

**XVth Convention of the Julius-Hirschberg-Gesellschaft
September 27th - 29th 2001 Hamburg
in Connection with the Centenary of the DGGMNT (German Society for History of
Medicine, Sciences of Nature and Technics)**

- Because of the webmaster's press ure of business the JHG-website <www.dog.org/jhg> will be actualized not earlier than at the end of October a.c. at least. Meanwhile you may find the English abstracts here (as far as the were sent by the autors) attached as RTF-, DOC-, TXT-, and AW-file.

Greetings, Aloys Henning

**Program of lectures (translated titles), which will be read in German at
September, 28th in the »Geomatikum« of the Hamburg unversity, room No. 430,
beginning at 8:30 a.m.**

Liliane Bellwald (Luxembourg):

Ophthalmica and other Œmedical remedies¹ in ophthalmology of the beginning 14th century by Guy de Chauliac and Henry de Mondeville

Gerhard Keerl (Düsseldorf):

The blind Hussite general Johann Ziska

Franz Daxecker (Innsbruck):

Johann Georg Fuchs Medicus, privileg. Oculist and Operateur

Peter-Paul Chaudron (Leiden):

The oculist Joseph Hilmer in the Netherlands

Robert Heitz (Haguenau):

Subaqueus ophthalmoscopy

Aloys Henning (Berlin):

On the changed approach extracting the cataract at the end of the 20th century

Gerhard Holland (Kiel):

August Classen (1835-1889) ophthalmologist and philosopher

Gottfried Vesper (Leipzig):

The eye-disease of the German painter Ludwig Richter (1803-1884)

Frank Krogmann (Thüningersheim):

Field Marshall Earl of Radetzky and his eye-disease

Gregor Wollensak (Dresden)
Duke of Bavaria Carl Theodor's ³Tausend Staaroperationen²

Jutta Herde (Halle):
The ophthalmologists Rudolf Schirmer and Otto Schirmer

Dieter Schmidt (Freiburg):
Carl Wilhelm von Zehender, the ³Father of Microsurgery² (1819-1916)

Hans Remky (München):
Richard Heinrich Deutschmann (1852-1935)
Theories and surgical treatment of retinal detachment

Hans F. Piper (Lübeck):
Unusual procedures for squint operations A review of the past 150 years

Daniel Hirsch-Kauffmann Jokl (New York)
Hirschberg, Germany and Japan The origin of a special relationship

Summaries in order of the lecturers' program

Gerhard Keerl (Düsseldorf):
The blind Hussite general Johann Ziska

Few and contradictious biographical dates are known about the first 50 years of Johann Ziska (Jan Ilka) of Trocznow, the Hussite general in the 15th century. There are no documents concerning the blindness of his first eye. Born about 1360 his political career had begun in 1409, when he became the leader of the rioting "Taborites". In consequence of the autodaf, of the reformer Jan Hus at Constance council 1415 fighting against emperor Sigismund, the Roman catholic church and for social reforms, Ziska destroyed nearly all cloisters and several catholic determined villages all over Bohemia. When besieging the castle of Ruby he lost the function of his second eye also. The last three years he commanded his troops in total blindness. Ziska is graded an important general for his inventive tactics. He died by infection in 1424. Besides historic documentation his life is memorised by some heroic poetry.

Franz Daxecker (Innsbruck):

Johann Georg Fuchs _ Medicus, privileg. Oculist and Operateur

On a flea-market in Innsbruck I found a copper-plate etching showing a stout, richly dressed man who wears a wig. The inscription on the portrait is: IOHANN GEORG FUCHS MEDICUS PRIVILEG. OCULIST ET OPERATEUR: Aetat. Suae 30. In the corners four shields are depicted: one of Kaiser Karl VI, one of the Prince-bishop Georg Ludwig van Berghen of Luettich, one showing a bull which is the symbol for the Evangelist Lucas. The fourth shield is unclarified, perhaps it is the shield of an abbey in the Diocese of Luettich. On the bottom the Oculist's shield is depicted, showing his initials and a fox. On the 24th of October 1729 Fuchs made an application to the emperor to receive the "Aerzteprivileg" (the doctor's privilege) and an exam. He received the privilege on the 5th of November 1729 (the original documents are in the Oesterreichische Staatsarchiv). In his application Fuchs listed his knowledge of the art of healing eye diseases, stones, hernia and wounds. He mentioned that he was born in Koblenz (presumably around 1698), that he lived in Brussels and that he was a student of Michael Braun. In 1728 Fuchs had got the permission to practise; this permission was renewed in 1746 before the next Prince-bishop Johann Theodor of Bavaria started his duty. Johann Georg Fuchs did not revolutionize Ophthalmology and his name is not linked with a new technic or a new medical instrument.

Nevertheless it is remarkable that Adalbert Fuchs (1814_1886), the father of the famous Viennese Ophthalmologist Prof. Ernst Fuchs (1851_1930) who was called from Vienna to Luettich, worked in Innsbruck as Professor for Zoology and was Dekan of the Philosophy Department.

Prof. Dr. F. Daxecker, Universitäts-Augenklinik, Anichstraße 35, A-6020 Innsbruck

Robert Heitz (Haguenau):

Subaqueous ophthalmoscopy

On November 12, 1704, the medical doctor Jean Morry presented to the French Royal Academy of Sciences, Paris, his observation that if a cat is immersed in water its retinal vessels became visible. On March 20, 1709, Philippe de La Hire pointed out that this was due to the abolition of the corneal refraction.

Morry's experiment of eye immersion for fundus visualization was repeated and supplemented later in humans: In 1845 by Adolf Kussmaul, 1851 by Johann Nepomuk Czermak for the construction of the orthoscope, and 1891 by Oswald Gerloff, for the earliest successful human published fundus photography.

Robert Heitz (Haguenau):
L'ophtalmoscopie sous l'eau

Le 12 novembre 1704, Jean Mery, Chirurgien ... l'Hôtel-Dieu de Paris prsenta ... l'Académie royale des Sciences son observation qu'en immergeant la tête d'un chat dans l'eau, il avait rendu visible les éléments du fond de l'oeil. Le 20 mars 1709, Philippe de La Hire donna l'explication de cette observation, réalisée par l'abolition de la refraction et de la réflexion de la corne.

L'expérience de Mery fut reprise et appliquée chez les humains par Adolf Kussmaul, puis par Johann Nepomuk Czermak pour l'orthoscope, par Oswald Gerloff pour le premier "photogramme" du fond d'oeil publié dans une revue médicale et par Rayner Batten pour l'hydrophthalmoscope.

Aloys Henning (Berlin):
On the changed approach extracting the cataract at the end of the 20th century

In 1750 Jacques Daviel (1712-1762) replaced the ancient cataract couching by his extracapsular cataract extraction. Still to-day the operation of the cataract is based on his technology. During the last quarter of the 20th century this has become prerequisite to IOL technics. Meanwhile in the last nineties minimalised invasive surgery on the eye has replaced Daviel's cutting the cornea and frontal opening the eyeball by softer lateral and more punctual invasion as tunnel no stich technics, which make remember the past cataract couching. Modern technologies make the operator act less "aggressive" than at Daviel's time.

Archaic metaphors of the eye may illuminate this changing by mythological "pictures" as of blinding Polyphemos cyclops, Oedipus, the "blinding" of pope Leo IIIrd in 798, by pictures of Pablo Picasso. Its rational kernel is based on paleolithic drawings of homo erectus Bilzinglebeniensis, 350.000 years ago.

Gerhard Holland (Kiel):

August Classen (1835_1889) _ ophthalmologist and philosopher

Julius Hirschberg called August Classen the greatest philosopher among the ophthalmologists of the 19th century. He was born in Lübeck, became student of the famous Katharineum, where his father Johannes Classen was professor. This man, later on headmaster of the gymnasium in Frankfurt and then of the Johanneum in Hamburg was a well-known classicist and historian. August Classen studied medicine in Göttingen, Breslau and Frankfurt, he was student of Albrecht von Graefe for three months. In 1856 he became doctor of medicine with the historical treatise "De medicis primorum medii aevii seculorum". In 1858 he came to Rostock first as assistant of Professor Strepel and then as the only one ophthalmologist in whole Mecklenburg, since 1860 as leader of an eye clinic. In 1858 he became assistant professor with the investigation "Examination on the histology of the cornea". In 1872 he moved to Hamburg and purchased the eye clinic of Schelski. The main reason for going to Hamburg was the establishment of the first professorship of ophthalmology at the university of Rostock under Zehender. Classen's scientific interests were mainly the physiology of the visual organ and according to this topic the philosophy of Kant. In 1876 he published his book "Physiology of vision, for the first time founded on Kant's theory of experience" and ten years later his important work "The influence of Kant on the theory of sensory perception and the certitude of its results". Besides he was engaged in public health, wrote about houses for workers, about cholera and published a treatise with the title "The eye and its diseases for the educated public of all classes".

Gottfried Vesper (Leipzig):

The eye-disease of the German painter Ludwig Richter (1803-1884)

Ludwig Richter, a famous painter of the romantic movement in Germany, has painted in particular peaceful folk-motives and sceneries. In the era of "Biedermeier" he was the "Bildermann für deutsche Art und Sitte" (man for pictures representing German manner and custom).

About 1858 an eye-disease began to afflict Richter, most probably degenerative alterations of the retina.

Frank Krogmann (Thüningersheim):
Field Marshall Earl of Radetzky and his eye-disease

beginning of the year 1841, imperial royal Field Marshall Earl of Radetzky suffered from an eye disease. The emperor ordered the professors of ophthalmology Frederick Jaeger (Vienna) and Francis Flarer (Pavia) to consult together about Radetzky's disease. Both diagnosed these as cancerous and incurable. But army-physician Christopher Hartung cured this illness within a few months homoeopathic. The success caused a great controversy about benefit from homoeopathy and attention. Hartung, however, got highest respect, especially from patients

Jutta Herde (Halle):
The ophthalmologists Rudolf Schirmer and Otto Schirmer

Rudolf Schirmer the son of the Consistorialrat A. Schirmer in Greifswald graduated the secondary school in Greifswald and Schulpforta. After the study of medicine in Göttingen and Greifswald he went on study trips to Vienna, Paris and Berlin, where he qualified to give lectures at the university in 1860. Then he returned to Greifswald and he founded the ophthalmological lessons at the university. At this time the ophthalmology was still a small part of the surgery. R. Schirmer treated patients with eye diseases in a few rooms of the department of surgery. Under his leadership was built the eye hospital in 1887 and he got the chair. He taught ophthalmology until 1893. Rudolf Schirmer died on January 27 1896 of influenza pneumonia. His famous achievements were publications on anomalies of refraction and accommodation, on diseases of the lacrymal system, his practice works and the establishment of the independent ophthalmology at the university in Greifswald.

Otto Schirmer (13.12.1864 _ 6.5.1917), the son of R. Schirmer, succeeded his father as chair professor in ordinary of ophthalmology. He was graduated on medicine from universities in Munich, Freiburg and Greifswald. The ophthalmological education he has got in Greifswald, Munich and Göttingen. As a pupil of Leber he was graduated to deliver lectures in 1889. For further education he moved through Königsberg and Halle to return to Greifswald. Here he succeeded the teaching of his father. The second and third chair of ophthalmology he got in Kiel and Stralsund. O. Schirmer emigrated in 1909 to the United States. He died in Brooklyn New York May 5 1917. The outstanding works of Otto Schirmer were the publications "Studien zur Physiologie und Pathologie der Tränenabsonderung und Tränenabfuhr" and "Sympathische Augenerkrankungen". The famous probe by Schirmer had a forerunner.

Dieter Schmidt (Freiburg):

Carl Wilhelm von Zehender, the "Father of Microsurgery" (1819-1916)

Carl Wilhelm von Zehender was born in Bremen on May 21, 1819 into a patrician family from Bern, Switzerland. He studied medicine in München, Jena, Kiel, and Göttingen, and after completing his thesis in 1845, practiced medicine in Göttingen until 1848. After having completed a specialization in ophthalmology in Paris, Prague, and Vienna, he became a Medical Assistent under his highly esteemed teaching Professors Friedrich Jäger (Vienna), and later in Berlin, under Albrecht von Graefe. He became a "Medizinalrat" in 1856 and was appointed to the medical teaching staff as a specialist in Ophthalmology in Neustrelitz. In 1862 he was appointed Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Bern, and later at the University of Rostock from 1866 to 1889. Carl Wilhelm von Zehender was knighted in 1888.

He was the first ophthalmologist to successfully operate using microscopic magnification. He developed together with the Court Mechanician Heinrich Westien, a binocular magnifying lense (called a "binokulare Cornealupen" magnification. He first reported on this new instrument in 1887.

He founded and edited the groundbreaking ophthalmological journal "Klinische Monatsblätter für Augenheilkunde" from 1863 to 1899. Furthermore, he was one of the founders of the renowned Ophthalmological Society of Heidelberg, also editing their congress reports from 1862 to 1895. He was an active participant in international congresses, such as those in Paris (1867), London (1872), Edinburgh (1894).

Topics of his numerous published articles include: optics and refraction of the eye, clinical problems, the construction _ including improvement _ of ophthalmological instruments and examining tools, problems concerning insurance claims after eye injuries; he also published articles on the development of the major ophthalmology clinics in Germany. He died on December 19, 1916 at the age of 97.

Hans Remky (München):
Richard Heinrich Deutschmann (1852-1935)
Theories and surgical treatment of retinal detachment

Deutschmann, scientific grand-son of Albrecht von Graefe, since he was a pupil of Theodor Leber, worked from 1887 in Hamburg. His former studies in sympathetic ophthalmia performed in Göttingen succeeded in the Graefe award in 1889. In 1893 he founded the internationally recognised series "Beiträge zur Ophthalmologie" with E. Fuchs, Haab and Vossius.

In Hamburg his main interest was the treatment of retinal detachment: in 1890 transection of vitreal bands and shrunken retina, in 1894 vitreous replacement by prepared vitreous of animals, in 1933 cryopexy. He never agreed totally with Gonin's theory of the role of retinal breaks in the pathology of retinal detachment. His list of publications concerning detachments ended finally in the year of his death.

Hans F. Piper (Lübeck):
Unusual procedures for squint operations _ a review of the past 150 years

In terms of quantity unusual procedures in squint operations had the aim to save tissue, in terms of quality they hoped to achieve near perfect binocularity. Frequently they did not keep what they promised and more often they did not fit into the current stage of development. Suggested procedures were, for example, passive muscle stretching, muscle reattachment, corrections keeping the muscle origin, protection of the conjunctiva, "neurotisation" and use of microscopic and laser techniques. Even recommendations which did not establish themselves fostered the progress in ocular surgery.

Daniel Hirsch-Kauffmann Jokl (New York)

Hirschberg, Germany and Japan _ The origin of a special relationship

The details concerning the transfer of Julius Hirschberg's library to Professor Komoto and, ultimately, to the University of Tokyo have been detailed by Nakajima and Sasaki (Hist Ophthalmol 1992;5:103-109).

Less known are the origins of the social relationship between Hirschberg and Japan stemming from his visit there in 1892. Since the liberalization of Japan's trade with the West in 1868, German professors have contributed to raising the level of Japanese medicine to the standard of Germany _ then the preeminent country in medicine and science in the world. Professor Komoto, among the first of Japanese ophthalmologists to be trained by Hirschberg both in Japan and Germany, never forgot this honor bestowed upon himself and his country.

His efforts to obtain Hirschberg's library for Japan must be viewed in terms of the traditional reverence Japanese have for their teachers _ a token of gratitude meant to inspire future Japanese medical generations.