The Association is now in its seventh year and continues to grow in numbers and prestige, which is indeed a happy and rewarding situation. In the 1968/69 Annual Report, there were 477 full members and 67 associate members, total 544. Since then some members have resigned because they no longer work in the field of nephrology, and others were taken off the register because of non-payment of their membership fees over a period of two years.

At the Autumn Council Meeting, ten full members and three associates were elected. At the Spring Council Meeting, 79 full members and 22 associates were elected. At yesterday’s Council Meeting a further 26 members were elected. At present, therefore, we have a total of 652 members.

Council Meetings were held at the following venues – Stockholm on the
29th June, 1969; Barcelona on the 18th and 19th October, 1969; Paris on the 18th April, 1970 and Barcelona on the 25th June, 1970.

PAPER SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR 1970:
The Paper Selection Committee was chosen from members of the Council and it consisted of:

Professor A. C. Kennedy  Great Britain – Chairman
Professor E. Rotellar  Spain
Professor N. Alwall  Sweden
Professor D. Fries  France
Professor L. Migone  Italy
Professor B. Watschinger  Austria

This Committee met in Paris on the day before the Spring Council Meeting. The local Secretary of the Congress, Dr L. Sanchez and the Secretary/Treasurer were also in attendance. One hundred and sixty papers, together with 23 demonstrations, were submitted for consideration, this being a significant increase on the previous year. The following procedure was adopted for the selection of papers for presentation to the Congress. All Council Members received copies of the Abstracts prior to the Meeting. The names of authors or centres to which they were attached were unknown to the members of the Council. The Abstracts were identified by numbers only. Each Council member evaluated the Abstracts, rating them from zero to five. The final selection was carried out by the Paper Selection Committee.

I would like to remind the members that papers are only considered for publication if at least one of the authors is a full or associate member of the Association. I would also like to remind members, that papers cannot be considered for publication unless they are original, have not been published, accepted for publication, or accepted for presentation at another Meeting at which proceedings are published. The Editor has the authority of Council, to exclude from our published Proceedings, any paper which has appeared in print elsewhere since its delivery at the Congress. Papers which have been accepted for the Meeting, but have since been found to have been published elsewhere, will be read by title only at the Congress. Papers are accepted solely on merit, and there is no limitation to the number which may be accepted from any one person or Unit.

The Sixth Annual General Assembly of the Association was held in Stockholm on Friday 27th June, 1969, with the President, Professor Dutz, in the Chair. We are most grateful to our Swedish colleagues who arranged that Congress, particularly Professor N. Alwall and Professor H. Bucht. Copies of the Minutes of this Meeting have been circulated to all members.

It was agreed at the Autumn Council Meeting that the general policy of the Association should be changed, so that we can accept financial aid from
commercial firms, and that this fund may be called the 'Travelling and General Purposes Fund'. This fund will be administered at the discretion of Council, and they will acknowledge the financial aid so obtained, by publishing the list of the subscribing commercial firms. The Council also agreed at this Meeting, that we should in future delete the word 'Junior' from the Baxter 'Junior Travelling Fund'. The Secretary/Treasurer has confirmed this with Baxter/Travenol. The distribution of this fund will be made at the discretion of the President and Secretary/Treasurer. This year the fund amounted to $2,500 US dollars, an increase of $1,000 US dollars on the 1969 sum. Thirty applicants were granted assistance for the Barcelona Congress. The Association is forever grateful to Baxter/Travenol for this continuing financial support for the members of the Association. It was also agreed by Council at this Meeting, that members of the Association living and working in Eastern European countries who are not in a position to pay their annual membership fee in western currency, should set up and organise their own collecting system. These fees may either be lodged in separate accounts in the countries of origin of these members, or a central Eastern European account could be established in one country. The money available from this fund will be used at the discretion of Council.

The 1971 Congress will be held in East Berlin, GDR, on the 2nd and 3rd July, with registration on the 1st, under the Presidency of Professor N. Alwall. Dr Rudolf Natusch, 2nd Medical Clinic Charité, 104 Berlin, GDR Schumannstrasse 20/21, will be local Congress Secretary. It is hoped that one of the forthcoming Autumn or Spring Council Meetings will be held in East Berlin, GDR.

Venue for the 1972 Meeting: applications were received from London, Parma, Vienna and West Berlin. Council recommended that the 1972 Meeting should be held in Parma and that the 1973 venue should be Vienna. This was unanimously endorsed at the Annual Business Meeting.

The next International Society of Nephrology Meeting will be held in Mexico in 1972, and it was agreed by Council that there should, if possible, be an interval of three months between the Meeting of the International Society of Nephrology and the EDTA Meeting.

The Members' Annual Booklet: Council have decided that the publication of this Booklet will continue as in previous years, and will contain the names and addresses of the members of the Association, the list of all Dialysis Centres, with telephone numbers, in Europe and adjacent countries. It was furthermore agreed, that the names of Centres from which replies were received to this year's questionnaire, should be published in the Booklet, and the names of known large Centres from which replies had not been received, may also be published. The publication of this Booklet will be the responsibility of the Secretary/Treasurer and the Registration Committee.
We wish to express our appreciation of the generosity of Messrs A. F. Verder/Vleuten, N.V., Vleuten (U), The Netherlands, who bore the cost of publishing the Booklet. If a member's name, address, or status, appears incorrectly in this Booklet, please notify the Secretary/Treasurer immediately. Members should also notify anticipated changes of address.

The Registration Committee for 1969/70 consisted of: Dr H. Gurland, Federal Republic of Germany, Chairman; Dr W. Drukker, Amsterdam, The Netherlands and Dr F. Parsons, Leeds, United Kingdom. It is obvious to all members that they have performed a magnificent task for this year. The results of their labour will appear in this issue of the Proceedings. Financial support for their work was obtained from the Governments of Federal Republic of Germany – 15,000 DM; The Netherlands – 7,300 DFL; Ireland – £300 and from the Central Fund of the Association – £850. The Irish Ministry of Health has, in addition, indicated that it will continue to subscribe £300 annually for the survey. The Association agreed that this Annual European Survey of their patients on regular dialysis treatment and transplantation, should continue.

This issue of the Proceedings will also contain a review on the use and abuse of antibiotics in Renal Insufficiency, edited by Dr A. Linton and Dr D. H. Lawson, Glasgow, United Kingdom.

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution: The number of full members present at the Annual Business Meeting in Barcelona on the 26th June, 1970, was less than half the total number of full members. The proposals were, therefore, not submitted to the Meeting, but will go forward to the 1971 Annual Business Meeting in East Berlin, GDR (Article 18 of the present Constitution).

I would like to assure the members, that the Council and the Secretary/Treasurer will at all times, welcome ideas, suggestions and criticism in the interest of the Association. As far as I am concerned, the lines of communication are always open.

Finally, at the end of this my first year as your Secretary/Treasurer, I feel that I must publicly thank the President and Members of Council for the kindness, co-operation and understanding which has been shown to me.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Dr E. E. Twiss from Rotterdam, kindly certified the 1969 accounts of the Association as being correct. I have pleasure in announcing to the members that the Association has, for the first time, acquired significant assets, and that we need have no financial worries for the immediate future. On the 31st December, 1969, the Association's assets were approximately £4,000 sterling, after paying all expenses. One thousand pounds of this money is invested at 9½% interest, tax free.
The Statement of Account was circulated to all members at the Annual Business Meeting. This satisfactory position, is in the main, due to the favourable terms which we obtained from the publishers of the Proceedings, Pitman Medical & Scientific Publishing Co. Ltd. of London. The annual membership fee for 1969 was DFL. 72, there was a small decrease for 1970 and I do not envisage any necessity to increase the 1971 membership fee. The Council of the Association are aware of this financial situation but, they do not recommend any reduction in membership fees for 1971. However, I must remind you that since the Association is growing rapidly the running costs for this year will be in excess of last year.

Michael Carmody,
Secretary/Treasurer
June, 1970