

questions are challenging, be it in immunology, in microbiology, in epidemiology, or in other branches of research. Serious consideration should be given to these points by members of the International Leprosy Association because to some extent, one way or another, many of us are part of academia. We should ask ourselves if we have done what we ought to do to promote the teaching of leprosy in universities and to stimulate young physicians and scientists to become interested in the disease.

National or regional leprosy associations and appropriate teaching of leprosy in the universities are two points which need to be discussed. The columns of the *JOURNAL* are open for any suggestions, reporting of

actual experiences, news, and comments. More exchange regarding these points is sought.

Fifty years ago a group of leprologists founded the International Leprosy Association, creating the conditions for great advances in leprosy. Considerable successes have been obtained. Old challenges have been met. New challenges have arisen. Let us hope that these new challenges will be met with the same determination our predecessors have shown. If so, 50 years from now leprosy will be, if not eradicated, at least widely controlled throughout the world.

—Michel F. Lechat

Report of the Leonard Wood Memorial Conference on Leprosy * Held in Manila, Philippine Islands, January 9 to 23, 1931

Foreword

It has long been evident to those engaged in the study and control of leprosy, that the existing terminology and classification of the subject permitted of widely divergent interpretations. This defect had become a handicap of such degree, in correlating the views and results of different leprologists, that an opportunity for discussion and attempted correction of some of the difficulties seemed to be an imperative requirement for progress.

During the past year both the Leonard Wood Memorial for the Eradication of Leprosy and the Leprosy Commission of the League of Nations took cognizance of the situation, and became interested in holding a round-table conference, in the Far East, and the trustees of the Memorial subsequently made a financial allotment to effect this purpose in so far as it was practicable. It was decided that the Conference should take place in Manila immediately after the meeting of the Leprosy Commission, which was held in Bangkok in December 1930.

The number of leprologists invited to the Conference was necessarily limited since it was intended that the proceedings should be of the nature of informal discussions. It seemed especially desirable that those individuals who are members of the Leprosy Commission of the League of Nations, or their representatives, should attend because of their previous studies of the subject, and of their broad knowledge of the conditions prevailing in the widely scattered areas which are affected. Invitations were extended to a number of others who were located in the Far East, and whose experience was known to include unique aspects.

The Conference convened at Manila, January 9, 1931, and was in session until January 23, 1931. Those who attended are as follows:

Dr. Et. Burnet, Secretary, Leprosy Commission, League of Nations
 Dr. R. G. Cochrane, Secretary, British Empire Leprosy Relief Association
 Dr. H. I. Cole, Chief Chemist, Culion Leprosy Colony
 Dr. J. Fajardo, Director of Health, Philippine Health Service

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- Maj.-Gen. J. D. Graham, I.M.S., Public Health Commissioner, Government of India
- Dr. G. Gushue-Taylor, Superintendent, Mackay Memorial Hospital, Taihoku, Formosa
- Dr. V. G. Heiser, Director for the Far East, Rockefeller Foundation
- Dr. Lee S. Huizenga, Superintendent, Mission Hospital, Jukao, Ku, China
- Dr. A. N. Kingsbury, Director, Research Institute, Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States
- Capt. P. H. J. Lampe, Director of Health, Dutch Guiana
- Dr. C. B. Lara, Chief Physician, Culion Leper Colony
- Dr. J. Lowe, Medical Superintendent, Dichpalli Leprosy Hospital, India
- Dr. J. L. Maxwell, Henry Lester Institute of Medical Research, Shanghai
- Dr. E. Muir, Leprosy Research Worker, Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine
- Dr. E. E. Neff, Superintendent, Mogokai Central Leper Hospital, Fiji
- Prof. Dr. B. Nocht, President, Leprosy Commission, League of Nations
- Dr. M. Ota, Tohoku Imperial University, Japan
- Dr. J. N. Rodriguez, Supervisor of Leprosy-Treatment Stations, Philippine Health Service
- Dr. J. C. Tull, Government Pathologist, Singapore
- Dr. H. W. Wade, Chief Pathologist, Culion Leper Colony; and Medical Director, Leonard Wood Memorial
- Dr. N. E. Wayson, Director, United States Leprosy Investigation Station, Hawaii
- Drs. LeRoy-Desbarres and H. Joyeux, of French Indo-China, also participated in the first sessions.

The Conference was organized at the first meeting, and the agenda for consideration was agreed upon promptly thereafter. The subject matter was prepared for the most part in committee, presented to the plenary sessions, and final decisions reached in these. January 14, the members embarked on a journey of inspection of regional treatment stations and leprosaria at Cebu, Zamboanga, and Iloilo, and of the Culion Leper Colony. The sessions were continued with but brief intermissions

throughout the tour, both on the steamer and at ports visited.

The discussions were frank and detailed, and were in most instances extended to a point of reconciliation of viewpoints and common agreement. The following report is that decided upon by the Conference in plenary session.

—H. H. Wade

Chairman of the Conference

—G. Geshue-Taylor

Secretary

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The International Leprosy Association*

It was realized that this Conference afforded an exceptional opportunity to consider the question of a permanent international organization of those engaged in activities concerning leprosy and of others interested in such work. It has long been felt that such a body would serve a useful purpose in stimulating greater interest in the problem and in efforts to obtain more effective results.

Accordingly, information was laid before the Conference concerning two movements to this end. These were (1) a discussion begun in 1922–23 among certain leprologists, which resulted in a decision to organize a society as soon as there should seem to be a possibility of obtaining funds to support a periodical; and (2) a separate movement started in 1925–26 to form an organization to be called "Société Internationale de Leprologie." The latter has unfortunately not become active. The Conference was also advised that the Leonard Wood Memorial for the Eradication of Leprosy would consider sympathetically a request for a subsidy to aid such a plan as the Conference might indorse.

After a thorough discussion of the matter it was unanimously decided that the exist-

ing circumstances made it advisable to inaugurate a movement in which due consideration should be given the plans of those previously interested in the matter and every effort made to secure their cooperation. A proposed constitution and by-laws, comprising features of the earlier plans, were studied by the Conference. Upon reaching agreement on these, the members of the Conference joined unanimously in forming the Association. A meeting of the Association was then held; the constitution and by-laws, subject to modification when organization of the Association has been completed, were adopted, and temporary officers were elected.

The name of the organization is THE INTERNATIONAL LEPROSY ASSOCIATION (Association Internationale de la Lèpre).

The purposes are: "To encourage and facilitate mutual acquaintance and collaboration between persons of all nationalities concerned in leprosy work and the coordination of their efforts; to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge of leprosy and its control; and in any other practicable manner to aid in the antileprosy campaign throughout the world; and to this end to publish a scientific journal of leprosy. It shall endeavor to cooperate with any other institution or organization dealing with leprosy work."

For purposes of expediency provision is made for a Western Section and an Eastern Section; a General Council to be in charge of the general affairs of the association, and Section Councils to be in charge of sectional affairs.

Membership may be of two classes. "Regular membership" is open to all persons with recognized medical or other scientific qualifications, who are actively engaged in connection with the study, treatment, or control of leprosy, or who have been so engaged. "Associate membership" is open to all other persons connected with or especially interested in leprosy.

The chief activities anticipated are those of the holding of meetings and the publishing of a scientific periodical on leprosy. When found desirable and practicable, it is intended that general leprosy congresses shall be convened. It is believed that the sections can hold meetings more frequent-

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ly, possibly in connection with other medical gatherings.

The proposed periodical, to be called THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LEPROSY, will contain, besides suitable original articles, reprintings of important papers that have appeared elsewhere, abstracts, news items, and possibly correspondence and other appropriate material. The editorial control of the Journal will be carried out by a board consisting of an Editor and two Associate Editors, to be chosen by the General Council.

It was agreed that, for some time, it would probably be impossible to finance a satisfactory journal solely from membership fees and subscriptions. Since there was reason to believe that the Leonard Wood Memorial would consider sympathetically a request for a subsidy for this

purpose, a resolution was passed requesting such aid for a period of five years. If this is granted, it is intended that publication will commence early in 1932.

The temporary general council elected is: President, Dr. Victor G. Heiser; Vice President, Western Section, Prof. Carlos Chagas; Vice President, Eastern Section, Dr. E. Muir; Secretary, Dr. R. G. Cochrane; Treasurer, Dr. Wm. H. Brown; General Councillors, Prof. Nagayo, Sir Leonard Rogers, Dr. Etienne Burnet, and Prof. de Langen. The council made the following appointments: Editor (and general councillor *ex officio*), Dr. H. W. Wade; Associate Editors, Dr. H. P. Lie and Dr. James L. Maxwell. Elections and appointments of persons not at the meeting are subject to their acceptance.

Notes Concerning the Formation of the International Leprosy Association

The following comments have been solicited because I have been informed that I am one of the last survivors among the founders of the International Leprosy Association. This makes me feel rather old. The events occurred half a century and more in the past. We hope they will be of interest and have relevance to our readers. Reviewing them has freshened in my mind the privileges and friendships of past years.

The proposal to form the ILA was initiated by Dr. H. W. Wade, who had been for some years working toward the formulation of such an organization. A number of us realized that the subject of leprosy was passing from a state of ignorance to a position of greater knowledge. With the increasing popularity of the subject, a new era was dawning. If I am permitted some personal remarks and reminiscences, I shall share with you some of my part in the beginnings of the ILA.

In 1924, I graduated from Glasgow University and finished my degree course at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London. My career commenced in India, working as a

medical missionary under the Mission to Lepers, now The Leprosy Mission. It is a point of interest that when in medical school I had a vivid dream that I discovered a cure for leprosy. This probably influenced my choice of leprosy as a lifetime work. When my father, Dr. Thomas Cochrane, a missionary to China with the London Mission and founder of the Peking Union Medical College, mentioned to me that the then Mission to Lepers wanted a doctor, I unhesitatingly offered myself. My first station was Purulia, Bihar, now West Bengal, in north India. I received preliminary training by one who became the doyen of leprosy workers, Dr. Ernest Muir, at the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta.

Returning to England in 1927, I obtained the Membership of the Royal College of Physicians, London, and proceeded to a Doctorate of Medicine in 1928 from Glasgow. The year 1927 also marked the beginning of my connection with the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association (BELRA, now LEpra). For the next approximately ten years I travelled extensively on their