Preface

This is a record of the Third International Symposium on Glaucoma held in connection with the XX. International Congress of Ophthalmology. The first Symposium was at Ste. Marguerite (Canada) in 1954, and the second at Liège (Belgium) in 1958.

This book is a record of the papers and the discussions which followed them. We tried to fulfil the original idea of the word Symposium, which means to drink together and to discuss a subject suggested by the symposiarch. We are indebted to Prof. H. Goldmann who took over the function of the symposiarch masterly and who upon our request summarized his own impressions of the agenda in the last paper of this volume. The opportunity to drink German wines in the evenings was provided by the generosity of the firm Winzer, Konstanz. This was gaily appreciated by all participants. The tranquillity of the beautiful castle of the Evangelische Akademie at Tutzing, Bavaria, provided the ideal place for this type of meeting. We should like to thank their staff of volunteers. My task as an organiser, secretary and manager was greatly facilitated by the help of Doz. Dr. Ricklefs, Würzburg and by Mrs. G. Leydhecker for the ladies’ programmes. I am indebted to all participants for the care with which they did most of the editing work of the discussions right on the spot during the evenings at Tutzing.

The general subject of this Symposium was the discussion of difficulties and errors in theoretical and practical work on glaucoma. It was most astonishing but heartening that we agreed on so many points, and that the fog which covered some fields of research cleared during the discussions until we could see daylight here and there. However, right from the beginning we enjoyed the warmth of friendship between colleagues of different nations who had a common interest in glaucoma research. It was a heart-warming experience.

This Symposium was much more than a congress can usually offer. I sincerely wish to thank all participants.

W. Leydhecker