laughter can be heard from afar when the wine flows and good friends are there to share it with him.

It gives me great pleasure, and I consider it a privilege indeed, to introduce my scientific father and the 1969 Proctor Lecturer, Hermann Burian.

Gunter K. von Noorden

Remarks on Acceptance of the Proctor Medal Award

Hermann M. Burian

The coveted Proctor Medal can be awarded to only a few recipients. It is all the more gratifying to have one's colleagues consider one worthy of being so honored. I am deeply grateful to the Trustees of the Association for Research in Ophthalmology for having selected me for this signal distinction, and I am happy to have this opportunity to acknowledge my gratitude publicly.

When I was told over one year ago that I would be giving the Proctor Lecture in 1969, I was not fully aware that the meetings of the Association would be split into meetings oriented toward the basic sciences and meetings oriented toward the clinical sciences. When I told Dr. Mawmenee that my lecture would be concerned with the temporal aspects of the human ERG, he appeared distinctly disappointed. But in his usual generous fashion he immediately agreed and has organized this meeting around the application of electrophysiologic methods to clinical problems. I am grateful to him for having done so. And I am sure that the summaries of our knowledge which were presented in such exemplary fashion preceding my lecture will be of great help to those ophthalmologists who wish to learn how the assessment of visual functions by electrophysiologic methods can be useful to them in answering diagnostic, prognostic, and other clinical questions.

I have alluded to the split in the meetings of the Association into meetings concerned with basic sciences and meetings concerned with clinical sciences. I, for one, regret this development, as well as some other developments within the Association. But this happy occasion is not the time for regrets or criticisms. Rather, let me for just a moment look back to 1933, the year in which I attended my first meeting of this Association and made one of my first public appearances. Only a few papers were presented—eight in all, if I remember rightly. However, this had the advantage of allowing for a thorough and searching discussion of each paper by the audience which, though small in number, was enthusiastic and deeply interested.

Around this time an editorial appeared in one of our ophthalmic journals which pointed to the fact that almost everyone who presented a paper at the Association meeting had a foreign accent in speaking English, and it was stated, though maybe not quite in these words, that no red-blooded American ophthalmologist would consent to work in a laboratory for a pittance as these newcomers did. I confess that I rather resented this editorial at the time and regretted the implication that

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ophthalmic research was a second-rate activity for an intelligent, ambitious person.

Now, 31 years later, the picture has changed greatly from what it was in 1938. One still hears off and on at these meetings a presentation made in English with a foreign accent—you have an example before you—but these occasions are few and far between. The number of American ophthalmologists and scientists who devote a large part, or all of their time to vision research has grown enormously and ophthalmic research, in the broadest sense of the word, has reached a pinnacle both in quantity and in quality in the United States which no one could have foreseen in 1933. This is due, in part, to a change in attitude. Ophthalmic research has become respectable. Most workers in the field are now supported in a fashion which allows them to do fruitful work and to lead a life consonant with the standards of the academic and medical communities.

The Association for Research in Ophthalmology has done its share in bringing about the favorable climate for ophthalmic research which we are now enjoying. We must all be appreciative to the Trustees of the Association for their help in creating it. I personally owe a special debt of gratitude to the Trustees who last year selected me for the Proctor Award, a recognition which, in truth, is one of the finest things that could have happened to me.

**PUBLICATIONS OF DR. HERMANN M. BURIAN**

3. The treatment of tuberculosis with Calmette’s remedy (newspaper article published in German in Leipziger Tageblatt, August, 1931).
4. Über die rosenkranzartigen Pigmentstreifen im Augenhintergrund, Zehr. f. Augenheilk. 84: 293, 1934.
15. Die Wirkung des Naphthalins auf das Rückenmark des Frosches. Ein Beitrag zur