

# The Founding of the ILAE



The ILAE was inaugurated at a side-meeting, held during the XVIth International Medical Congress on 30 August 1909, in the Salle Donau of the Hotel Bristol. Forty-six people, mainly neurologists and psychiatrists, were present. Subsequent meetings were held two and three days later, the first two chaired by Auguste Marie and the third by Augusto Tamburini.

A committee of patronage was established that consisted of internationally renowned physicians – Konrad Alt, Otto Hebold, Adolf Friedländer, Vladimir Bekhterev, Fulgence Raymond, Louis Landouzy, Robert Sommer, Wilhelm Weygandt and Tamburini. Louis Muskens was appointed as secretary-general charged with recruiting members and with collecting the first round of international data. A permanent office was to be situated provisionally in Budapest.

Marie reported the events to a meeting of the psychiatry section of the main congress on 2 September, where it was recorded that *'the League will devote itself to special projects on behalf of epileptics, and to finding a cure and means of prevention, as well as providing aid and social rehabilitation. Nor will the League neglect experimental research and comparative physiopathology, or laboratory work, which is essential for elucidating a series of problems as complex as those raised by the origin, evolution and nature of seizure disorders, with their attendant range of somatic and psychic complications.'*