

DISTRIBUTION OF THE HAVANA CONGRESS TRANSACTIONS

The plans of the Cuban authorities of the Havana Congress envisioned the distribution of the transactions of that meeting (reviewed in *THE JOURNAL* 18 (1950) 447) to all members of the Congress, to all members of the International Leprosy Association who did not attend the Congress, and to the principal medical libraries throughout the world.

When the expenses of publication had been met, however, no funds remained from which to defray the cost of mailing the books—no small item, since each weighs more than six pounds. To overcome that difficulty arrangements for distributing them were made with the diplomatic representatives at Havana of the different countries concerned, and to each was turned over the necessary number of copies together with a list of the persons and entities to which they should be delivered, these including all members of the Congress and various libraries. What happened after that is, for the most part, not known. Very few persons, it is said, have acknowledged receipt of the copies intended for them. On the other hand it is known that various members of the Congress from several countries have never received their copies.

We are authorized to announce that any member of the Congress who has not received his copy, and any member of the International Leprosy Association not a participant in the Congress who desires to have one, can get the book by arrangement with the Havana authorities; and the distribution can also be extended to medical libraries on the same basis. Since 1,000 copies were printed and 600 have been sent out, there remain some 400 available for such applicants. Under the circumstances, however, it is necessary that in each case the postage be paid in advance; and, since the rates to different countries are not the same, each applicant should first inquire how much money should be sent. The Cuban dollar is on a par with the American dollar, the latter being freely accepted in ordinary business. How to transmit the money may be a question in some cases, but certainly payment can be made by bank draft, or by international postal money order where obtainable, and presumably also by international postal coupons which are supposed to be available at all principal postoffices throughout the world.

Correspondence on this subject should be addressed to Dr. Ismael Ferrer, Secretary, Fifth International Leprosy Congress, Calzada de Columbia y 8va., Marianao, Cuba.

—H. W. W.