

HANSENOLOGIA INTERNATIONALIS

Hansen. Int.

THE BIRTH OF "HANSENOLOGIA INTERNATIONALIS"

A proposition to the Secretariat of Health

"I am proposing the foundation by the Institute of Health, of a new periodical for the publication of original articles, reprints and translations, under the name "Hansenologia Internationalis". In view of the acceptance of "Hanseniasis: abstracts and news", it may be expected that the new periodical could be honored with support from foreign authors along with national cooperation, and become another service of the government of the State of S. Paulo towards the world's progress in hansenology".

"Through arrangements with the former editors of the "Revista Brasileira de Leprologia", suspended in 1970, the new periodical might supersede that magazine. "Hansenologia Internationalis" could be published twice a year and its editorial and consultive bodies would be formed by experts on hansenological problems, whether or not members of the personnel of the Secretariat of Health".

A. ROTBERG

*Division of Hansenology and Public Health
Dermatology. Institute of Health. CST-Secretariat
of Health, S. Paulo*

April 16, 1975

The Secretariat of Health of the State of S. Paulo, approves

"I approve. The proposition certainly deserves all encouragement".

WALTER LESER

*Secretary of Health, S. Paulo
May 5, 1975*

For a fruitful cooperation

We are pleased to announce that Prof. Walter Leser, the Secretary of Health of the State of S. Paulo, Brazil, has approved the publication

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of "Hansenologia Internationalis", which supersedes the "Revista Brasileira de Leprologia" (1933-1970). The new periodical will publish original and reprinted articles, reports of anatomo-clinical sessions, iconographic documents, letters, news, and other material related to Hanseniasis. Abstracts will continue appearing in "Hanseniasis: abstracts and news".

The first number of vol. I is expected to appear by April 1976. As a new service of the Government of the State of S. Paulo, it will be sent to institutions and Hanseniasis workers, upon request, as well as to those already on the mailing list of "Hanseniasis: abstracts and news".

We hope to establish a fruitful relationship with all organizations and workers interested in hansenological problems.

A. ROTBERG, Editor

The "Sociedade Paulista de Leprologia" presents "Hansenologia Internationalis"

The "Sociedade Paulista de Leprologia" was founded on August 23, 1983, by the medical staff of the "Sanatório Padre Bento", under the leadership of Souza Lima. In September, the first number of its official organ, the "Revista de Leprologia de S. Paulo", came to light with articles by Souza Campos, Souza Lima, Guida, Mendonça de Barros and Maurano, and reprinted papers, by Lowe and Cochrane. In 1936, with its name changed to "Revista Brasileira de Leprologia", it was sponsored by the "Centro Internacional de Leprologia" (Rio de Janeiro), presided over by Professor Eduardo Rabello. Its secretary was Rotberg and it became the official organ of the "Associação Brasileira de Leprologia". Many Brazilian and foreign hansenologists contributed regularly. The following decades witnessed important changes in the field of hansenology, to which we contributed substantially. New concepts of pathology and genetics were introduced, the South-American classification was internationally acknowledged, sulfones appeared, prophylactic measures changed radically and thalidomide became a routine against reactional states. The successful experimental infection of the mouse through the foot pad, and of the armadillo, allied to immunological studies, opened up new fields. However, the epidemiological indexes remained practically unchanged, and in S. Paulo interest in the disease declined. The "Sociedade" and the "Revista" felt the lack of new blood.

In the last decade, however, a new generation of Brazilian dermatologists, encouraged by their professors, fostered the resurgence of the interest in hansenology, through several regional meetings, national congresses and "Journeys" of the Brazilian Dermatological Society.

The medical schools and profession began to acknowledge the seriousness of the problem. It was only natural that those who have always been concerned with it felt encouraged by the announcement of a new specialized periodical. Superseding our old "Revista", "Hansenologia Internationalis" looks to a wider horizon. In homage to the pioneers of

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hansenology of the whole world and recognizing the need of a combined effort, its pages are open to workers and institutions of all countries. Its continuity is warranted by the support of a state government deeply interested in the solution of medico-social problems.

We believe that, with the prestige of our past, we are participating in the future solutions for the problems caused by Hansen's bacillus.

H. CERRUTI, CASSIO M. CARVALHO, W. BELDA
Sociedade Paulista de Leprologia

"Fenix"

"It is a beautiful white bird with purple feathers and sparkling eyes. When it feels death approaching, it piles up resinous odoriferous wood chips and builds a nest where it lies awaiting the first sun rays — which set it ablaze. But from the egg formed by its cinders the bird is reborn and flies majestically to the skies. That is Fenix".

"The Greek mythology is full of beautiful legends poetically trying to explain natural phenomena and human behavior in face of them. Many facts of daily life might be represented by those legends".

"In the twenties and thirties the state of S. Paulo put in practice what was considered then the best program against Hanseniasis. As a result, many great names of the national and world leprology field appeared, as those of Lauro de Souza Lima, Nelson de Souza Campos, Luiz M. Bechelli, Abrando Rotberg, Reynaldo Quagliato and many others, who were the founders of the S. Paulo Center of Leprology".

"A series of their monographs received awards from the National Leprosy Service, and many of their works have contributed to the knowledge of the clinical, pathological and therapeutic aspects of the disease. Workers from many parts of the world came to learn and national and international meetings, symposia and congresses multiplied with the constant participation of the specialists from S. Paulo. Foreign periodicals kept publishing their articles and their presence in any leprological committee was indispensable".

"After many years of fruitful work the old Center began to lose hearth. Most of their members were gradually stricken by age or death, or gave up for other reasons. The "Revista Brasileira de Leprologia" respected in the whole world, grew mute".

"A few remained who, lonely like "monks", tried to conserve the contribution of the great Center and impart its teachings in the "dark" period that followed. But the "cinders" began to assemble and a new "bird" is rising to life. Little by little young enthusiastic workers are attracted by the Hanseniasis problem, articles are published, theses are presented, meetings are organized, and the "Revista Brasileira de Leprologia", now under the name "Hansenologia Internationalis" tests its wings to recommence its journey".

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"This is the reason for "Fenix" the name of our newspaper. As the official organ of the Study Centre of our Hospital, whose members believe to be participating actively of the events, it intends to herald that rebirth".

D. V. A. OPROMOLLA

Translated from the Editorial of "Fenix", July, 1975. Study Center of the Hospital Lauro de Souza Lima, Bauru — São Paulo

The Brazilian Minister of Health welcomes "Hansenologia Internationalis"

"Thank you for the good news of the publication of "Hansenologia Internationalis". I congratulate you and will be awaiting with interest its first issue".

PAULO DE ALMEIDA MACHADO

Minister of Health, Brazil

To the Minister of Health

The historical decree signed by President Ernesto Geisel and yourself on August 4, 1975, substituting a "National Division of Public Health Dermatology" and a "National Campaign against Hanseniasis" for the former "National Division of Leprosy" and "National Campaign against Leprosy", respectively, confirms the integrationist and destigmatizing policies of the Brazilian government.

We offer you the first copy of our first issue of "Hansenologia Internationalis" for your appreciation. You will recognize our effort to make of the signs and symptoms caused by Hansen's bacillus "a disease like the others", and our desire to cooperate with your policies.

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