

History of the Leonard Wood Memorial

The Leonard Wood Memorial has maintained close and intimate cooperation with the International Leprosy Association and the INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LEPROSY ever since the ILA and THE JOURNAL were founded. The Association and THE JOURNAL had their origins in a conference in Manila, sponsored by the Leonard Wood Memorial in January 1931, which was called specifically to consider methods of leprosy control, treatment and prevention of the disease, and research necessary for its eradication. World leaders in leprosy therapy and investigation were present, and all agreed on the value that would result from an international organization for scientific work on leprosy and a medical journal devoted specifically to its study.

It was evident at the outset, as official documents reveal, that such a journal, at the start at least, could not be self-supporting. There seemed little likelihood that, for some time to come, the number of members of the ILA and additional subscribers would be sufficient to maintain a creditable scientific journal. The Leonard Wood Memorial, however, which sponsored the meeting at which the establishment of a leprosy journal was proposed, was in a position, under the broad provisions of its articles of incorporation, to assist in publication of THE JOURNAL, just as it was prepared to promote the scientific study of leprosy in other respects. Thus began a partnership that has been an effective force in the scientific study of leprosy for more than thirty-five years.

The International Leprosy Association and the Memorial have worked together on many projects besides sponsorship of THE JOURNAL, including numerous congresses and conferences, and research and training programs with which members of the ILA have been much concerned. There is reason to believe, therefore, that a history of the Leonard Wood Memorial, paying some attention to this long relationship, would be of more than passing interest to members of the ILA and other readers of THE JOURNAL.¹

Expenses incident to publication of the history have been paid by the Leonard Wood Memorial separately from the usual expenses of THE JOURNAL. The history falls into a group of special supplementary publications for which outside support is furnished, including the *Proceedings* of a recent conference on research,² and the *Proceedings* of a forthcoming conference in the U. S.-Japan Cooperative Medical Science Program. The resources of THE JOURNAL for dissemination of knowledge on leprosy are extended in this way, without additional cost to members of the ILA or other subscribers to THE JOURNAL.

—E. R. LONG

¹Such a history has been prepared in some detail and is published as Part 2 of this issue of THE JOURNAL, pp. 239-309.

²*Proceedings* of LWM-AFIP Conference on Research Problems in Leprosy. Internat. J. Leprosy **33** (1965) 397-794. (Part 2)