

NATIONAL EYE INSTITUTE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1967

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE,
COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met at 10 a.m., pursuant to notice, in room 2322, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. David Satterfield presiding (Hon. John Jarman, chairman of the subcommittee).

Mr. SATTERFIELD. The subcommittee will come to order to continue considering H.R. 12843 and companion bills to establish an eye institute at the National Institutes of Health.

We are glad to have the chairman of our full committee, Mr. Staggers, present today and I will call on him at this time to introduce our first witness for this morning.

Mr. STAGGERS. Mr. Chairman, thank you for giving me the privilege of introducing one of my colleagues from the State of West Virginia.

We have as our first witness this morning Dr. Ralph W. Ryan, treasurer of the American Association of Ophthalmology.

I have known Dr. Ryan for some 15 years since he was connected with the Institutes of Health. Since he has come back to West Virginia he has been my personal eye doctor and is the eye doctor for my entire family. I think he is one of the greatest eye doctors in the country. We travel some distance to visit him.

Dr. Ryan travels not only all over this land but some other nations of the world in his profession. We are very happy to have him with us today.

I feel this is a very important bill and I am sure that the committee wants to hear from you. We have different colleagues who have introduced bills along the same line and I think it is important to our land.

So we are very happy to have you.

STATEMENT OF DR. RALPH W. RYAN, TREASURER, AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

Dr. RYAN. Mr. Chairman and Congressman Staggers, I feel honored at this introduction.

I am a private practicing physician in the field of ophthalmology in a small town; namely, Morgantown, W. Va.

I would like to make a statement today and I have divided this statement into two or three categories which I will read to you.

I have made it rather general. I have drawn some statistics that come largely from research done by Dr. Duane and Mr. Stein's Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. Perhaps when it comes to statistics