

## NOTE BY CHAIRMAN

London, 30th June 1962

ASTIN will be officially 5 years old in November 1962 and the brief account of the formal business dealt with at the committee meeting held during the Colloquium at Juan-les-Pins which appears elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin records the steady growth of the first special section of the Permanent Committee for International Actuarial Congresses since the 15th Congress in New York.

Like most vigorous children, a young organisation needs help and guidance and we owe a considerable debt of gratitude to our Chairmen who have so ably guided our steps in these early years and created a solid basis for building for the future. In an organisation such as ours, the Secretary is very much aware of the responsibilities which devolve upon the Chairman and I am thus specially aware of the very significant contributions to the success of ASTIN made by Paul Johansen, Chairman from 1957 to 1960 and by Marcel Henry, Chairman from 1960 to 1962.

The committee decided at one of its early meetings that the term of office of the Chairman should be short and I am very conscious of the honour of being elected Chairman and of the challenge presented to me of maintaining and furthering the tradition so soundly created by my predecessors in office.

We are fortunate in being able to draw on the experience of Edouard Franckx in our Committee deliberations, and his election as Chairman of Honour describes succinctly the regard felt for his part of the early work which led to our successful foundation in 1957.

The Bulletin has now taken its place among scientific publications and our full appreciation is due to the untiring efforts of our Editor (now also Vice Chairman), Hans Ammeter, for the very high standard he maintains. A word of thanks too for the printers and the care they give to this very important link between our members.

Behind the scenes the rest of the Committee share their part of the burden, but I must not fail to mention the many members

who have contributed the papers which have generated such excellent discussions at the colloquia and which form the backbone of the Bulletin.

Among enthusiasts, it is easy to be enthusiastic and I am looking forward to my period of office based on the strong bonds that have been built out of our common interests and on the support of our active and understanding committee.