

INTERNATIONAL LEPROSY ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE FIFTH GENERAL MEETING

Held in Tokyo, November 19, 1958

The fifth general meeting of the Association was held in the Sankei International Conference Hall, Tokyo, on the afternoon of November 19, 1958, the day of closing of the VIIth Congress.¹

COUNCIL MEETING

A Council meeting was held immediately before the convening of the general meeting, attended by the eleven members of the Council present, to consider the agenda of the general meeting and, especially, to serve as a nominating committee. It was decided, by the necessary two-thirds majority vote, that Dr. H. W. Wade be nominated for re-election as president, and Dr. J. Ross Innes was nominated for the secretary-treasurership.² In anticipation of adoption of a proposed change of the constitution, three members of the Council were nominated for vice-presidents instead of two as heretofore. Fourteen other persons were nominated for membership in the Council. Dr. Doull made a statement concerning the status of THE JOURNAL which would be presented to the general meeting. It was unanimously agreed that Dr. Wade should continue as editor if publication is to be continued.

GENERAL MEETING

The general meeting convened at 3 p.m., Dr. Wade presiding. The first items on the agenda were the reports of Dr. Muir as secretary-treasurer, and of Dr. Wade as editor.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

The last general meeting of the Association was held on Sunday, October 11th, 1953, on the closing day of the VI International Congress of Leprology. It met at the Escuela de Estomatologia, Ciudad Universitaria, Madrid. Immediately before the meeting the agenda was considered at a Council meeting attended by nine of the thirteen Councillors who had attended the Congress.

Minutes of the Madrid meeting.—The minutes of the general meeting referred to were published in the Madrid Congress Number of the *International Journal of Leprosy* [21 (1953) 548-557], so I shall only refer briefly to the matters considered. These were:

¹The previous meetings of the Association, after its organization in Manila in 1931, had been held in Cairo in 1938, Rio de Janeiro in 1946, Havana in 1948, and Madrid in 1953.

²Dr. E. Muir had retired from this position at the time of the Madrid Congress in favor of Dr. John Lowe, but since the latter died Dr. Muir has pinch-hit, through the Tokyo Congress. Dr. Ross Innes has assisted since he took over as Medical Secretary of the British Leprosy Relief Association, in the office of which has been that of the I.L.A. since it was organized.

Amendments to the constitution and bylaws were approved by which the Sections of the Association (East and West) were done away with, leaving for the whole Association a group of office bearers—President, Secretary-Treasurer, and two Vice-Presidents—and 15 Councillors. Other changes were also made regarding elections, affiliation of other organizations, referenda, etc. Also, the bylaws were changed to increase the annual dues to seven dollars.

The question of the increased cost of the *International Journal* was considered, and certain proposals were put forward for increasing income. The most important of these was the enrolment of Sustaining Members each of which should pay \$25 a year. In the end it was agreed that the matter should be left to the discretion of the executive body after consultation with representatives of the Leonard Wood Memorial.

Official invitations were received from India and Japan for the next congress in 1958. As India had previously extended an invitation, at the Havana Congress, her invitation was gratefully accepted. At the same time a resolution was passed thanking the Japanese government for their invitation and expressing a hope that it might be renewed at the time of the next congress.

The following office bearers for the next period of five years, as nominated at the preliminary Council meeting, were elected: Dr. H. W. Wade as President, Dr. Dharmendra and Dr. R. Chaussinand as Vice-Presidents, and Dr. J. Lowe as Secretary-Treasurer. The fifteen Councillors nominated were also elected.

After rising in memory of four members of the Association who had died during the last five-year period, the meeting closed with votes of thanks.

Events during the past five years.—Dr. John Lowe took office as Secretary-Treasurer on his return to London from West Africa in 1954, but unfortunately he held office for only a little more than a year. His untimely death was a great loss to the Association, as to every aspect of antileprosy activity. At the request of the President and with the approval of the other office-bearers and Council, I undertook to act as Secretary-Treasurer until the next congress.

After the Madrid Congress there appeared various constructive criticisms and suggestions as to how those meetings might be made more practical and useful. An editorial on this subject by Dr. Chaussinand appeared in Oct.-Dec. 1957 number of the *Journal*, followed by another in the following number by myself. In the latter, several suggestions for future congresses were put forward. It was proposed that in preparation for a coming congress, topics should be chosen and arrangements made for a group, an Interim Panel, of a few experts to study each topic under a chairman who would present his topic at a special session of the Congress.

When these panels were formed, the chairman of each of the six was asked to take as a basis of discussion the corresponding findings (i.e., Technical Resolutions) of the Madrid Congress, and to develop these in the light of more recent investigations. It was also proposed that each panel should at the time of the Congress form the nucleus of the usual Technical Committee which would, after the reading of papers and open discussion at full sessions, co-ordinate findings and prepare a report for presentation to the congress at its final meeting.

Another matter of criticism of previous congresses was the manner of voting on resolutions, as the host country and other countries which have special facilities for attending are bound to preponderate when each member of the congress has a vote. Various proposals have been made for overcoming this difficulty, but none of them is felt to be wholly satisfactory. Probably the best method is to try to reach unanimity in the technical committees and in the reports presented by them. These reports should then either be adopted or rejected at the last plenary session of the Congress, but no attempt should be made to alter their content.

Affiliated societies.—Fourteen organizations have become affiliated with the Association. Ten of these were in arrears in their dues (\$25 or \$10 per annum). Letters have been written asking whether or not they wish to maintain their affiliation. From six of these no reply has as yet been received. —E. MUIR

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

The following balance sheet concerns only the moneys received and paid out by the Association office in London. By arrangement, most of the money supposed to accrue to the Association for members' dues and other subscriptions to the *International Journal* has been paid in dollars directly, and we have no information about the money thus transmitted.

In the past few years an increasing number of organizations have rendered assistance by becoming Sustaining Members, as provided by Paragraph 3 of the constitution. The names of these organizations appear in each number of the *Journal*. The number dated October-December 1957 contained 42 such names.

Statement of Receipts and Payments, London Office 30 June 1953 to 30 September 1958

RECEIPTS

	£	s	d
To balance brought down, 30/6/53.....	420.	6.	10.
To Subscriptions:			
Members (dues).....	£ 539.	15.	9.
Non-members.....	196.	7.	4.
To Subscriptions from Sustaining Members.....	205.	0.	0.
To C.I.O.M.S. grant for Tokyo Congress.....	1071.	8.	7.
To Sale of reprints of <i>Journal</i> articles.....	2.	16.	0.
To Sales of Leprosy Atlas (de Souza-Araujo).....	2.	0.	0.
	£ 2478.	1.	11.

PAYMENTS

	£	s	d
By Sums transferred to U.S.A. (for <i>Journal</i>).....	750.	0.	0.
By Expenses of representatives to CIOMS meeting..	34.	12.	8.
By Expenses of representative to W.H.O. assembly..	41.	11.	8.
By Office expenses:			
Salaries.....	£ 43.	0.	0.
Postage.....	82.	12.	1.
Printing & sundries.....	31.	14.	7.
By Subscriptions to C.I.O.M.S.	43.	8.	6.
By Expenses to Tokyo Congress (from CIOMS grant)	11.	18.	0.
By Balance in bank.....	1439.	4.	5.
	£ 2478.	1.	11.

—E. MUIR

Dr. Wade pointed out that, necessarily, the report of the Treasurer gave but a fractional picture of receipts that should be accounted for, because much of the money for the *Journal* is remitted directly to the United States in dollars. Dr. Doull was asked if he could obtain a statement of how much had been received in that way in the past five years, and he agreed to try to do so.

*Statement of Income and Expenditures, Leonard Wood Memorial, U.S.A.
30 June 1953—30 September 1958*

INCOME

Fiscal year	Memberships & Subscriptions	Sustaining Members	Reprints (reimbursement)	Sale of back issues	Total
7/1/53-6/30/54	3,831.54	—	278.36	53.37	4,163.27
7/1/54-6/30/55	3,353.35	—	419.75	20.11	3,793.21
7/1/55-6/30/56	3,193.61	—	371.27	12.37	3,577.25
7/1/56-6/30/57	6,710.35*	1,660.00**	510.45	26.00	8,906.80
7/1/57-6/30/58	4,479.35	2,025.00	392.38	47.75	6,944.49
7/1/58-9/30/58	841.75	1,550.00	275.42	171.56	2,838.73
Total	22,409.96	5,235.00	2,247.63	331.16	30,223.75

* Includes \$1,812.50 from London

** " 280.00 " "

EXPENDITURES

Fiscal year	Salaries	Ins. & SS	Printing	Reprints (reimbursable)	Office expense	Total
7/1/53-6/30/54	4,043.00	—	8,898.03	338.16	962.75	14,241.94
7/1/54-6/30/55	4,109.96	—	8,072.92	578.27	682.20	13,443.35
7/1/55-6/30/56	4,474.96	—	4,916.09	351.67	921.98	10,664.70
7/1/56-6/30/57	4,539.98	—	8,635.39	311.86	945.64	14,432.87
7/1/57-6/30/58	4,579.98	450.65	8,769.96	107.73	1,193.28	15,101.60
7/1/58-9/30/58	187.50	—	1,162.32	339.00	377.25	2,066.07
Total	21,935.38	450.65	40,454.71	2,026.69	5,083.10	69,950.53

REPORT OF EDITOR

[After the Congress, the CIOMS having been advised that a substantial balance remained of its generous gift of \$3,000 shown in the Treasurer's report, allocated \$841 towards the cost of publishing the Congress Number. J.R.I.]

Dr. Wade said that no formal or detailed report had been prepared. During the period as a whole there had been a sufficient supply of material of one kind and another, and in one year the volume contained over 600 pages.

(Specifically, the numbers of pages, 1953-1957, were: 672, 530, 517, 539, 467; total 2,725, average 545. Original articles: 31, 37, 32, 38, 35; total 173, average 34.6. Reprinted articles averaged 3 a year in 1953-1955, but because of demands for economy only 1 a year was used in 1956 and 1957.)

The amount of labor at different levels that is involved in producing the periodical is great, but in total the Contributing Editors in different countries render a material amount of aid. There is supposed to be a Contributing Editor in each country with a leprosy problem and/or leprosy work, and although some of them rarely if ever contribute there are on the other hand some who cooperate most helpfully.

Largely because of certain unfortunate circumstances in the past few years, the *Journal* has become seriously in arrears with respect to the dates that appear in the heads. This situation is unfortunate and regretted (although because of the

nature of the material published the dating is almost entirely nominal), and a serious effort has been made this past year to lessen the lag. Nevertheless, it was only a few weeks ago, late in October, that an air-mailed copy of the first issue for 1958 was received at Culion.

There has been a big change in the Publication Office. On June 30th, 1958, Dr. Huldah Bancroft, who has been Assistant Editor since the war, retired from her position as professor of biostatistics at Tulane University School of Medicine and, together with Miss Bess LeFevre, who had served as editorial assistant, moved to another city. Miss Delta Derrom, Assistant to the Medical Director, Leonard Wood Memorial, has accepted the work and responsibilities of Assistant Editor and Business Manager of the *Journal*. The new address is 1832 M Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

Since last May, when the Board of Trustees of the Leonard Wood Memorial voted to discontinue the support of the *Journal*, which it had done continuously since it started in 1933 (until the war in the form of an outright subsidy), the future of the *Journal* has been most uncertain. Dr. Doull will report on that matter, and on developments which it is expected will permit continuing publication, probably in some respects on a somewhat more limited basis than previously.

In the past few months the situation has changed for the worse with respect to availability of manuscripts. The uncertainty of the future of the *Journal* may have led some authors to withhold manuscripts, or send them elsewhere. The delay in publication may have had something to do with it. It is to be hoped that it is due mainly to holding papers for the Congress just ended, and that hereafter the normal inflow of material will be resumed. This is an important matter. It will profit little if, at the expense of much effort, provisions are made for continuation of publication but the supply of worth-while manuscripts is insufficient.

—H. W. WADE

Change of the constitution.—At Madrid it was proposed that the Association have three vice-presidents instead of two, the world territory to be divided accordingly, but the required notice had not been given. For the present occasion the Secretary had given notice of the proposal to change the first part of Paragraph 4(a) of the constitution to read as follows:

The general officers of the Association shall be a President, a Secretary-Treasurer, and three Vice-Presidents, one from each major geographic division of the world (Europe-Africa, Asia, and the Americas).

The rest of the paragraph would read as formerly, except that to keep the total number of officers and councillors at 19 as before, the number of the latter would be reduced to 14.

On formal vote this proposed change was accepted unanimously. It has been suggested that in ordinary parlance these world divisions be spoken of as the Central, Eastern and Americas Regions (the latter, perhaps, the Region of the Americas).

Site of the next congress.—Dr. Orestes Diniz had brought from Brazil a formal invitation to the International Leprosy Association for the next quinquennial congress, to be held in 1963. When presented to the meeting for formal votation, this invitation was accepted unanimously.

Dr. Azulay thanked the Association for the honor, and extended good wishes and a welcome to all. The Congress will be held in Rio de Janeiro.

The International Journal of Leprosy.—Dr. J. A. Doull presented a report on the financial situation of the *Journal*, which has been elaborated as follows:

Since the beginning in 1933 the annual deficit of the *International Journal of Leprosy* has been paid by the Leonard Wood Memorial. In the early days it granted the *Journal* a subsidy of about \$4,000 a year; the annual deficit had increased to about \$10,000. In addition the editorial, clerical, and translating work was done by the staff of the Memorial's Pathology Department at Culion.

Knowing of the financial difficulties of the Leonard Wood Memorial, and with the consent and assistance of the Secretary-Treasurer of the International Leprosy Association and of the President of the Memorial, I began in January 1957 an attempt to obtain Sustaining Members. In 1957 approximately \$2,100 was obtained from 30 Sustaining Members, an average of \$70.00 each. In 1958 the effort was continued and, to the present, \$3,257 has been obtained from 39 Sustaining Members, an average of \$83.50 each.

In June of 1958 the President of the Memorial notified me that the Trustees had decided that no further financial assistance would be given after March 31, 1959. This action was taken with great reluctance but was done because of the necessity of reducing expenditures so as to balance the Memorial's budget.

To obtain the reactions of the members of the International Leprosy Association I wrote on June 27th to each member telling of this decision and asking for suggestions as to sources of financial support of the *Journal*. I asked also for a frank opinion as to its value. Ninety-eight replies were received from about 690 letters. Of the 98 who answered, 40 proposed an increase in subscription rate, almost all to \$10.00. Only 3 opposed an increase; 55 did not mention an increase in the rate.

Nearly all replies were favorable to the *Journal* and praised the Editor. A number, however, deplored the lateness of publication. Several suggested combination of the *Journal* with some other leprosy journal—a difficult and perhaps impossible solution.

Influenced by these replies, the Trustees of the Leonard Wood Memorial reconsidered their action in October, and I have been notified by the President that up to \$5,000 will be made available to assist in publication of Volume 27 (1959). Future support, however, is not assured, but if the membership of the Association will make a determined effort to raise the income it is my personal opinion that the Memorial will continue to help on a much reduced basis.

This brings me to the probable cost of Volume 27 and the income which may reasonably be expected. The present income from members is reduced by agents' commissions but can be counted as \$4,200. The Sustaining Members can be counted on for at least as much as in 1958, that is, \$3,250. Adding \$5,000 from the Leonard Wood Memorial gives a total of \$12,450.

The *minimum* cost of bringing out Volume 27 is \$13,000. This includes \$7,000 for printing, \$4,600 for clerical help, \$750 for postage and other communications charges, and \$650 in other items. Obviously additional funds will be necessary. In spite of the fact that some subscriptions for Volume 27 have been paid, and must be honored, I would propose:

1. An immediate increase from \$7.00 to \$10.00 in the annual subscription rate.
2. A vigorous effort to obtain additional subscriptions, especially from governments with large antileprosy services, and from medical and university libraries.
3. A similar vigorous effort to obtain Sustaining Members at not less than \$50 each and preferably at \$100 annually. A large number of names were sub-

mitted in the 98 replies mentioned above, and these should provide a broader basis for a renewed appeal in 1959.

4. Appointment of a Finance Committee for the I.J.L. which would take responsibility for maintaining and increasing its income and which would be given authority to explore possible sources other than those mentioned.

—JAMES A. DOULL

After some discussions, including helpful suggestions, the proposals made by Dr. Doull were approved, with particular reference to (1) the increase of the subscription (and, automatically, the membership dues of the I.L.A.) from \$7.00 to \$10.00 (U.S.) a year, and (2) the creation of a Finance Committee for the *Journal*.

Election of officers and councillors.—The secretary presented the nominations which had been prepared by the preliminary meeting of the Council, in anticipation of the change in the constitution reported above. These were as follows:

Officers

Dr. H. W. Wade, *President*
Dr. J. Ross Innes, *Secretary-Treasurer*
Dr. J. M. M. Fernandez, *Vice-President* (Americas Region)
Dr. R. G. Cochrane, *Vice-President* (Central Region)
Dr. K. Kitamura, *Vice-President* (Eastern Region)

Councillors

Dr. E. Agricola
Dr. L. M. Bechelli
Dr. R. Chaussinand
Dr. F. Contreras
Dr. J. Convit
Dr. T. F. Davey
Dr. A. R. Davison
Dr. O. Diniz
Dr. Dharmendra
Dr. J. A. Doull
Dr. N. D. Fraser
Dr. J. Gay Prieto^a
Dr. E. Muir
Dr. J. N. Rodriguez

Dr. Wade's nomination was received with acclamation, which amply covered the required two-thirds vote for re-election. The nomination of Dr. Ross Innes, who had given yeoman service before and throughout the Congress, was received with equal cordiality, as were the other nominations. On formal vote they were all accepted unanimously by the assembly.

Other resolutions.—Dr. Wade announced that proposals had been made for the adoption of resolutions as listed below, to be written later by the new Secretary as required:

^aSubject to consent of the Director-General of the World Health Organization.

(a) Regret for the death of Dr. Lowe, and, among other members of the Association, Dr. B. N. Ghosh, of India (membership standing).

(b) Regret for the illness of Dr. Chaussinand, one of the past Vice-Presidents of the Association, who was unable to attend the Congress.

(c) Appreciation of the signal services of Dr. Muir as Secretary-Treasurer after the death of Dr. Lowe, although as long ago as the Havana Congress he had wished to retire from the office.

(d) Appreciation of the services of Dr. Huldah Bancroft as Assistant Editor of the *International Journal of Leprosy*, since the war until her retirement in July.

(e) Appreciation to our Japanese hosts for the facilities for holding this meeting.

The proposal of Drs. Such Sanchez and Contreras that governments and organizations should pay more attention to the rehabilitation side of leprosy work and make adequate provisions for it, and that the next congress should pay special attention to this subject, had been approved and noted for future action by the secretariat of ILA, and is here recorded.

The proposals of Dr. J. H. Hanks, that ILA should sponsor a standing committee to assess progress in bacteriology and pathology and that it should report through the *International Journal of Leprosy* at convenient times; that this committee could organize a symposium and a report as part of the next congress; and that if rooms were available in future congresses it would facilitate informal scientific discussions, were received with interest by the secretariat of ILA and are here recorded to facilitate future consideration and action.

At 4:05 p.m. the President declared this general meeting of the ILA closed.

—E. MUIR