

But, I think the administrative aspects might best be worked out later on. I think we are more interested in getting the factual setting up on an Eye Institute and let all of the details be worked out as best decided.

Mr. KYROS. Your testimony then, as I understand it is, notwithstanding these criticisms which appeared in the Surgeon General's report, you think it would be a highly beneficial thing to have the National Eye Institute?

Dr. RYAN. Yes; I do, unqualifiedly.

Mr. CARTER. I believe the Surgeon General stated at the present time there are six ophthalmologists in the National Institutes of Health and according to the information brought out this morning, each probably receive a salary of \$25,000.

Now, it is true we might have to pay \$37,000 for a higher caliber ophthalmologist, but don't you think that certainly we should do this in order to assist our blind?

Dr. RYAN. I think the cost of the salary here would be just a very small consideration when it is contrasted with the importance of this Institute to the American people—the prevention of blindness, the reduction of eye disease, the more effective treatment of eye disease.

Mr. CARTER. Actually, don't you think we should turn these stumbling blocks thrown into the picture by the Surgeon General into stepping stones toward helping alleviate blindness?

Dr. RYAN. Yes; I do.

Mr. JARMAN. Dr. Ryan, we appreciate very much your taking the time to be here this morning and contributing to our hearings.

Dr. RYAN. I am grateful for the opportunity to give this testimony. The organizations I am testifying for are the American Association of Ophthalmology which has something over 3,000 members and my State Academy which has about 50 regular members and 100 associate members.

Mr. JARMAN. Our next witness will be introduced by our colleague from Texas, Mr. Young. The witness in turn will introduce the distinguished panel which will be sitting with him.

Congressman Young?

STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN YOUNG, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Chairman, it is a great honor and privilege for me to be here and especially so for you to extend to me the privilege of introducing one of the truly outstanding professionals of the world in the field of ophthalmology.

It is seldom that we see on the Hill here at the Capitol such a distinguished group of outstanding men in any profession as we see here in this room today.

I count myself singularly honored that I have had the good advantage and the good fortune to have had a relationship with the gentleman whom I am introducing, both as a physician and patient, but as important to me too as friend to friend.

So, I think typical of the group he joins here today in this most worthy of causes, it is my honor and privilege to present to you Dr. Edward Maumenee of Johns Hopkins Hospital.