COURSES AND LECTURES IN ARGENTINA

To the Editor:

This is a brief account of a round of six months performance of a job in leprosy control which was given me by the Ministry of Public Health and the Director of the Dermatologic Diseases Control. This mission consisted of two complete training courses in sanitary leprology, and of a round throughout the country in order to give lectures on sanitary education in leprosy.

1. The two courses in leprology were each of 45 days duration. The first was held near Buenos Aires from June 15 to July 30, and the other in Corrientes and in the leprosarium of the Isla del Cerrito from September 15 to October 30. The teaching was intensive, from 5 to 6 hours daily, theoretical and practical, especially practical, since we are working in colonies and dispensaries with doctors with scholarship grants. The students were 75 per cent doctors, and the rest were senior medical students (now they are also already doctors). All had scholarship grants, with free lodging, allowances, and transportation paid for by the Ministry of Public Health. Sixteen scholarship students graduated, and I can guarantee that they acquired a thorough knowledge of leprosy. They came from 7 different provinces; therefore, in returning to the places from which they came they can render great service in the matter of leprosy. Both the scholarship students and the professor worked full-time. The graduation certificates were signed by the Minister of Public Health, the Director of Dermatologic Diseases Control, the Director of the National School of Health, and by me in my capacity as professor in charge of giving the course.

.2. For the lectures in sanitary education in leprosy I made two rounds throughout the country, accompanied by the Director of Leprosy Control, Dr. Armando Zavala Saenz. The purpose was to give popular information lectures on leprosy subjects. In these rounds of one month duration each, we visited 30 cities and gave 40 lectures on "Present concepts of leprosy and modern methods of its prevention." After each lecture the public asked questions which were answered by us. I believe that these information lectures were very useful.

A thorough report on the mission will be published elsewhere.

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