

European Society of Haematology

2nd Session of the Board of the Standardizing Committee

1. The session was held on 10th and 11th February, 1964, in Freiburg i. Br. with Prof. Dr. L. HEILMEYER in the chair. The meeting was attended by G. ASTALDI, CH. G. DE BOROVICZÉNY, J. F. COSTER, S. M. LEWIS, J. SPAANDER and B. TIIORELL, members of the Board, and A. H. HOLTZ, who was invited as an expert consultant.

2. It was noted with satisfaction, that the Transactions of the Committee and Proceedings of Symposium XVIII of the Ninth Congress of the European Society of Haematology in Lisbon has been published as *Bibliotheca Haematologica* Fasc. 18 (S. Karger, Basel/New York 1964). Dr. BOROVICZÉNY was commended on his valuable work as editor. It was decided, to send the full publication to all persons who had attended the Symposium and to the leading medical journals, and to send reprints of the Transactions of the Committee with its recommendations on haemoglobinometry to National, Regional and International liaison officials.

3. There had been correspondence with liaison officials in 28 countries in Europe. The majority had replied. National or regional committees were already established or were being organised in almost all the countries or regions from whom replies had been received.

4. In order to promote national and international contacts and the establishment of national or regional committees in terms of rule 5 of the foundation (see p. 109 of the Transactions) it was decided that an extra-ordinary session of the assembly (as defined in rule 2 of the foundation) should be held in Stockholm on the occasion of the Congress of the International Societies of Haematology and Blood Transfusion. This session will take place presumably on Sunday 30th August at 2 p.m. in Stockholm in the presence of the board, accredited representatives of established national or regional committees, observers from European countries who have not yet established committees and, as observers, a number of invited organisations and individuals (see 5 and 6).

5. Accredited membership of the assembly will be accorded to one delegate from each established national or regional committee which has been approved by the board, provided that the delegate is accepted as representing his national or regional committee. The committees will be asked to nominate their delegates on these terms before 31st July, 1964. Each delegate will be invited personally by the board to attend and participate in the assembly with full voting rights. Each delegate will receive a copy of the transactions of the Lisbon meeting (see 2 above) and will be informed of the agenda of the assembly (see 7).

6. The following observers will be invited to attend and participate in the assembly but no voting rights: President and Secretary-General of the European Society of Haematology, World Health Organisation, International Standards Organisation etc., Liaison officials from European countries or regions where a committee has not yet been established, interested specialists from areas outside Europe. These observers will receive a copy of the Lisbon transactions if not already in possession of a copy as per 2.

7. At the assembly accredited representatives of national or regional committees will be requested to report on their committees. All members of the assembly will be invited to participate in discussion on the proposed decision on haemoglobinometry (see also 9), but acceptance of any decision will be by a vote of only accredited represen-

tatives or national or regional committees and the board. The representatives will also be asked to make suggestions for future activities of the Standardizing Committee. The board will be available to meet all members of the assembly for discussions.

8. It was decided that the assembly in Stockholm would be an extra-ordinary one. Thereafter assemblies will normally be held biannually within the framework of the Congresses of the European Society of Haematology.

9. Assemblies will be reserved for decisions on proposals for standardisation. Scientific discussion in advance of such decisions will take place in symposia during congresses. These symposia will be an integral part of the congress, and in accordance with the rules of the congress. Suggestions for subject matter for the symposium will be made by the board to the Organizing Committee of the Congress. Dr. BOROVICZÉNY reported, that he will be the moderator of a symposium on '*general principles of standardization, documentation and normal values in haematology*' during the Stockholm Congress of the International Society of Haematology. It was also decided to try to arrange, within this symposium, for a scientific discussion on the haemoglobin molecule by a group of invited specialists, and to postpone any further decisions by the assembly with regards 1. of the recommendation concerning haemoglobinometry (see p. 110 of the transactions) until this problem has been clarified at the scientific level.

10. Rijk Instituut voor de Volksgezondheit in Utrecht, was asked to prepare a stock of 50 l of a haemoglobinocyanide solution for use as a reference standard. The solution should be equivalent to approximately 37 μ val or 60 mg% haemoglobin, dispersed in 10 ml ampoules and controlled yearly by five laboratories through the agency of the members of the board.

11. Rijks Instituut voor de Volksgezondheit was invited to organise a new trial of haematological procedures and to report the results at the symposium during the Stockholm Congress (see 9). It was decided to enlarge the trial to include the participation of laboratories outside Europe.

12. Distribution of this report: Members of the Board, President of the European Society of Haematology, Secretary-General of European Society of Haematology. Contact addresses of National or Regional Standardization Committees, accredited Members of the Assembly in Stockholm. Medical journals: Acta haemat., Blood, Blut, Brit. J. Haemat., Brit. med. J., Lancet, Minerva med., Scand. Journals, Vox Sanguinis etc.