IALP News

Informative and consultative status (category B) with NEWS UNESCO, UNICEF, WHO, ECOSOC and CIOMS

11th National Conference of the Polish Logopedic Society (PLS)
Lublin, Poland, October 9-10, 1993

The 11th National Conference of the PLS was held at the Maria Skłodowska-Curie University in Lublin on October 9-10, 1993. This year it is 30 years since our Society was formed (on January 13, 1963), but the first logopedic conference was held earlier. The presidents of the 11th Conference were Prof. B. Adamczyk and Dr. Z. Tarkowski. At the beginning of the conference it was informed that PLS was affiliated to IALP in 1991. This information was taken cognizance of with a big applause by logopedics [Checiek M: The affiliation of PLS by IALP. Logopedia 1991;18:159-161].

Known phoniatricians took part in the conference, like Prof. A. Pruszewicz and doc. Dr. A. Obrebowksi. During these 2 days 22 papers were delivered and a few exhibitions of logopedic aids, books etc. were organized. Among the papers there were, e.g.: ‘Applicability of Speech Audiometry in Testing Hearing’ (A. Pruszewicz), ‘The Concept of Synchronization in Choral Speaking with Echo and Reverberation in Stuttering Therapy’ (B. Adamczyk), ‘Developing Child Speech: A Therapeutic-Stimulation Program – A Universal Version (Z. Tarkowski), ‘Central Hearing Disturbances’ (T. Zaleski), ‘Stuttering in Children with Histidinemia’ (E. Stecka), ‘The Present Stage of Research on Stuttering: Selected Issues’ (M. Ceciek).

The Headquarters of the PLS has published its publication Logopedia No. 20 in which all papers (and other articles) are published in Polish with summaries in English. Logopedia No. 20 was given to all of over 250 participants of the conference. The new Headquarters of PLS has 9 members, the president for the next 3 years is Prof. B. Adamczyk (University MS-C Lublin), vice-presidents: Mgr. M. Checiek (Raciborz) and Dr. T. Zaleski (Warszawa).

Mieczyslaw Checiek, Raciborz, Poland

9es Journées
Voix et Pratique orthophonique
Vendredi 10 et samedi 11 juin 1994
Les themes en sont: La voix et les nouvelles technologies
Voix, orthophonie et informatique
Voix et toxine botulique
Voix et ronflement
La preservation de la voix par le chirurgien
Des machines pour parler Art, voix et orthophonie
Instrumentistes à vent
Chanteurs, comédiens
Des ateliers sont prévus pour un travail pratique dans ces divers domaines.
Pour information:
Groupe d’études et de recherche en orthophonie et en phoniatrie
GEROP
Consultation ORL
Hôpital Pasteur
30, avenue de la Voie Romaine
BP 69-06002 Nice Cedex 1 (France)
Tel: 92 03 78 08
IALP School Committee
Details have been completed for the meeting and workshop of the IALP School Committee which will be held in Newcastle, UK, on July 10-13, 1994. The topic for the workshop will be ‘Issues Facing Logopedists (Speech-Language Pathologists/Therapists) in the Primary School Setting’. Participants will be invited to present models of intervention in their countries, plus a presentation of new directions, legal factors and parent involvement. The registration fee will be £85 per person and will include all workshop sessions, lunches, buffet meal, pub meal, a guided tour of Durham and entertainment. Interested persons are invited to contact
Richard J. Brett School Committee Chair
Waukegan High School
2325 Brookside Avenue
Waukegan, IL 60085 (USA)
Fax 708 360 5399 or
Jane Sadler
Charge of local arrangements
Department of Speech
University of Newcastle
Newcastle-upon-Tyne 7E1 7RU (UK)
Fax 091 261 1182

(1979) and Physics for Audiologist and Speech Pathologist (1989). He also collaborated on different books, among them La Comunicación Oral (1973) of Dr. Renato Segre and recently a chapter on the book La Voz Normal (1992) of Dr. C. Jackson-Menaldi.

He was an active member of the International Association for Identification, International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatrics, Association of Speech, Hearing Association (USA) and the Collegium of Experimental Phoniatric and Communication Sciences.

In recognition of his lifelong contributions to the study of phoniatrics, his colleagues and friends wish to respectfully express their gratitude in his memory.

Professor Oscar Tosi
1921-1994

Oscar Tosi (known as ‘Baron de Bianchafiore’), a Michigan State Professor whose life’s work was the study of voice identification, died on January 4, 1994, at East Lansing, Mich., USA, after a short illness. He was 73 years old.

Dr. Tosi was born in Italy and, at the age of 8 years, emigrated to Argentina where he took a doctoral degree in Physics at Buenos Aires University. He served in the Argentine Navy and then moved to the USA where he obtained a PhD in Speech Sciences.

Dr. Tosi was a full Professor of Physics and Director of the Institute of Voice Identification at the Department of Audiology and Speech Sciences of Michigan State University.

His research on voice identification is regarded as one of the most comprehensive pieces of work of its kind. Internationally known, he was appointed as an expert witness in more than 200 cases
in different parts of the world. Dr. Tosi developed unique computer approach on VI/E (voice identification and elimination) with his former PhD student Dr. Hiratoka Naka-sone for the purpose of voice identification. As an expert in VI/E, he taught and trained law enforcement officers in the USA as well as several foreign countries. Dr. Tosi devoted considerable energy to experimentation on VI/E from his first publication in 1968 until the moment of his death. He published numerous papers in international journals of his specialty as well as two books entitled Voice Identification, Theory and Legal Applications.

News from the Czech Republic

The political and economic changes in our countries, since November 1989, above all the division of Czechoslovakia into two independent republics – the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic – on January 1st 1993, have significantly influenced all events in our country. Both republics now have their own independent development. This also applies to the system of education, health care, care for patients with voice, speech, language and hearing disorders and in addition for the development of the professions of logopaedics and phoniatrics. Two entirely independent associations of speech therapists and phoniatrians have been established in the two countries.

The privatisation of health care occurring in both the Czech Republic and Slovak Republic has influenced the care of our patients. As mentioned previously, this development is not parallel in both countries.

At present in the Czech Republic there are approximately 60-70 phoniatrians working in the field of phoniatri and about 200 speech therapists working in health care – clinical speech therapists. Previously all these specialists had been employed in the state health care system. Now most of them have established their own private units.

With the aim of helping these specialists to provide high-quality care for children and adults with voice, speech, language and hearing disorders, we have established a model facility consisting of a phoniatic and paedaudiologic department and centre in Praha 8. This centre provides diagnostic methods (microstro-boscopy, electromyography, voice analysis methods) as well as therapy. A new in-patient facility now enables families, and in particular mothers, to participate in special diagnostic and therapeutic care. It also creates conditions for first-rate postgraduate education of specialists (phoniatricians and speech therapists). This education is integrated with practice and facilitates applied research. The centre, in its attitude toward the care for patients, maintains fully humanitarian characteristics.

An unused day-care centre, consisting of four pavilions, was reconstructed and opened as a Phoniatic Department and Paedaudiologic Department and Centre for Children with Voice, Speech and Hearing Disorders on 1st July 1991, in Prague. This department was developed as a mutual work place for the Postgraduate Medical and Pharmaceutical Institute and the District Institute of Health Care of Prague 8. The department consists of: (1) out-patient centre; (2) special diagnostic and therapeutic centre; (3) intensive-therapy centre for 20 children from 2 to 7 years; (4) administration and technical department.

During the year 1992 the number of patients treated at the centre was 11,538.
We consider that it would be useful to establish similar centres by renovating former day-care centres and kindergartens (or similar facilities) in all countries in East Europe and thus find a new application for such buildings which are no longer used for their original purpose.

Ass. Prof. Sram Frantisek, MD
Resovská 10/491
181 00 Praha 8 (Czech Republic)

Book Reviews · Buchbesprechungen · Livres nouveaux
Margaret M. Leahy, Jeffrey L. Kallen (eds.) Presentation of Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Speech and Language Pathology
School of Clinical Speech and Language Studies, Trinity College, Dublin 324 pp.; IRE 9.00
In 1992 the School of Clinical Speech and Language Studies at Trinity College in Dublin hosted an international conference on interdisciplinary perspectives in speech and language pathology. The conference was one of many celebrations of the quartercentenary of the foundation of Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland.
For the benefit of all of us who could not participate in this conference the proceedings have now appeared. The volume contains a selection of 31 papers grouped into three sections.
Section A presents the keynote addresses and responses given by distinguished speakers at four successive plenary sessions. These four different areas in focus are: Sociolinguistics (Walt Wolfram and Marie de Montfort Supple), Motor Speech Disorders (John Rossenbek and Sandra Robertson), Exceptionality in Language Development, Subjects, Aphasics and Modularity (J.A. Rondal and Tina Hickey), and Language Impairment in Childhood (Janet Lees and Anne Halliday).

In his presentation of the sociolinguistic model in speech and language pathology, Prof. Walt Wolfram from the USA discusses various kinds of language variation and the old ‘difference-deficit controversy’. The sociolinguistic awareness among speech and language pathologists has developed gradually over the decades, and today sociolinguistic variations are looked upon as something fundamentally different from language disorders and should not be ‘treated’.

In his presentation John Rosenbek is focusing on two of the cornerstones of the Mayo Clinic research: apraxia of speech and dysarthria, showing how Darley, Aronson and Brown provided a foundation, a structure solid enough for more recent American and European researchers to build on. They introduced the term ‘apraxia of speech’ as a disorder of the programming level rather than the execution or the linguistic planning level of human cortical motor control, i.e. apraxia of speech as distinct from dysarthria and subtypes of aphasia. Their work has generated more than 20 years of constant debate concerning the term, description, explanation, localization and treatment. The early perceptual, descriptive research based on transcriptions of apraxic speech movements, but there is still no simple neuro-

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motor explanation to the disorder. Rather the debate seems to have been reframed and more prone to an effort to use theories and models of motor control which can account for both normal and apraxic speech.

In the area of language disorders, a couple of articles deal with the fundamental question of the relation between thought and language and the application of the concept of modularity to this issue. An interesting discussion of potentional types of dissociation, such as production vs.
perception and dissociation of different language components (computational-conceptual) takes its departure in exceptional language development in mentally retarded subjects, but also considers data from aphasia and from normal development (Rondal and Hickey). Language impairment in children is treated from a clinical-therapeutic perspective by Lees, who takes up methodology issues and suggests a protocol for the description of acquired aphasia in childhood, in order to make case descriptions comparable. In the same area, Halliday stresses the need for multidisciplinary work.

Section B has a focus on the practice of intervention and the activities of therapists. This section includes twelve papers on various approaches to management of the patients with stuttering, specific language disorder and head injury.

Section C has more of a focus on disabled speakers themselves, including patients with developmental verbal dyspraxia, aphasia, head injury, motor speech disorders, specific language impairment, cleft palate, stuttering, hearing impairment and deafness.

It is of course impossible to do justice to this very interesting publication in a short presentation. We recommend the book to all professionals who are interested in acquainting themselves with ongoing research (and clinical activities) in various disciplines of great relevance for speech and language pathology.

Elisabeth Ahlsén, Lena Hartelius, Ewa Söderpalm University of Göteborg, Sweden
Janet A. Lees

Children with Acquired Aphasia
Whurr, London 1993
160 pp.; £19.50
(Available in the USA from Singular Publishing Group Inc., price US$ 62.25)

This is a rare if not a unique book. The topic of acquired childhood aphasia (ACA) has not received much attention in the literature and, when referred to, is often taken to refer only to Landau-Kleffner syndrome. While this disorder certainly comes under the general heading of ACA, it is not the major cause of this disorder, but, as Lees informs us, the majority of cases presenting with acquired aphasia are the result of head injury.

Some of the material published in this book has already appeared either in the final chapter in the book by Lees and Urwin [1] Children with Language Disorders or in a paper by Lees and Neville [2] published in Aphasiology. This in no way detracts from the present book which could be considered as a major expansion of the previous texts.

The book is organised into an introductory chapter, which gives an overview of the subject, and two parts each containing three chapters. Part 1 deals with the traumatic aphasias, unilateral cerebral lesions, head injury and other traumatic aphasias. In part 2 Landau-Kleffner syndrome, other convulsive aphasias and anomalous aphasias are covered. The final chapter, chapter 8, is titled ‘Conclusions’, and in it various topics dealt with in the preceding chapters are summarised, expanded or emphasised.

There are two appendices, one dealing with speech and language tests, the other with a proposed protocol for the study of children with ACA.

Each of the main six chapters are organised under the following headings: pathology, natural history, role of the speech and language therapist, other aspects of management and conclusions; examples of children presenting with the specific disorder are described.
Throughout the book the absence of, and need for, a systematic study of ACA is emphasised. Due to the rarity of the cases Lees rightly suggests that the only way forward with such work is thorough multicentre studies using an agreed protocol (as stated, a suggested protocol is given in the appendices). A further point emphasised is the need for multidisciplinary teams in the management of these children given the complexity of their problems. The publication of this book is to be welcomed, not only by speech and language therapists, but by all who work in teams involved with the management of children with ACA. It is well written, easy to digest and relatively affordable!

References
Marie de Montfort, Trinity College, Dublin
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