

# DAILY BULLETIN

## American College of Surgeons

Founded by Surgeons of the United States and Canada, 1913

### THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL CLINICAL CONGRESS

CHICAGO, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1953

## Dr. President-Elect Smiles



Dr. Alfred Blalock, who became A.C.S. president elect yesterday. He will be second president to come from Baltimore, the late John M. T. Finney having been the first.

## Annual Meeting Elects Officers

Dr. Alfred Blalock, professor of surgery at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, became president elect of the American College of Surgeons at the annual meeting on Thursday afternoon. Elected as first vice president was Dr. William L. Estes, Jr., of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Dr. John C. Burch, Nashville, Tennessee, was elected second vice president.

Other officers elected on Thursday included a new member of the Board of Regents, Dr. Reed M. Nesbit of Ann Arbor, Michigan, for a three-year term. Other members re-elected to the Board of Regents included Dr. Walter C. MacKenzie, Edmonton, Alberta; Dr. Loyal Davis, Chicago, Illinois; Dr. Daniel C. Elkin,

Emory University, Georgia; and Dr. Harold L. Foss, Danville, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Evarts A. Graham was re-elected to the Board of Regents for a one-year term.

Dr. Herbert Willy Meyer was elected as a new member of the executive committee of the Board of Governors.

The following resolution was offered by Dr. Charles E. Pope, of Evanston, Ill., and passed unanimously by the membership. "Be it resolved, by the Fellows of the American College of Surgeons in Annual Meeting assembled, that the Officers and that the Board of Governors and that the Board of Regents be, and hereby are, commended for their efforts to suppress unethical practices; and that the Officers and Boards of Governors and Regents be assured of the support of the Fellowship."

## President Rankin Calls for an End To Lack of Ethics

In one of those rare addresses where men of vision rise to the opportunity for penetrating criticism, Dr. Fred W. Rankin of Lexington, Ky., will tonight at Medinah Temple place the burden of a self-justified avarice which he calls "logicalized pragmatism" at the door of the "younger, postwar generation" of surgeons. At the same time, he will hold older men in the profession to blame for tolerating acceptance of this avarice, as evidenced in fee-splitting, ghost surgery, unnecessary operations and exorbitant fees.

Dr. Rankin, past president of the American Medical Association and a founding member of the American Board of Surgery, is to speak at his inauguration as president of the American College of Surgeons and initiation of 1,178 surgeons as new Fellows of the College. Following traditional cap-and-gown ceremonies, the new members will hear Dr. Rankin state that the ceremony places upon them "certain responsibilities" and also places upon the College the responsibility of vouching for them in the eyes of the world as "both competent and worthy."

The text of Dr. Rankin's address states in part:

"It is a melancholy, but undeniable, fact that since the end of World War I, and even more since the end of World War II, the moral fiber of this nation has lost much of its strength. Perhaps it was inevitable in this torn world, where ideologies clash and the very existence of nations is at stake, that the higher values should have become, and should remain, darkly clouded. Yet we cannot permit the cardinal virtues of honesty and integrity, and the stoutness of character to which we give the old-fashioned name of uprightness, to be pushed into the background and there to remain dormant. These are still the spiritual values which men should live by.

"These things apply to us as surgeons. There are some in our midst who do not

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### Daily Program in Brief

Friday's "Daily Schedule in Brief" may be found on pages 7 and 8 of the Congress handbook.