This policy later applied for the TRANSACTIONS.]

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION ADOPTED 1900

Papers [must] be handed to the Secretary immediately after the reading. . . .^{19(p1)}

MOTION ACCEPTED 1900

The reading of each paper shall not occupy more than 20 minutes. In the discussion, no member shall occupy more than 5 minutes, or speak to each paper more than once.^{13(p32)}

REVISED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS, 1903, ART. I, SEC. 3 OF BY-LAWS

If a man has announced a paper and does not come up to read it personally, it shall not be printed in the TRANSACTIONS.^{22(p52)} [Subsequent bylaws required that a paper be read "in person by its author unless good

and valid reasons for his absence can be shown," but there was no mention of its not being printed.]

MOTION ACCEPTED 1904

The fact that the foregoing policies endured for more than 75 years bespeaks something of the foresight as well as the careful planning of the men who attended to the initial prospectus of the Academy.

Exhibits

The archives contain only one copy of the paperbound volumes that were supplied by Drs Alt and Goldstein during the years 1898 and 1902. (It seems likely that these volumes were also destroyed in the printer's fire. Since they were sent to no libraries at that time, it is doubtful that any copies remain unless there are a few buried in attics of descendants of early Academy members.) The existing copy is of the 1901 otolaryngology proceedings (Fig 7, right).¹¹ In addition to the scientific papers, it includes "Remarks by the President," a listing of officers and committees, and a section in the back entitled "Department of Exhibits." In this exhibit section there are descriptions of both pathologic specimens and new instruments (Fig 8).

Publication of the material from exhibits, including pictures, continued sporadically until 1909, at which time a motion carried that a brief description of specimens and instruments be required and that such descriptions appear in the TRANSACTIONS to be studied at leisure.²⁰ Prior to 1909, publication of exhibit descriptions was often included in the otolaryngology division but only occasionally in the ophthalmology division. Beginning in 1909, the exhibit material for both specialties was combined under one heading, "Exhibition of Instruments and Demonstrations." There was some variation in the treatment of this material during the ensuing years; however, by 1920 this section had evolved into the "Presentation of Instruments," which became an established part of

Portable and Compact Case of Instruments for Ear, Nose, and Throat Work—Presented by DR. M. A. GOLDSTEIN, St. Louis.

I have designed this case as a substitute for the cumbersome satchel or grip. Each instrument has its place and the entire case can be slipped into the overcoat pocket. It is intended mainly for the ordinary line of residence practice.

Fig 8.—Example of exhibit report appearing in 1901 otolaryngology proceedings, which also reminds us of style of practice in early 1900s. Descriptive reports that accompanied exhibition of specimens were considerably longer.

the TRANSACTIONS and was the equivalent of the later “New Instruments” section.

Directory of Members

From the time of the first bound volume in 1903 through 1912, the TRANSACTIONS carried an alphabetical listing of members, including addresses but not the member’s specialty. It is impossible to discern whether or not a separate directory was published in addition to this listing in the TRANSACTIONS during these years. There is in Academy archives a small, unbound, printed booklet for the years 1907-1908 containing a listing of members’ names and addresses (Fig 9).²³

The TRANSACTIONS from 1913 through 1916 carried no membership roster, and the indication that there was a separate published directory is implicit in a 1917 Council vote to “discontinue the list which has been published each year of the names and addresses of members. These will be put instead into the Transactions.”^{24(p7)} This action was attributed to a tightness of finances.

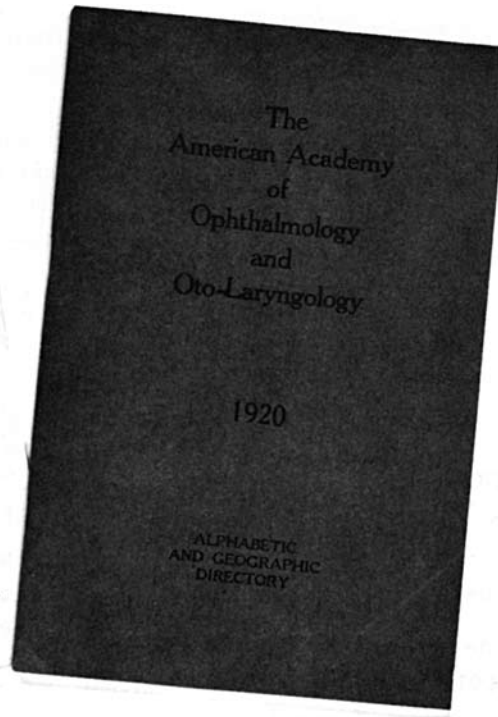
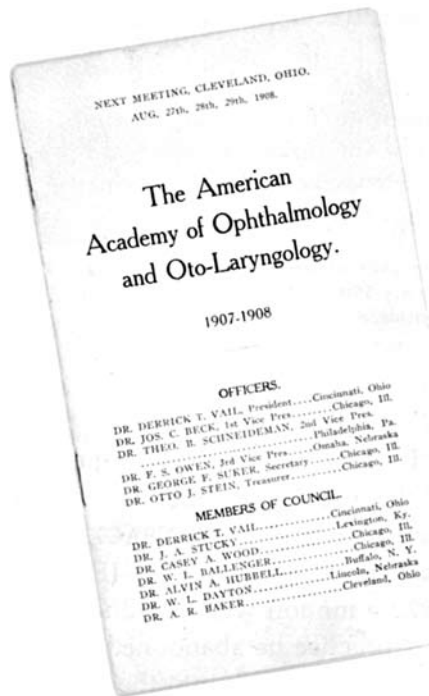
The directory in the 1917-1918 TRANSACTIONS (combined as a financial measure because of the war) included for the first time the specialty of each member, and in the 1919 volume, a geographic list appeared as well as an alphabetic one. With addition of these two items, the directory assumed the format it has today.

In 1920 the Council authorized publication of the directory in booklet form, the same to be omitted from the TRANSACTIONS, and this was done for 1920 and 1921 (Fig 9). However, in 1922 a motion was introduced and passed that this practice be abandoned and that the list of members go back into the TRANSACTIONS as a matter of convenience (members were having problems keeping track of their separate directories, whereas their bound volumes were always at hand).

From 1922 through 1936, the directory continued to appear in the TRANSACTIONS. Then again, from 1937 through 1940, it was taken out of the bound volume and appeared in a periodic *Bulletin* that the Academy published.^{25,26} In 1941, when the Academy discontinued the once-a-year bound volume and went to “journal-style” publication, the directory was included in one of the six yearly issues. And finally, in 1943, it became a separate publication and has remained so to the present.²⁷ It was sent as a supplement to the TRANSACTIONS until 1958, at which time it became an independent publication.²⁸ The directory continued to be included in the bound volumes until 1965.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

A much abbreviated version of the minutes appeared in the 1903 volume. The minutes were not included again in the TRANSACTIONS



HONORARY FELLOWS.

Dr. Herman Knapp.....	New York City, N. Y.
Dr. Lindsay Johnston.....	London England
Dr. Dundas Grant.....	18 Cavendish Sq., West, London, Eng.
Mr. Marcus R. Gunn.....	15 Queen Ann St., Cavendish Sq., West, London, England.

ROLL OF FELLOWS.

Allen, S. E.....	22 W. 7th St., Cincinnati, O.
Alt, Adolf.....	3036 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.
Allport, Frank.....	72 E. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

ROLL OF MEMBERS.

Adams, Chas.....	52 W. State St., Trenton, N. J.
Adams, Albyn L.....	Jacksonville, Ill.
Alkire, H. L.....	Topeka, Kas.
Alder, Alfred Eugene.....	LaFayette, Ind.

ALPHABETIC LIST

HONORARY FELLOWS

ELLIOT, LIEUT.-COL. R. H.....	54 Welbeck St., Cavendish Sq., London, W., Eng.
ELSCHNIG, PROF. A.....	Ferdinandstrasse 19, Prague, Bohemia
FERNANDEZ, JUAN SANTON.....	Prado 105, Havana, Cuba
GRANT, DUNDAS.....	18 Cavendish Sq., W., London, Eng.
GRAY, ALBERT A.....	Glasgow, Scotland
JOHNSTON, LINDFAT.....	85 Harley St., Cavendish Sq., W., London, Eng.
LAWFORD, J. R.....	24 Thayer St., Manchester Sq., London, Eng.
STEPHENSON, SYDNEY.....	

LIFE MEMBERS

DATTON, W. L.....	Funke Bldg., Lincoln, Neb.
STEVENS, G. T.....	350 W. 88th St., New York City, N. Y.

FELLOWS

ABBOTT, W. J.....	216 Lennox Bldg., Cleveland, O. OALR
ADAMS, A. L.....	323 West State St., Jacksonville, Ill. OALR
ADAMS, C.....	52 West State St., Trenton, N. J., OALR
ADAMS, DANIEL S.....	520 Hume-Mansur Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind., ALR
ADAMS, ELDRIDGE S.....	11-12 Poltrez Bldg., Trinidad, Colo. OALR
ADAMS, FRED'K W.....	Roosevelt Clinic, Seattle, Wash. OALR
ADAMS, NOAH.....	Rialto Bldg., Kansas City, Mo. OALR
AGNEW, FRED'K W.....	Independence, Ia. OALR
AINSLIE, GEORGE.....	606 Oregonian Bldg., Portland, Ore. OALR
ALDRIDGE, W. W.....	Nasby Bldg., Toledo, O. OALR
ALLEN, H. L.....	614 Kansas Ave., Topeka, Kan. OALR
ALLEN, CHAR. E.....	712 Waldheim Bldg., Kansas City, Mo. OALR

Fig 9.—Top, Early directories. Bottom left, Parts of two pages from 1907-1908 directory showing division into three types of membership as provided for in 1903 constitution. Bottom right, Part of first page in 1920 directory showing new types of membership as established by constitutional revision in 1912.

until 1919, and thereafter, their publication became customary. The reason the Academy went through 15 years without publishing the minutes was due, at least in part, to the jealously guarded maxim that the TRANSACTIONS was strictly a scientific publication and, as one member objected when published minutes were suggested in 1910, "should not be cumbered with this matter."^{29(p8)}

It must be noted that from 1937 through 1940, the minutes were published in the Academy *Bulletin* rather than in the TRANSACTIONS.²⁵ (The *Bulletin* was intended to include, among other things, reports of Academy committees, educational activities, and information on the meeting, the need for dissemination of which material was not satisfied by the TRANSACTIONS, which only

came out once a year. The *Bulletin* was started in 1932 as a small, unbound pamphlet and was enlarged in size and scope in 1937 and put into the form of a paperbound booklet, which it remained until 1941 when the material from it was incorporated into the bimonthly issues of the TRANSACTIONS.)

Necrology

Up through 1918, a list of deceased members made occasional appearances in the TRANSACTIONS, sometimes including a résumé of the deceased's life. When the Academy began publishing the minutes in 1919, a necrology section was included with the minutes. This arrangement continued until 1937 when the minutes were published in the *Bulletin* and "Necrology" became a separate section of the TRANSACTIONS. When periodical publication began, necrology remained a separate section.

Indexes

The first index of subjects in the TRANSACTIONS appeared in 1913, and later, in 1921, this became an index of subjects and authors. These indexes, however, covered only the particular volume, and in 1919, Lucien Howe remarked that the "Transactions of course are valuable as books. They are practically useless as records, for the reason that they have no indices."^{30(p411)} A motion passed that the editor compile and publish a general, cumulative index for the first 25 years, and this appeared in the 1920 volume. Included in this motion was the stipulation that the index be added to every five years, and this was done in 1925; thereafter, the five-year index was not published, and the next cumulative index is found in the 1939 volume covering the years 1921 through 1939. Thus, there are two cumulative indexes that cover entirely the published material from 1896 through 1939.

Unfortunately, no general index was compiled covering the years 1940 through 1959,

and each yearly index has to be consulted for material published during this time. More recently, in 1971, a ten-year index was completed for the years 1960 through 1969; this index was published as a separate hard cover volume and was sent, on request, to all subscribers to the TRANSACTIONS free of charge.

The discussion on indexing in 1919 was part of a larger discussion on distribution of the TRANSACTIONS to important libraries throughout the country. During the early years the policy followed by the Academy in this regard is somewhat confused, since in 1909 the secretary, George Suker, had announced that the "Transactions have been sent to all the important libraries in this country, and the entire files of all our Transactions have been sent to the Surgeon General's library."^{20(p4)} However, in 1919 it was discovered that the distribution to libraries had not been consistent, and a motion was passed instructing the editor to send all future TRANSACTIONS to the medical libraries and to the national libraries in Washington.

EDITORSHIP

A constitutional revision adopted in 1919 made the editorship of the TRANSACTIONS an elective office of the Academy. The Committee on Publication was abolished, and the editor's duties were outlined:

The Editor of the Transactions shall receive all papers and reports read before the Academy, with the discussions of the same, and with the aid of the Secretary and sanction of the Council shall compile and publish the Transactions.^{30(p413)}

Clarence Loeb, of Chicago, held the office for the next decade.

As the Academy's educational activities grew, so did the need for published material relative to these activities, and the editorship of the TRANSACTIONS grew into the editor-in-chief of Academy publications, an office that directed publication of a wide variety of materials.

Only a few men served in the position of editor—Clarence Loeb from 1919 through 1929; Arthur W. Proetz in 1930 and 1931, after which he resigned his position and an editorial board consisting of the Board of Secretaries was appointed and handled the TRANSACTIONS from 1932 through 1939³¹; William L. Benedict from 1940 through 1968; and W. Howard Morrison, who served as an Academy editor for 35 years. He was editor-in-chief from 1969 through 1975 after having served as associate editor since 1940. In 1975, he supervised the transition to a separate journal for each specialty. Stanley M. Truhlsen became editor

for ophthalmology and D. Thane R. Cody for otolaryngology. Mansfield F. W. Smith succeeded Dr Cody in 1977.

By providing a means for the educational exchange and distribution of knowledge, the TRANSACTIONS functioned throughout the years as an integral and vital medium for fulfillment of the Academy's objectives. With a 1975 circulation of more than 12,000, it ranked as one of the most widely distributed periodicals reaching men and women in the two specialties in the United States.