

REPORTS OF MEETINGS

Reports of meetings that deal with leprosy are printed, so far as possible, when submitted by proper persons in suitable form.

“FEDERACAO DAS SOCIEDADES DE ASSISTENCIA AOS LAZAROS E DEFEZA CONTRA A LEPRO”

This society, which is a private organization founded in 1931 and composed of associations for financial assistance to lepers and their families in the various States of Brazil, held a National Leprosy Conference in Rio de Janeiro, from September 24 to October 2, 1933. The States represented were: Amazonas, Pará, Maranhao, Parahyba, Rio Grande do Norte, Bahia, Espirito Santo, Minas Geraes, Rio de Janeiro, the Federal District, Sao Paulo, Paraná, Santa Catharina and Goyaz. The Minister of Education and Public Health and the National Department of Public Health gave the conference their full cooperation.

The subjects discussed were: (1) General plan for the control of leprosy in Brazil; (2) Isolation of lepers and its prophylactic value; (3) Treatment of leprosy and the importance of the leprosy clinics (dispensarios); (4) Sanitary education and its value in leprosy control; (5) The leprosy center; (6) The assistance of lepers and their families, especially the protection of their children; (7) Importance of private cooperation. Important reports were read and discussed about the situation in the States represented. These are to be published later in another form.

Of the many conclusions and suggestions approved by the conference, the majority relate to the isolation of lepers, which was considered essential for the situation in Brazil; the antileprotic treatment by chaulmoogra oil and its derivatives, considered of prophylactic value; the creation of leprosy clinics, especially near the more active foci of leprosy; sanitary education as an important element in the control of leprosy; the creation of centers of leprology in different States, considered of great importance.

The following, among others, were considered as proper subjects of the activities of private organizations: (a) protection of the

healthy children of lepers; (b) assistance of all kinds for the families of the isolated patients; (c) social and spiritual assistance of the isolated lepers; (d) assistance of the paroled lepers. The private institutions can also establish centers for the study of leprosy, and organize sanatoria for well-to-do patients.

The conference also approved the basis of a general plan for the control of leprosy, and nominated a technical committee to outline a definite plan to be sent to the Federal Government as a suggestion for a national campaign against the disease. The committee is composed of: President, Dr. Eduardo Rabello, professor of dermatology in Rio de Janeiro; Members: Mrs. Alice de Toledo Ribas Tibiricá, president of the Federation; Dr. Carlos Chagas, professor of tropical medicine; Dr. Raul de Almeida Magalhaes, general director of public health; Dr. Oscar de Silva Araujo, inspector for the control of leprosy in the Federal District; Dr. H. C. de Souza Araujo, chief of the laboratory of leprology, Instituto Oswaldo Cruz; Dr. J. Aguiar Pupo, professor of dermatology in Sao Paulo; one representative of the leprosy control service of Sao Paulo; Dr. Ernani Agricola, director of health of the State of Minas Geraes; Dr. Antonio Aleixo, professor of dermatology, Bello Horizonte, Minas; Dr. Joaquin Motta, assistant of the chief of leprosy control in the Federal District (to be general secretary of the committee); and Mrs. Marina Bandeira de Oliveira, general secretary of the conference (to be secretary of the committee).

—H. C. DE SOUZA-ARAUJO.

JAPANESE LEPROSY ASSOCIATION

Physicians in Japan who are specially interested in the study of leprosy have organized formally as the Japanese Leprosy Association, according to reports received. In no other country is so widespread and keen an interest taken in the subject, especially in the scientific, experimental aspects of it. For several years the Japanese leprologists held special meetings, in conjunction with other gatherings, but no formal organization was effected until 1932, when the Association was established. Professor Nagayo was elected president. The first congress of the new organization, and the seventh annual meeting of the Japanese leprologists, was held in Tokyo, on November 4 and 5, 1933. More than one hundred physicians attended the meeting and eighty papers were read.