

NEWS AND NOTES

Information concerning institutions, organizations, and individuals connected with leprosy work, scientific or other meetings, legislative enactments and other matters of interest.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE MADRID CONGRESS

In the latter part of November both Dr. E. Muir and the writer were privileged to visit Madrid, separately, to confer with the Organizing Committee of the Sixth International Congress of Leprology. The president of this committee is Dr. José A. Palanca, Director General of Health and Professor of Hygiene at the School of Medicine, and the secretary is Dr. Felix Contreras, whose address in this connection is the Escuela Nacional de Sanidad, Ciudad Universitaria, Madrid.

Official invitations to all governments with which Spain has diplomatic representations, to all organizations especially concerned with leprosy, and to all individuals on the International Leprosy Association membership list, were to be sent out as soon as the descriptive bulletin was published.¹ The Spanish edition of that bulletin was being printed at the time, and a slightly modified English edition was to follow shortly. All interested persons who are not reached through any of the channels indicated should write for this bulletin directly to the secretary of the Organizing Committee. It is the desire of that Committee that the invitation shall reach everyone who may wish to attend the Congress, whether as delegates of governments or institutions or privately, and they need to know as early as possible who will be doing so.

The organization structure of the Congress itself, it has been agreed, will be in general like that of the meeting held in Havana in 1948, probably with certain modifications indicated by experience there. The local Organizing Committee has the responsibility of all preliminary arrangements—the representatives of the International Leprosy Association cooperating in whatever ways they may—and it will be in charge of the administrative phases of the Congress itself. There will be a Congress Council, and a smaller Executive Committee, and as

¹ Since this note was written information has been received that the official invitations were sent out in December, and that the private ones would go out in January.

members of these bodies the representatives of the Association will participate actively in arranging the scientific side of the meeting, the preparation of the program and the running of the sessions.

In certain respects, the plan of preliminary arrangements announced in the last issue of *THE JOURNAL* [20 (1952) 379] has been changed by agreement. There it was stated that notice of intention to attend should be conveyed to the general secretary of the Association in London before the end of July 1953. Actually such notices of intention should be addressed to the secretary of the Organizing Committee in Madrid. Furthermore, titles and abstracts of papers to be read may be sent, by the end of June, to either the general secretary of the Association or the secretary of the Organizing Committee. That Committee, however, should be notified directly if lantern slides are to be used, or if scientific exhibits are to be set up.

Membership in the Congress will of course not be limited to members of the International Leprosy Association, but as has been announced there will be a differential between members and nonmembers with respect to the registration fee. For Association members, regular or associate, the fee has been set at \$10, and for nonmembers at \$20. Persons who are not now members of the Association may join that organization, before the meeting, but this should be done in sufficient time for their names to be included in the general secretary's list before September 15th.² Persons accompanying congress members who wish to participate in the social and other general functions but not in the work of the Congress, referred to as *adherentes* in the official announcement and otherwise as "aggregate members," will be required to register as such and pay a fee of \$5.00. There will be no differences of status in the activities of the Congress between members attending under official or institutional auspices and those on a private basis.

The official topics of the Congress are to be four, the last one having been added to the three previously announced: (1) classification, (2) therapy, (3) immunology, and (4) control. Papers on other subjects dealing with leprosy will also be permitted, but those on the official topics will be given priority

² All who can do so should make their payments directly to and in favor of the *International Journal of Leprosy*, in New Orleans, rather than to the Association in London. The secretary general of the Association will be promptly notified of all such remittances. More on this subject appears in a separate note.

in case selection is necessary. The official languages will be English, French, Portuguese and Spanish.

The suggestion has been made that the number of technical committees should be reduced to a minimum, for the reason that the work of such committees interferes with more essentially valuable activities of their members. This point of view will be given due consideration.

Concern has been expressed in some quarters that so many papers may be submitted that they cannot be properly presented and discussed during the scientific sessions. After the Havana congress complaints were heard from many quarters about crowded schedule, the limited time per paper, and the insufficiency of discussion.

At the Cairo congress 160 papers (or titles) were submitted, but only 66 were actually read; there were six scientific sessions, only one a day, although each author was allowed 15 minutes. At Havana the total was 196, and no less than 105—60 per cent more than at Cairo—were included in the session programs for reading. To provide for the papers that had to be listed under the rules adopted, nine sessions were scheduled, two on each of four days and one on a fifth day.

The following rules were applied at Havana: (a) that no individual might read more than two papers, (b) that no paper already published might be read, (c) that no paper might be read in the absence of the (or an) author, and (d) that the time per paper should be limited to 10 minutes. Rules for the coming congress can be set up only tentatively before the first meeting of the Congress Council. Selection by a program committee of papers to be read on the basis of quality is out of the question. However, efforts will have to be made to avoid overcrowding, and it is probable that the rules will be much the same as at Havana. This should be borne in mind by those who plan to contribute to the program.

In the recent announcement in THE JOURNAL, it was stated that papers should be limited to 1,500 or 2,000 words. That rule does not appear in the official bulletin, but contributors who wish to present papers that would take longer than 10 minutes to read should prepare *condensations* which can be read within that time, at a pace which will permit satisfactory simultaneous interpretation. The more detailed versions would be turned in for publication in the transactions.

Objections have been heard that the program should not be restricted to the four specified topics, that papers on other subjects should also be accepted, including social welfare, rehabilitation of discharged patients, epidemiology, pathology,

bacteriology and biochemistry. The evident purpose of the Organizing Committee was certainly not to prohibit papers on topics of interest to leprosy workers other than those specified, but rather to focus attention particularly on those considered of outstanding importance, as was done for example by the organizers of the Third Pan-American Conference held in Buenos Aires in December 1951. The result should be, in a way of speaking, symposia on those subjects which should assist the congress in reaching conclusions about them.

Some of the other subjects mentioned above would logically come under one or another of the "official" topics. For example, epidemiology naturally goes along with control, and the heading of that item might quite as well have been "epidemiology and control," as so often has been the case. The social aspects of the leprosy problem might also come under that heading, and physical rehabilitation would naturally come under "treatment." In all probability papers on other subjects—such as there may be—will be grouped under a general heading of "miscellaneous."

—H. W. WADE

ASSOCIATION MATTERS

When the International Leprosy Association was organized, in 1931, the membership fee was set at US\$5.00 or £1.10 sterling, these amounts being equivalent at that time. The exchange values having changed since then, sterling payments in that amount are no longer equivalent. By agreement of the members of the General Council of the Association, consulted by mail by the general secretary, payments in sterling will hereafter be *the equivalent* of \$5.00 in exchange value.

Furthermore, whenever possible the fee should be remitted in dollars, in favor of the International Journal of Leprosy, to Dr. Huldah Bancroft, Assistant Editor, at 1430 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans 12, Louisiana, rather than in sterling to the general secretary-treasurer of the Association in London. Under present circumstances, the remittances to London are virtually frozen there and cannot be made available to contribute to the cost of publishing THE JOURNAL. Those who cannot obtain dollars should consult the nearest Unesco branch office about purchasing Unesco book coupons in the value of \$5.00 for their JOURNAL subscriptions.

The membership fee has not been increased since the Association was founded. Since publication of THE JOURNAL was

begun in 1933 the costs of printing have increased greatly. Whereas the subscription prices of practically all other medical and scientific periodicals have been increased by 50 per cent or more, that of THE JOURNAL has not been changed and the Leonard Wood Memorial has borne the added burden—the situation aggravated by the inability of the London office of the Association to contribute as it did before the last war. At the next general meeting of the Association, to be held during the Madrid Congress next October, it will be necessary to consider increasing the membership fee.

Another question which will come before that meeting will be that of abolishing the sections (Western and Eastern) of the Association. That division was made at the outset for purposes which have never materialized, and hence it is without force or value.

—H. W. Wade

NOTES ON THE FIRST MEETING OF THE WHO EXPERT COMMITTEE ON LEPROSY

HELD IN RIO DE JANEIRO AND SÃO PAULO, NOVEMBER 10-19, 1952

On the invitation of the Government of Brazil, the World Health Organization Expert Committee on Leprosy held its first meeting in Rio de Janeiro from November 10 to 15, and in São Paulo from November 17 to 19, 1952. The participants were the following:

Representing the World Health Organization secretariat: Dr. Yves Biraud, Director of Epidemiological Services; and Dr. Roland Chaussinand, Chef du Service de Lèpre, Institut Pasteur, Paris, who as WHO Consultant on Leprosy is *ex officio* the chairman of the Committee. Consultant: Dr. E. Muir, General Secretary-Treasurer, International Leprosy Association, London. Members: Dr. Dharmendra, in charge of the Leprosy Research Department, School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta; Dr. John Lowe, Senior Specialist, Nigeria Leprosy Service, Uzuakoli, Nigeria; Dr. José N. Rodriguez, Chief, Division of Sanitaria, Bureau of Hospitals, Department of Health, Manila; Dr. Lauro de Souza Lima, Director, Departamento de Profilaxia da Lepra, São Paulo; and Dr. H. W. Wade, Associate Medical Director, Leonard Wood Memorial, Culion Sanitarium, Philippines. Co-opted members: Dr. Ernani Agricola, Director, Serviço Nacional de Lepra, Rio de Janeiro; and Dr. Nelson de Souza Campos, ex-Subdirector, Departamento de Profilaxia da Lepra, São Paulo.

In the opening session Dr. Arlindo de Assis, Director General of the National Department of Health, welcomed the Committee on behalf of the Minister of Education and Health of Brazil. Dr. Biraud, as representative of the Director General of the World Health Organization, expressed thanks to the

Brazilian authorities for the invitation, conveyed on their behalf to the Fifth World Health Assembly by Professor Manuel Ferreira.

The officers elected for the meeting were: Dr. Wade, chairman; Dr. de Souza Lima, vice-chairman; and Dr. Rodriguez, general rapporteur. The draft agenda (see *THE JOURNAL* **20** (1952) 392) having been adopted, the Committee appointed as rapporteurs for the various items the members who had written the preparatory papers used as the basis of the discussions.

In Rio de Janeiro two sessions a day were held through Thursday, Friday being "free" for the completion of the rapporteurs' reports; these were considered on Saturday in three sessions, ending at midnight. In the meantime the Committee made a formal call on the Minister of Education and Health, and a visit to the BCG laboratories, the Fundação Ataulpho de Pavia, in the company of Dr. Arlindo de Assis who had been its director for many years. On Saturday noon a farewell luncheon party was tendered the Committee, Dr. de Assis acting as host.

On Sunday, November 17th, the group transferred to São Paulo (by two separate plane flights, as required by WHO regulations), and there—besides a trip that afternoon down to the port city of Santos—visits were made to the Instituto Conde de Lara, the central laboratories of the leprosy service; the Instituto Butantan, a research and production center where among many other things promin and DDS are manufactured; and the Santo Angelo leprosarium, some 40 miles from the city. The final session was held on Wednesday forenoon, the last of the topic reports having been completed.

6 JAPANESE LEPROSY ASSOCIATION, 25TH ANNUAL MEETING

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Japanese Leprosy Association was held in Okayama, on April 6th and 7th, 1952, under the chairmanship of Dr. Jingu, director of the Oku-Komyo-en National Leprosarium. It was a successful meeting, with an attendance of about 200 persons. Among the many reports presented the following were the more notable.

Regarding the clinical aspects of leprosy, MIYAZAKI discussed the relationship between infection and the appearance of symptoms. YOSHIE said that the lepromatous character of the so-called borderline cases is more definite in the clinical and histologic features of the nasal mucous membrane than in those of the skin. There were several reports on physiological studies such as the sensory disorders, temperature, sweat secretion and electric resistance of the skin.

Reports in the field of pathology included one by OKADA on the finding of tuberculoid lesions in the liver by means of puncture biopsy. FUJITA told of histochemical findings in erythema nodosum and in a nerve abscess which he had seen in a lepromatous case. HARADA spoke on histochemical findings in Russell's bodies.

The largest group of papers had to do with chemotherapy. HAYASHI reported cases which responded to promizole after promin had ceased to be effective, concluding that there are cases in which change of drugs is advisable. HAYASHI and FUJITA also said that in cases of erythema nodosum leprosum in which promin cannot be used because of side effects, tibione in considerable doses should be used. TANIOKU, HASHIMOTO and SHIMIZO reported on studies of the pharmacological characteristics of DDS, proethyl, and tibione. TANIOKU had found that methylpromizole has a most remarkable affinity for nervous tissue, and SHIMIZU said that it has a higher capacity than promin for combining with the blood cells. YOSHIE and TAKEDA told of fairly satisfactory results obtained after 6-12 months treatment with p-p'-dihydrazid-diphenyl sulfone. The acid-fast bacilli in the skin were found to be destroyed, although there still remained some intact bacillary forms. The effects of this drug on the nervous symptoms remained to be determined, and it also could not be said which of the two components—hydrazid or sulfone—is the more effective. HAYATA spoke of effects of P₅₄ suspended in hydnocarpus oil. There were also some reports on the use of antihistaminics, ACTH, etc.

In the field of serology, TAJIRI, KAWAGUCHI, FUKUDA and ARAI, each from a different institution, reported that the Middlebrook-Dubos test gives positive reactions in many cases of leprosy, especially of the lepromatous type, as well as in tuberculosis. OGATA and YOSHIE reported results of an agglutination test in which they used a cardiolipin-lecithin antigen. Leprosy sera react most strongly to an antigen containing these substances in a 1:1 ratio, whereas syphilis sera react most strongly to a 1:10 mixture. In tuberculoid leprosy, 95 per cent of the cases were positive.

NOJIMA demonstrated biopsy specimens of lesions in the second generation of rats inoculated with acid-fast rods obtained from the human leproma. YAJIMA told of the results of inoculation of leprous material into animals previously made allergic.

TANIMURA reported failure in inoculations of human leprosy in the hamster, whereas positive results were always obtained with subcutaneous, intratesticular or intraperitoneal inoculations of rat leprosy. ROKUTANDA said that his method of inoculation of murine leprosy into the anterior chamber of the eye of small animals is suitable for measuring the effects of chemotherapeutic agents.

One of the two main events of the meeting was a symposium on erythema nodosum leprosum, in which MITSUDA stated that a phosphatide isolated from the skin lesions plays the main role in the development of that condition, and KITAMURA compared it with the erythema nodosum of tuberculous nature. The other main event was a special address on tuberculosis by DR. IMAMURA, president of the University of Osaka, in which he surveyed the noteworthy problems in the study and treatment of that disease.

—K. KITAMURA

NEWS ITEMS

Brazil: Meeting of leprologists in Minas Gerais.—From May 11th to 14th a group of leprologists from various parts of Brazil met in Minas Gerais to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the opening of the model Colonia Santa Fé at Tres Corações. The principal themes of the program were the Brazilian experience with sulfone therapy, and the situation of the Brazilian leprologist from the material point of view. During this occasion the governor of Minas Gerais, Dr. Juscelino Kubitschek, gave the first lecture of the tenth course of leprology at the Universidade de Minas Gerais. He also distributed to 38 patients of the Santa Fé colony their certificates of cure, after which they were released.

Course on leprology in Rio de Janeiro.—Between March 15 and June 27th Professor H. C. de Souza-Araujo gave his regular course on leprology, consisting of 40 lectures, at the Faculdade de Ciencias Médicas, Universidade do Distrito Federal. It was attended by 76 students of the sixth-year class of the medical school.

Law in favor of ex-patients.—The mayor of the city of Rio de Janeiro has approved a law passed by the Municipal Council which permits employment by the departments of the municipality of patients discharged as cured from tuberculosis sanatoria and the Curupaity leprosarium.

Prizes for monographs on leprosy therapy.—The minister of education and health of Brazil has opened, at the suggestion of the Serviço Nacional de Lepra, a competition for papers on the present status of the therapy of leprosy. Three prizes are offered, of 20,000, 10,000 and 5,000 cruzeiros, respectively. (Cr\$20 is approximately equal to US\$1.00.)

Arquivos Paranaenses de Leprologia.—There appeared in May the first issue of this new leprosy journal, the official organ of the Sociedade de Leprologia de Paraná, which was founded in Curitiba, Paraná, on February 28th, 1951. The editors are Drs. Aureliano M. de Moura and Guy Mourão, with seven coeditors. The issue contains, besides an announcement of the new periodical, several original articles and information about the history, organization and bylaws of the society.

"Damião".—This interesting periodical, published in Rio de Janeiro, is devoted to the interests of leprosy ("hansenosis") patients. The personnel in charge are Malba Tahan, director, Dr. Thomas Pompeu Rossas, leprologist-director, and Humberto Mesentier, chief editor.

Hygiene Congress.—The 10th Brazilian Congress of Hygiene is to be held in Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, from the 19th to the 25th of October. One of the topics on the agenda is BCG in the prevention of tuberculosis and leprosy.

(All but the last of the above items were supplied by Dr. H. C. de Souza-Araujo.)

Bolivia: Leprologist made director of health.—Following the most bloody of all of the revolutions which Bolivia has experienced, with bitter fighting and many casualties in La Paz last April, according to a Foreign Letter in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the Minister of Health, an army man, was replaced by Dr. Julio Ml. Aramayo, an obstetrician, and the Director General of Health by Dr. Jorge Suarez, a leprologist.

United States: *The Carville Star*.—The periodical put out by a group of patients at the Federal Leprosarium at Carville, *The Star*, has attained a circulation of almost 10,000, according to Stanley Stein, its editor. It is put out under some difficulties, apart from the editor's total blindness, for adequate help is lacking. Patients who serve on the staff, particularly stenographers, have been discharged from the hospital one after another, and their replacement is difficult.

Cosmetic tattooing.—A recent issue of the *Reader's Digest* has an account of an artist who, having joined the medical corps of the U. S. Army, developed a technique of concealing unsightly scars by tattooing them in color to resemble the surrounding healthy skin. Assigned for a time to the U.S.P.H.S. hospital at Carville, La., he did similar work for patients to camouflage such defects as loss of eyebrows, disfiguring skin blemishes, and discolored lips.

Santo Tomas child at Carville.—It has been reported that a boy born in the Santo Tomas concentration camp in Manila during the war, and now about ten years old, has been admitted to Carville with leprosy. It appears that the mother is a native of Guam, and that a member of her family had developed the disease and was sent to Culion ten years or so before the child was born.

Norway: *An experience of Hansen*.—At a recent pathology congress held in Bergen, Professor Vogelsang, in speaking of Norwegians who have done most to promote medical research in Norway, had—according to a Foreign Letter in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (Sept. 13, 1952)—the following to say of Hansen, whose discovery of the leprosy bacillus was the result of many years' indefatigable work: "His contemporaries were convinced that Hansen's disease (leprosy) was a hereditary disease, and Hansen was daring when he suggested that such a chronic disease as leprosy could be of microbial origin. He discovered the bacillus of leprosy in 1873 and that of the bacillus of tuberculosis in 1882. It may not be generally known that Hansen's enthusiasm as an experimental investigator led, at least on one occasion, into serious trouble. He had tried unsuccessfully to inoculate the eye of a woman leper with a leprous nodule taken from another leper. Though the patient suffered no harm, a complaint was lodged against him, and by a legal judgment of May 31, 1880, Hansen was dismissed as medical officer of a leper hospital. He had, however, also been appointed senior medical officer for Norway in 1875, and he remained in this position until he died in 1912."

Portugal: *The leprosarium at Coimbra*.—After a recent visit Dr. E. Muir has said of this place, which was established only five or six years ago, that it now has some 650 patients and about 200 outpatients, with a staff which seems keen and doing good work.

East Africa: *Research center under development*.—From several sources it has been learned that plans are being developed for the establishment of a leprosy research center at one of the larger leprosaria in East Africa, probably in Tanganyika. This undertaking is a joint one of the government and the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association, and the negotiations are being carried on by Dr. James Ross Innes, inter-territorial leprologist of the East Africa High Commission. The object is

"to provide a spearhead to improve the standard of leprosy work in East Africa, and a place where workers from other countries might be tempted to sojourn for a spell, and conduct research alongside us." It is expected that the center will be ready for operation early in 1953.

China: The Ngai-moon leprosarium, Kwangtung.—A rare event these days is direct information from or about a leprosy institution in China. On July 8, 1952, Rev. Thomas J. Malone, regional superior for South China, wrote from Maryknoll House in Hong Kong to Mr. Perry Burgess as follows: "Father Joseph Sweeney no longer has responsibility for the administration of the asylum. The government has taken over, but has retained Father Sweeney's staff. Father Sweeney and Father Quinn are still allowed to provide religious ministrations to the patients. How long they will be permitted to remain is problematical. The foreign personnel at Sheklung, the Father and the Sisters, were recently deported. Father Sweeney wrote that 300 patients were to be added at Ngai-moon, bringing the number of the asylum up to 570. With these new arrivals, enough patients may be stirred up to make accusations against the Fathers, giving the authorities an opportunity to try to discredit them in the eyes of old patients before sending them away." On August 25 Father Sweeney himself, in a letter to Mr. Burgess, said that he was temporarily taking the place of their physician, who was engaged in a "three-months' study with leprologists from all parts of the country at the former German leprosarium, Tung-koon, where there are some 200 patients. This is near Fr. Marsigny's old place where some 700 patients remain, but none of the old staff. The Board of Health has published an up-to-date textbook, the first I have seen in Chinese, and the government seems preparing to organize leprosy work on a big scale."

Formosa: Dr. G. Gushue-Taylor, founder of Happy Mount Leprosy Colony, Formosa, visited Formosa from January to April of this year. Two immediate results of that visit were the undertaking, by the China Inland Mission Overseas Fellowship, of work in the field of leprosy in the island, with the appointment of Dr. A. D. Harris and Miss Joy Leister, to reside at and take charge of Happy Mount Colony; they will also aid in the Government Leprosarium outside Taipei. The second result was the erection of a church building in the Government Leprosarium through the combined efforts of several organizations and individuals. This building (capable of seating 200 patients) and the new workers will have an immediate spiritual morale up-building effect on the 600 patients in the two colonies.

Korea: Gift of sulfones.—Major Sheperd Rice, U.S.A., attached to UNCACK (United Nations Civil Assistance Command, Korea), has said in a letter to Mr. Perry Burgess that his organization had recently provided "a sizeable quantity of diasone and promin to the leprosaria of South Korea, which house some 13,000 lepers—or about one-third of the estimated total of the country."

Russia: Leprosy in germ warfare.—The following is a verbatim I.N.S. dispatch dated from Moscow, supplied by Stanley Stein who had received it from the editor of the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*. The Russian naval newspaper *Red Navy* thought up a new alleged germ-war weapon

today: leaping lepers. The newspaper accused British troops of "dropping lepers"—presumably by parachute—to spread disease behind communist army lines in North Korea. *Red Navy* claimed the English, "particularly sailors," last year "engaged directly in the spread of leprosy in the northern districts of Korea."

WHO: *Appointments in leprosy work.*—It has recently been learned that Dr. P. H. J. Lampe, formerly of Indonesia and Surinam, has been appointed for a year's service in Burma beginning in August, to advise on the antileprosy work and the training of physicians. From Madrid, Dr. Ramón Miguel Suarez-Inclán is to go to Kuttack, Orissa, India for a two years' tour, during which time he will serve as honorary consul of Spain in Calcutta. It is understood that assignments in Iraq, Iran and Ceylon are contemplated.

PERSONALS

DR. RONALD H. BLAND, until recently in charge of the leprosy control work in Nigeria, has been transferred to the general headquarters of the Medical Service of the Eastern Region. DR. T. F. DAVEY, of the Uzuakoli leprosarium, has been appointed in charge of the leprosy control office at Oji River, Enugu, with the title of Leprosy Adviser.

DR. ALFREDO BLUTH, after 17 years of leprosy work in Brazil—10 years as physician in charge of the "Lazaropolis do Prata" in the state of Pará, and 7 years in a similar position at the Colonia "Tavares de Macedo" in the state of Rio de Janeiro—has returned to Germany to work again in the Unna Dermatology Clinic in Hamburg.

DR. E. T. BOYER is now in charge of the R. M. Wilson Leprosy Colony near Soonchun, Korea.

REV. PAUL F. JANSEN, for many years the Protestant pastor at the Culion Sanitarium, Philippines, from where he with Mrs. Jansen was removed for internment during the Japanese occupation, died recently in Glendale, California, after a brief illness.

DR. FREDERICK A. JOHANSEN, medical director, U.S.P.H.S., officer in charge of the U.S. Federal Leprosarium, will retire on June 1st, 1953, having reached the mandatory retirement age for officers of that service.

DR. JACK W. MILLAR, who is on loan by the U.S. Navy to the Leonard Wood Memorial, and who attended the Memorial's Working Conference on Leprosy in Japan in September, is on a survey tour which will include the Philippines, Thailand, India and Egypt, according to a note in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

DR. HILDRUS A. POINDEXTER, Medical Director, U.S.P.H.S., has completed a tour of duty of nearly six years in Monrovia, Liberia and has returned to the United States, and is at present on loan to Howard University, School of Medicine, Washington, D. C. His problem in the University is to help in the reorganization of the program for the teaching of preventive medicine.

DR. JOSE N. RODRIGUEZ, of Manila, was offered last year through WHO, the position of consultant on leprosy to Iraq, according to the *Sunday Times Magazine* (Manila), and more recently has been offered a similar assignment in Ceylon.

DR. NORMAN R. SLOAN, formerly in charge of the Kalaupapa Settlement in Hawaii, spent six months beginning May 1st at Serai (Japen), Netherlands New Guinea, on a leprosy survey in that region under the auspices of the South Pacific Commission. He is now about to spend some time in the Trust Territory islands in the Western Pacific, after visiting the leprosarium on Tinian Island.

DR. NELSON DE SOUZA CAMPOS, formerly subdirector of the Department of Leprosy Prophylaxis of the state of São Paulo, has resigned and is now in the tuberculosis service of the national health department and stationed in Rio de Janeiro, from where he makes field trips to different parts of the country.