

At the Leonard Wood Memorial Conference on Leprosy, held in Manila in January 1931, the members “. . .believing it to be of the greatest importance that leprologists and others interested in leprosy be organized, and that a scientific journal of leprosy be published. . .” unanimously joined together to form the nucleus of the International Leprosy Association, one purpose of which was to support the proposed INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LEPROSY.¹ That action was in a way revolutionary, for since then there has not been as severe isolation of leprosy workers as there had been before. At the time of organization, however, it was realized that at first the Association could not hope to support such a periodical as was contemplated, so an appeal was made to the Memorial for a subsidy. Mr. Perry Burgess, president of the Memorial who acted as host to the conference, favored the request and in due course the Board of Trustees made the grant.

As a historical note it may be recalled that when preparation for publication was well under way one of the members of the Memorial's Advisory Medical Board, having visited Honolulu, advised that there would not be enough material to justify the proposed periodical and that the effort was bound to fail. Consequently, a preemptory message was received in Manila to discontinue preparations. Fortunately, other counsel prevailed. The shelf-full of volumes produced during the past quarter-century speaks for itself.

Before very long it was realized that active leprologists were and would long continue to be too few in the world fully to support THE JOURNAL by their membership fees in the Association. The Leonard Wood Memorial has therefore continued to support the publication until now. Reluctantly, we have to announce that the situation is soon to change radically.

Recently the Board of Trustees of the Memorial, in an effort to discontinue deficit spending—i.e., drawing on capital for part of the annual budgets—decided to discontinue support of THE JOURNAL after March 31, 1959, and with expressions of regret the Association was so notified. If publication is to be continued after that date the Association will have to

¹[CONFERENCE.] Report of the Leonard Wood Memorial Conference on Leprosy. Philippine J. Sci. **44** (1931) 449-480.

obtain funds from other sources, and we are informed that possibilities are being explored.

Another decision that was made affects the editorial end of the production. The writer, having passed an age limit adopted at the same meeting, is to be retired on the date mentioned, and the Pathology Department of the Memorial at Culion will be discontinued. Consequently, if funds should be found to meet expenses of the Publication Office, the material for publication would have to be prepared by another editor, under other circumstances.

—H. W. WADE