

BOOK REVIEW

BIBLIOGRAPHIC INDEX OF LEPROSY*

Índice Bibliográfico de Lepra, 1500-1943. Volume I. A.-H. By Luiza Keffer. (Pp. 674. No price given.) Brazil: São Paulo, Rua Conde de Sarmzedas, 38.

Luiza Keffer and the other members of the staff of the library of the Leprosy Prevention Department of the State of São Paulo, Brazil, have rendered a great service to leprologists all over the world by their ten years' labours in preparing this monumental *Bibliographic Index of Leprosy*, the first volume of which has now appeared. All the works and papers included are in their library; but it is much more than a catalogue of papers, for the contents of each have been entered on card indexes, and all the more important points, which amount to eleven in a sample mentioned in an explanatory preface in French and English, are separately entered. For example, under "Diagnóstico" twenty-five double-column pages, with a number of subheadings, repeat the full references to papers which also appear under the authors' names. This multiplication of entries of each paper adds much to the convenience of reference, although it also greatly increases the bulk and accounts for the first volume of 674 pages covering the ground only from A to H. The completeness of the entries of all publications for several decades back is shown by eleven columns being devoted to the publications of the Brazilian authority H. C. S. Araujo and five to the writings of R. G. Cochrane. Again, fifty-two columns are devoted to the heading of chaulmoogra.

The entries are not limited to purely medical publications, but include those dealing with juridical, social, and literary points of view; yet the author modestly writes of this "unpretentious work." On testing its completeness we have found only a few omissions of works of seventy or more years ago, such as those of L. Hillis, Brouse, and Hildebrand, which have doubtless long been out of print and so are not available to the great Brazil library. This work should find a place in every medical library, including those of leprologists engaged in investigations on a subject which is attracting the ever-increasing attention of the medical profession and of sociologists.

—LEONARD ROGERS

* From the British Medical Journal, March 29, 1847.