

INTERNATIONAL LEPROSY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH GENERAL MEETING AND COUNCIL MEETINGS

Held in Rio de Janeiro, September 1963

FIRST COUNCIL MEETING

The Council met on 12 September 1963 at 10 a.m., with the following present: Drs. R. G. Cochrane, J. M. M. Fernández, and K. Kitamura, *Vice-Presidents*; Drs. E. Agricola, L. M. Bechelli, Orestes Diniz, Dharmendra, K. R. Chatterjee, F. Contreras, and Jacinto Convit, *Councillors*; and Dr. J. Ross Innes, *Secretary-Treasurer*. Apologies for absence were received from Dr. T. F. Davey and Dr. N. D. Fraser, who were delayed in arriving, and from Dr. H. W. Wade and Dr. E. Muir who could not attend because of ill health and age. In the absence of the President, Dr. Wade, the Secretary-Treasurer took the chair and proposed the appointment of Dr. J. M. M. Fernández as Acting President for the Congress. This was approved unanimously.

President.—The Council had been informed that because of ill health, Dr. Wade could not stand for the office of President again and Council members had been circulated for nominations. Dr. Fernández had been nominated by nine members. Drs. Chaussinand, Cochrane and Dharmendra had also been nominated but withdrew their names. It was decided therefore to put forward the name of Dr. Fernández for the approval of the General Meeting of the International Leprosy Association on September 20. Dr. Fernández then took the chair.

Presentation of tribute to Dr. Wade.—As Dr. Wade leaves office at the end of this Congress, a laudatory ornamented parchment (signed by all members of the Council) had been prepared for presentation to him in the following terms:

“We the undersigned Vice-Presidents and members of the Council of the International Leprosy Association desire to express to Dr. H. W. Wade our profound appreciation of the great services he has rendered to the Association since its foundation in 1931 as Councillor, and during the past seventeen years as its President. To this high office he brought great knowledge, wide experience, and sound judgment, and successive International Congresses have owed much to his counsel. His unusual editorial gifts

exercised over thirty years have given the *International Journal of Leprosy* a worldwide reputation. Through its pages a generation of Leprologists have found a forum for the sharing of new knowledge, and high standards have added dignity to the science of leprology.

All leprosy workers are indebted to Dr. Wade for his scientific contributions, particularly in the sphere of pathology and immunology. A sincere and penetrating scientist, he is equally a kindly and genial colleague. His decision not to accept another term as President is greeted by all members of the International Leprosy Association with profound regret. It is unanimously resolved to appoint Dr. Wade as President Emeritus in recognition of his great services to the International Leprosy Association and his outstanding devotion to the cause of leprosy eradication."

Dr. Wade had nominated Mr. C. I. Crowther, President of the Leonard Wood Memorial, to receive the Parchment for him in his absence, with the expectation that Mr. Crowther would arrange for transmission to him. (It was presented to Mr. Crowther on Friday, 20 September, during a break in the Scientific Session.) It was agreed to send a telegram of affection and good wishes to Dr. Wade from the VIIIth Congress.

Appointment of Dr. E. Muir as Honorary Vice-President.—It was suggested that the Association have Honorary Vice-Presidents and that Dr. E. Muir, who had resigned from the Council because of age, be chosen as the first to hold the title, in recognition of his great work for the Association. This was unanimously approved and it was agreed that a telegram should be sent to Dr. Muir informing him of the appointment and giving him affectionate greetings from the VIIIth Congress.

Nominations for Vice-President and Councillors.—Nominations for Vice-President of the Americas Region were called for, and the appointment of Dr. E. Agricola was approved. Five vacancies on the Council called for replacement: Dr. E. Muir of Great Britain (resigned), Dr. J. A. Doull of U.S.A. (deceased), Dr. A. R. Davison of South Africa (resigned), Dr. E. Agricola of Brazil (elected Vice-President), and Dr. R. Chaussinand of France (resigned). Dr. Muir had nominated Dr. R. J. W. Rees of Great Britain, Dr. C. H. Binford of the United States and Dr. S. G. Browne of Nigeria. These were approved. It was agreed to nominate for the remaining two places Dr. F. E. A. Rabello of Brazil and Dr. J. Languillon of France.

It was then pointed out that the number of Councillors was only 14, instead of 15 as specified in the Constitution; so an additional nomination, Dr. R. V. Wardekar of India, was made. Nominations of Drs. J. H. Hanks and A. T. Roy were held in reserve, and it was understood that other nominations were to be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer. [Nominations received later included Dr. Yanagisawa of Japan and a representative from Mexico (Dr. Saúl, Dr. Malacara or Dr. Latapí.)]

Condolences.—It was agreed that a minute of condolence be presented to the General Meeting of the International Leprosy Association on the deaths of Dr. J. A. Doull, Dr. H. de Souza-Araujo and Mr. and Mrs. Perry Burgess.

Editor of the International Journal of Leprosy.—Note was taken of Byelaw 7 of the Constitution, which states that the Editor of THE JOURNAL is to be appointed by the Council. Proposals that Mr. C. I. Crowther and Dr. C. H. Binford of the Leonard Wood Memorial be invited to attend a Council meeting and report on the state of THE JOURNAL were approved.

Dr. R. G. Cochrane expressed the gratitude of the Association to the Leonard Wood Memorial for its long-continued support of THE JOURNAL and proposed Dr. J. Ross Innes as the new editor, pointing out that the Memorial does not control the editorial policy of THE JOURNAL. Dr. Dharmendra proposed that no nomination be made without consulting the Memorial. It was agreed that no decision be made until the representatives of the Memorial could attend and give information on the editorial and financial state of THE JOURNAL.

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.—On request of the Secretary-Treasurer the Council appointed Mrs. J. R. Innes as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer for the duration of the Congress.

There being no further business, the Council adjourned, to meet again on Thursday, 12 September at 8 p.m., with Dr. Binford and Mr. Crowther attending by invitation.

SECOND COUNCIL MEETING

The Council met on Thursday, 12 September, at 8 p.m., with the following present: Drs. Fernández (chairman), Cochrane, Kitamura, Bechelli, Diniz, Dharmendra, Chatterjee, Convit and Innes, to discuss the *International Journal of Leprosy*. Dr. Binford and Mr. Crowther attended by invitation. On request for information on the cost of THE JOURNAL, Dr. Binford recalled that at the time of the Tokyo Congress THE JOURNAL was almost bankrupt and Dr. Doull was commissioned to raise sustaining funds. Delay in publication was explained as due to many causes. Dr. Binford suggested that financial questions be referred to Miss Delta Derrom, Business Manager of THE JOURNAL. Dr. Cochrane pointed out that under Byelaw 3(c) of the Constitution the Secretary-Treasurer is accountable for all moneys paid to or by the Association and it was necessary that he have an annual statement of funds used for THE JOURNAL. He stated that up to now this Byelaw has not been strictly adhered to, and that suitable action should be taken.

The following figures, supplied by the Leonard Wood Memorial

office to the Treasurer, give a brief summary of the five years' financial statement:

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|--------------------|--------|
| Deficit in 1958/59 | \$ 457 |
| Surplus in 1959/60 | 3,877 |
| Deficit in 1960/61 | 3,858 |
| Deficit in 1961/62 | 1,880 |
| Deficit in 1962/63 | 5,700 |

The decrease in financial contributions has been due largely due to failure of members to pay their dues because of delay in issue of THE JOURNAL.

In the above five-year period the cost of THE JOURNAL to the Memorial has been about \$8,000 or \$1,600 per annum. It was stated that if the Memorial had not charged salary, office rent, etc., the deficit would have been much less, if not nonexistent. The London office has not charged rent, salaries, etc., as these have always been provided by BELRA.

Mr. Crowther was asked about the amount of support given to THE JOURNAL by the Memorial and he stated that previous deficits had been much larger and that many items had not been recorded which might have made the present deficit much larger, perhaps double. He agreed that, although THE JOURNAL accounts were audited by Price, Waterhouse & Co., they were not published in THE JOURNAL and no return was made annually to the Treasurer. It was suggested that the Byelaw be altered to give the Business Manager management of the finances of THE JOURNAL. Dr. Binford agreed that present arrangements with regard to THE JOURNAL need not necessarily continue. Dr. Dharmendra believed that no appointment should be made without approval of the Memorial because they have subsidized THE JOURNAL for so long.

The Council adjourned for the Solemn Opening Session of the Congress, scheduled to start at 9 p.m., to meet again on Friday, 13 September, at 8:30 p.m. to discuss the matter further with Dr. Binford and Mr. Crowther.

THIRD COUNCIL MEETING

The Council met on Saturday, 14 September, at 8:30 p.m., with the following present: Drs. Fernández (chairman), Cochrane, Kitamura, Agricola, Bechelli, Diniz, Davey, Fraser, Dharmendra, Chatterjee, Contreras, Convit, and Innes. Dr. Fernández announced that the meeting was a continuation of the previous Council meeting for consideration of editorship of the *International Journal of Leprosy*.

Dr. Binford, who had been invited to attend, was requested to make suggestions from the Leonard Wood Memorial. When asked if Dr. Wade had actually resigned, he referred to a telegram from Dr.

Wade to the Acting President, Dr. Fernández, reading

"Informing you formally of my retirement as editor *Journal*. Strongly endorse Binford's proposal of Esmond Long as successor. Propose new editor take over after current volume 31 is finished. No arrangement made for obtaining material necessary for usual Congress issue.—Wade"

(This telegram was received on 11 September but only placed before the Councillors on 14 September.)

Dr. Binford said that Dr. Esmond R. Long had worked in pathology and microbiology and had had long experience in editorial work. He had expressed interest when the opening was made known to him and willingness to discuss it. At an interview in Washington he decided that if the Council of the International Leprosy Association wanted him to edit *THE JOURNAL* he would accept, but not for an indefinite period, and would try to reestablish *THE JOURNAL* on schedule. Dr. Binford stated that Dr. Long is not a leprologist, but that manuscripts as necessary would be submitted to an expert editorial board. He added that Dr. Long is not seeking position or prestige.

Discussion followed, in which Drs. Chatterjee, Davey and Innes participated. Dr. Binford suggested that the appointment be for two years, in view of Dr. Long's age, stating that Dr. Long would work in the present publication office, use the editorial board during the transition, and utilize the proffered services of Dr. Wade for editorials, *News and Notes*, *Current Literature* and similar items. Dr. Binford discussed previous delays, due in large part to Dr. Wade's distance from the Washington office, expressing belief that the arrangement proposed would speed up publication. He could not give a definite answer to the question if the Memorial objected to production of *THE JOURNAL* outside the United States. That question would have to be referred to the Memorial Board.

On motion by Dr. Cochrane the Council adjourned, fixing Saturday, 14 September at 5:30 p.m. for further discussion.

FOURTH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council met on Saturday, 14 September at 5:30 p.m., for further discussion of the editorship of *THE JOURNAL*, with the following present; Drs. Fernández (chairman), Cochrane, Agricola, Bechelli, Diniz, Davey, Fraser, Dharmendra, Chatterjee, Contreras, Convit, and Innes.

Dr. Cochrane outlined the attainments the Editor should have, noting that Dr. Innes was well qualified in these respects, and also in a position to devote his whole time to *THE JOURNAL*. He proposed the name of Dr. Innes and Dr. Convit proposed that of Dr. Long.

Further discussion, in which Drs. Dharmendra, Innes, Cochrane, Chatterjee, and Convit participated, was devoted to Dr. Innes' present responsibilities, Leonard Wood Memorial support of *THE JOURNAL*,

location of the editorial office, and the question of assumption of the position of Editor by one of the present associate editors. Discussion brought out that Drs. Cochrane, Muir, Chaussinand, and Fernández could not undertake the task. The proposal of the name of Dr. Fernández was greeted by the Council with acclaim, but Dr. Fernández could not see his way clear to accept.

The respective merits of the other candidates, and the needs of THE JOURNAL, were discussed by Drs. Cochrane, Convit, Contreras, Diniz, Davey, Bechelli and others. In view of Dr. Wade's health and the need for prompt action Dr. Cochrane proposed that Dr. Long be appointed Acting Editor for two years, noting at the same time that the International Leprosy Association should not be too dependent on the Memorial. Dr. Innes withdrew his name to facilitate solution of the difficult problem of editorship, and the Council approved appointment of Dr. Long as Acting Editor for two years. Respect and admiration were expressed for Dr. Innes. The Council approved proposal of Dr. Dharmendra as a new Associate Editor.

The meeting adjourned, to reconvene on 17 September.

FIFTH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council met on Tuesday, 17 September at 6 p.m., with the following present: Drs. Fernández (chairman), Cochrane, Agricola, Bechelli, Diniz, Davey, Fraser, Dharmendra, Contreras and Innes. Dr. Agricola's proposals *re* permanent scientific committees were approved with a few minor alterations.

Dr. Cochrane proposed seven resolutions to clarify the byelaws, stressing their implications, and noting need for insistence on their observation. He called attention to the responsibility of the International Leprosy Association, as expressed in Resolution 5, for finding the money for THE JOURNAL. These were approved with a few modifications. (See Minutes of Sixth General Meeting held on 20 September.)

Amendment to the constitution.—Dr. Cochrane proposed an amendment to Byelaw 5(c) of the constitution by the addition of the following sentence:

"If, however, notice has not been received by the authors within six months that the papers have been accepted and will appear in THE JOURNAL in the near future, the authors will be permitted to withdraw them and offer them for publication elsewhere."

After some discussion the suggested period was reduced to *three months*, as work must be published as soon as possible, and the amendment was approved.

Appreciation of Dr. Wade's work.—It was moved and approved that the Secretary-Treasurer draw up an appreciation for all the work Dr. Wade has done, expressing extreme regret that he has to give up now.

The meeting was then adjourned, to reconvene Wednesday, 18 September at 6 p.m.

SIXTH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council met on Wednesday, 18 September at 6 p.m., with the following present: Drs. Fernández (chairman), Cochrane, Kitamura, Agricola, Bechelli, Diniz, Davey, Fraser, Dharmendra, Chatterjee, Contreras, and Innes.

The IXth Congress was discussed. An official invitation had been received from the Danish Society of Pathology to hold the IXth Congress in Copenhagen in 1968. It was suggested that the Xth Congress in 1973 be held in Scandinavia, as the Hansen Centenary takes place in 1971 and it would be more appropriate to accept the Danish invitation for that Congress. Consideration of the invitation was approved in the absence of any other. There had been no invitation so far from Britain, but a strong desire was expressed that the IXth Congress be held there. Dr. Bechelli said that the IXth Congress should certainly be held in Europe and it was suggested that he write to Britain from the World Health Organization stating that the Congress wished to meet in that country. It was suggested that the IXth Congress might be held a year early, in 1967, in conjunction with the meeting of the International Society of Tropical Dermatology, so that delegates might attend both. It was agreed to propose this to the General Meeting of the International Leprosy Association.

Publication of Transactions.—Dr. Fernández asked about arrangements for publication of the *Transactions* of the VIIIth Congress. Dr. Cochrane proposed that the local committee be requested to select papers for the *Transactions* and that Dr. Fernández be included in the committee. This was approved.

New council.—It was proposed that the newly-elected Council meet briefly and informally immediately after the General Meeting on Friday, 20 September, for introductions and exchange of views.

The meeting was then adjourned until Friday, 20 September, at 2 p.m.