

These eye problems, by their very nature, cannot be properly initiated and cannot be expected to flourish unless they are under the direction of a man who has devoted his entire professional life to ophthalmologic medicine.

There is no doubt that although Dr. Masland has not been able to find an eye man of sufficient stature to take over the position of Deputy Director of the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness for Ophthalmology, we shall have no such difficulty in finding an outstanding ophthalmologist to take on the duties of director of a separate eye institute.

The reason is that the outstanding men in the field of ophthalmology are strongly and rightly dedicated to their specialty; they believe in its vital importance and in its proper existence as an entity in itself.

Many brilliant men I know would not hesitate to accept such a position because it would enable them to contribute so much; but they would do this only if they could be the final administrative judge of what is to be done regarding eye care without their decisions being subject to the veto of another man, whose professional specialty is in another field of medicine.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, for the opportunity of appearing before you today to urge your approval of the legislation for a new and separate eye institute in the National Institutes of Health.

Mr. JARMAN. Thank you for your statement.

Our colleague, Congressman Fred Rooney, will introduce the next witness.

It would be well if the committee could hear from the panel first and then have questions and answers.

STATEMENT OF HON. FRED B. ROONEY, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. ROONEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me the opportunity to introduce the next witness.

Dr. Thomas D. Duane formerly practiced ophthalmology in the city of Bethlehem, Pa., part of my congressional district, and much has been said about the manner in which we can obtain qualified ophthalmologists to work for the Government at a salary of \$25,800, which is allowed under the law.

Out of the dedication to his profession, Dr. Duane left a very lucrative practice in the city of Bethlehem. He is now professor of ophthalmology at Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia and I am sure his compensation today is far less than it would be had he still been practicing in the city of Bethlehem.

I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the doctors who appear on this panel today who traveled to Washington to testify before this distinguished committee from as far east as Rome and as far west as Los Angeles. I know they have gone to considerable personal time and expense to appear here today.