**NEWS and NOTES**

This department furnishes information concerning institutions, organizations, and individuals engaged in work on leprosy and other mycobacterial diseases, and makes note of scientific meetings and other matters of interest.

**1977 Damien-Dutton Award**

On 12 May 1977 in Rockville Centre, New York the 25th annual Damien-Dutton Award was presented to the first husband and wife team to receive this award, Dr. Paul Brand and Dr. Margaret Brand.

The citation reads as follows: “The 1977 Damien-Dutton Award presented to Dr. Margaret E. Brand and Dr. Paul W. Brand, USPHS Hospital, Carville, LA, who have devoted their lives to preventing and correcting disabilities in leprosy patients.”

Dr. Paul Brand was born in India, although his nationality is British. He was educated in London and received his medical and surgical training at London University. Dr. Margaret Brand had also studied medicine in London. She was born in England of Irish parents and spent her childhood in South Africa. While attending the University of London she met Paul and they were married following graduation from medical school. They then spent the next 17 years working in India, and returned to England in 1963. While in India Dr. Paul Brand became interested in orthopedic surgery and specialized in hand surgery of the leprosy patients they treated. At the same time Dr. Margaret Brand became interested in the eye problems of leprosy patients and created new operative technics which saved countless numbers of patients from permanent blindness. They were invited by the United States Government to join the staff of the U.S. Public Hospital in Carville, where he became chief of the rehabilitation branch and she became chief of the ophthalmology service.

The Brands have been honored on numerous occasions for their outstanding work in the field of leprosy including honors by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth. Dr. Margaret Brand is author of the book *Watch Those Eyes* and Dr. Paul Brand’s career is the subject of the book *Ten Fingers for God* written by Dorothy Clarke Wilson. — *(Adapted from 1977 Damien-Dutton Award Dinner Program)*
Africa. The late Albert Schweitzer’s jungle hospital at Lambaréne, Gabon rises anew. On President Albert-Bernard Bongo’s insistence the hospital by 1980 will have Central Africa’s first research center for tropical disease. The existing dental clinic, psychiatric ward and leprosy center are to be completely remodeled. Volunteer specialists are to be recruited on short-term contracts to perform the delicate multiple operations needed to restore to leprosy sufferers the use of their limbs.

A reeducation center, nursery and primary schools for the children of staff and patients, a training center for African nurses, meeting hall, library and staff quarters are all included in the third and final stage of Mr. Max Caulet’s project, who is in charge of the remodeling and overall project. He expects a substantial increase in the present average of 120 major operations and 1,780 outpatient treatments a month.—(Excerpted and adapted from SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, Saturday 16 July 1977)

Argentina. Sociedad Argentina de Leprología elects Board of Directors and temporarily suspends publication of Leprologia. The Board of Directors of the society is as follows: Presidente, Dr. Juan C. Gatti; Vice Presidente, Ricardo Manzi; Secretario Gral.; Hector I. Rasso, Secretario Coordinador, Jose E. Cardama; Tesorero, Marta Gabrielli; Vocales, Pascual B. Arcuri, Graciela Pizza­riello, Pedro R. Martinez Prieto, Victor Mor­lin and Julio L. Frontera Vaca. A note appearing in the No. 1 Bulletin of the society from the president Dr. Gatti states, “The economical situation through which the S. A. L. is arising, disables in a temporary way, the edition of our magazine LEPROLOGIA, so we shall publish this bulletin to preserve our communication.”—(From Boletin Sociedad Argentina de Leprologia, No. 1, Jan.-March 1977)

Brazil. The birth of HANSENLOGIA INTERNATIONALE. The first issue, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1976, of this new periodical has just come to hand. It will be published twice a year and replaces the former REVISTA BRASILEIRA DE LEPROLOGIA (1933-1970) which suspended its publication in 1970. The editor-in-chief is Dr. A. Rotberg, and the editor is the director of the Instituto de Saúde, Dr. Cassio Mar­condes de Carvalho. They are supported by large and distinguished groups of scientific consultants, editorial consultants, and foreign editors and international correspondents. The first issue, appropriately, is made up of contributions from members of these groups and their associates.

Manuscripts will be accepted in Portu­guese, English, Spanish, French or Italian. It is requested that an extensive English summary and an English translation of the title be provided with manuscripts written in the other languages. Judging from this request and the first issue, it appears that only En­glish summaries will be published in addition to the original language summary. The single English language manuscript in the first issue has a Portuguese translation of its sum­mary. Inquiries should be directed to: The Editors, Instituto de Saúde—Biblioteca, Caixa Postal 8027, 01000 Sao Paulo, Brazil.—Olaf K. Skinsnes

Canada. Chair of research in leprology founded by Le Secours aux Lepreux (Canada), Inc. A few weeks before the official inaug­uration of the Hansen Pavilion at the Institut Armand-Frappier, City of Laval (see JIL 44 [1976] 497), a check representing the first yearly installment was given by Mr. Legault, president of Le Secours aux Lé­preux (Canada) to Dr. A. Beaunis, director of the institute on the occasion of a special event attended also by Dr. Armand Frappier, founder of the institute, and all the directors of the institute and its different laboratories. Dr. Laszlo Kato is the first titular of the Hansen Chair of Research. Some of the emi­nent leprologists from around the world who have been invited to work with Dr. Kato for one or two weeks and to deliver a series of lectures are Dr. L. M. Rechelli, Sao Paulo, Brazil; Dr. Olaf Skinsnes, University of Hawaii; and Dr. M. F. Lechat, University of Louvain, Belgium.—(Adapted from SLC notice)

Dr. M. F. Lechat appointed medical con­sultant of Le Secours aux Lepreux (Canada), Inc. The appointment, which began 22 Oc­tober 1976, will primarily be to advise and as­sist the Board of Directors in all matters involving medical programs, namely the founding of new research centers. Dr. Le­chat, who is well qualified for this appoint­ment, presently is a professor of epidemiol­ogy in the school of public health at the
England. LEPRA Prize Essay Competition 1977 for registered medical students in the United Kingdom. Since 1972, first in Oxford, Birmingham and Edinburgh, LEPRA has annually offered prize money of £100 for essays on various aspects of the leprosy problem. For the year 1977 the offer has been extended to all universities with a medical faculty in the UK with the subject being: “The Immune System in Leprosy: Benefactor or Troublemaker?” All entries are welcome and candidates are expected to summarize current views on the etiology, transmission and pathology of leprosy and then to review in detail the cell-mediated and humoral responses which are relevant to this disease. No credit will be given for the reproduction of material already published in books or journals. References should be included as in scientific journals.

The closing date for entries is 31 December 1977. Essays should be typed on A4 paper, double-spaced with good margins and totaling no more than 10,000 words. The candidate’s full name, home address, college (if relevant), university and year of study must be included in the entry. Please submit all inquiries and entries to: Dr. Colin McDougall, Briscoe I Ward, The Slaide Hospital, Headington, Oxford OX3 7JH. — LEPRA

The Foundation for Teaching Aids at Low Cost (TALC) has set of slides available on the classification of leprosy. TALC provides teaching aids at or below cost for health workers and for developing countries, in order to help raise standards of health care particularly in under-developed countries. TALC is a self-supporting nonprofit-making organization and represents a teaching activity of the Institute of Child Health of the University of London. The slides can be supplied in the following forms: unmounted, mounted, in a plastic file with either a folder or a metal hanging bar, and with a tape recording cassette. The two important slide sets on leprosy are: “The Classification of Leprosy: New Understanding That Immunology Leads to Improved Classification,” and “Leprosy: A Description of the Disease With Particular Reference to Childhood.” Please address inquiries to: TALC, Institute of Child Health, 30 Guilford Street, London WC1N IEH, U.K. — D. C. Morley

France. The international year for disabled persons will be 1981. At an Inter-agency Consultation on Rehabilitation of the Disabled held in Paris on 11-12 July 1977, discussions were held between representatives of The United Nations, World Health Organisation, UNESCO, International Labor Office, and three members of the executive committee of the Council of World Organizations Interested in the Handicapped. The International Leprosy Association is represented on this committee through its secretary-treasurer.

The most important subject studied, as far as leprosy is concerned, was the decision of The United Nations to make 1981 the “International Year for Disabled Persons.” Non-governmental agencies will be organizing regional congresses, a special stamp will probably be issued, and a world program outlining suggested activities in the field of rehabilitation will be published.

This preliminary announcement is given so that leprosy workers may be alerted in time to enable them to ensure that needs of disabled victims of leprosy are not forgotten in the preparations for this special year. Their cooperation will be enlisted in the compilation of brochures dealing with technical assistance and resources available. There are plans afoot for an international rally of disabled persons to be held in Geneva in March 1981. — S. G. Browne

Germany. Copies of "The Memories and Reflections of Dr. Gerhard A. Hansen" still available. Those persons interested in purchasing this very interesting book which was reviewed in the Book Review section of the IJL (44 [1976] 302) may still obtain copies from either of the following organizations: German Leprosy Relief Association (DAHW), Postfach 348, D-8700 Wurzburg, W. Germany; or Institut Armand-Frappier, Professor Lazlo Kate, 531 Boulevard des Prairies, Ville de Laval, P. Que., Canada H7N 4Z3. The approximate price is as follows: US$5.50, Can.$5.50 and DM14.50. — Hermann Kober, DAHW

India. Baroda Leprosy Conference. 10-14 April 1976 Special Issue published by LEPROSY IN INDIA (48 [1976] 458-893). This large supplemental issue to the regular editions of LEPROSY IN INDIA contains 435 pages and presents a carefully edited and exhaustive...
account of the entire conference proceedings from beginning to end. The issue is divided into the following sections: Editorial on the conference; Part 1, Inaugural Session; Part 2, Silver Jubilee Conference Memorial Oration; Part 3, Technical Sessions of the Indian Association of Leprologists Conference; Part 4, Working Sessions of the All India Leprosy Workers Conference; Part V, Closing Session; Appendix A, Selected Papers of the Indian Association of Leprologists Conference; Appendix B, Selected Papers of the All India Leprosy Workers Conference; and Appendix C, List of Delegates. — L. W. Peterson

Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh Annual Report 1975. The year 1975 marked the increase of intense activities for the Sangh. The Sangh is aware of the fact that greater attention should be paid to strengthen the state branches which constitute the base and strength of this organization so that they will grow in stature to fulfill the obligations expected of them. Many branches have participated in the National Leprosy Control Program and the management of the rehabilitation centers, and it is hoped that the less active branches will eventually follow suit. Nineteen state branches are presently functioning. Vigorous steps were carried out this year for the formation of branches in Jammu and Kashmir, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Tripura.

The Workshop on Promotion of Leprosy Work in India held in August 1975 represented a milestone in leprosy work in India. It was organized by the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development in collaboration with the Sangh, National Leprosy Organization of India, The Leprosy Mission, and was attended also by officers of the Central and State Government Departments of Health, as well as representatives of many voluntary organizations engaged in leprosy work. The workshop gave a mandate to the Sangh to take the lead in coordinating all leprosy work in the country.

Leprosy physiotherapy training courses were held at Vellore and Purulia with 15 candidates successfully completing their training. The “Shanti Illam” hostel for indigent leprosy patients was renovated and additional facilities were provided this year costing over Rs.8,000. In 1975 a total of 400 patients were accommodated in this hostel.

Production of health education material has always been of primary importance to the Sangh. There was heavy demand for our literature and posters, and it was possible for the Sangh to add to its publicity material a very useful book, Leprosy—Diagnosis and Management by Drs. C. K. Job, A. J. Selvapandian and P. V. Kurian, all eminent leprologists engaged in teaching and leprosy treatment for over 15 years. The authors generously donated the copyright of the book to the Sangh: over 900 copies were sold shortly after publication. The total sale of publicity material during the year amounted to Rs.20,800 which is 2.5 times over the sales of the previous year.

The Sangh participated actively in Anti-leprosy Day on January 30th. An advertisement displaying a few slogans imparting knowledge on basic facts of leprosy was inserted in a few leading newspapers by obtaining space donation from newspapers and commercial concerns. There were 26,000 copies of a poster calendar published with an appropriate design and slogan “Early Leprosy Completely Curable Without Deformity,” in collaboration with the Director-General of Health Services, and distributed free of cost throughout the country. Two thousand color slides were distributed to various cinema houses in the country to be projected free of cost through the Directorate of Audio-Visual Publicity. The expenditures for production and distribution of the slides was met by The Leprosy Mission. The Leprosy Seals Sale Campaign was continued this year also as a part of our health education program and for raising funds by the branches and voluntary institutions.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that our quarterly journal Leprosy in India is now in its 48th year of publication and continues to be edited by Dr. Dharmandra. He inaugurated the XIV All India Leprosy Workers’ Conference at Baroda on 10 April and also delivered the first Silver Jubilee Conference Memorial Oration on the same day. His work in this field was also recognized by the Indian Council of Medical Research by giving him the “Dr. Y.S. Narayana Rao Award” for 1975. We are grateful to the Government of India for their continuing grant towards the publication of this journal. We also thank the German Leprosy Relief Association and The Leprosy Mission for continued financial assistance in support of the journal.

At the end of 1974 a request was made to the Outreach Program of the American-
Korean Foundation which had sponsored a program for the benefit of children in Korea, to inquire if they would consider adoption of children born of leprosy patients in India also. Mrs. Bernice Gottlieb, director of Outreach, reacted favorably and visited India on a fact-finding trip to ascertain the feasibility of such a program. On her return to the United States she confirmed the decision of the Outreach Program to proceed with the program in India. Steps are now being taken to select the children through the various state branches and leprosy institutions in the country. The Sangh is aware of the view held by some leprosy workers that separating the children may have detrimental reactions on the children and on other leprosy patients. Having taken all the conditions into consideration it has been decided to experiment with an initial number of 25 children.

The Governing Body decided that the Gold Medal Award instituted by the Sangh after the name of Dr. K. C. Sahi of Cuttack for promotion of research into the causes and treatment of leprosy, should be awarded to Dr. A. J. Selvapandian, Head, Department of Orthopedics & Leprosy Reconstructive Surgery, Christian Medical College & Hospital, Vellore. It was presented to him at the XIV All India Leprosy Workers' Conference at Baroda.

During the year of 1975 grants totaling Rs.29,350 were given to state branches and deserving leprosy institutions by the Sangh.

(Adapted from Pyare Lal's summary)

**Italy.** *The Associazione Nazionale "Amici dei Lebbrosi" establishes a scholarship fund for leprosy workers.* An annual "Raoil Folleteau Fund" has been established by this Italian association in order to encourage those who desire to work in the leprosy field. A copy of the bye-laws and qualifications for this scholarship may be obtained by writing to the Associazione Nazionale "Amici dei Lebbrosi," Via Borselli 4, 40135 Bologna, Italy.—(From report of ANADL)

**Netherlands.** *ILEP expresses interest in the Mexico City International Leprosy Congress.* At the 17th Working Session of ILEP (International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations) held in Amsterdam in June 1977, the Member-Organizations expressed their continuing interest in the forthcoming 11th International Leprosy Congress to be held in Mexico City 13-18 November 1978. They were particularly concerned that the social aspects of leprosy should receive adequate emphasis at the congress, and welcomed the renewed interest in problems being faced by field workers.

As in previous congresses, these voluntary agencies will sponsor the attendance of as many participants as possible from countries of the Third World, not confining their help to doctors and others actually working in one or other of the programs sponsored in whole or in part by a Member-Organization of ILEP. The hope was expressed that certain international agencies might make matching grants and that governments also might be persuaded to make generous financial contributions towards the overheads of such a congress.

The preliminary announcement should be available shortly. The local secretary is Dr. A. Saul (XI Congresso Internacional de la Lepra, Centro Dermatologico Pascua, Dr. Vertiz 464, Mexico 7 DF, Mexico).

Leprologists and others wishing to take advantage of the limited number of bursaries that may be available, and who are not being sponsored by a Member-Organization of ILEP or other body, are invited to write in the first instance to: Dr. S. G. Browne (The Leprosy Study Centre, 57a Wimpole Street, London W1M 7DF), giving full particulars in support of their application. As already intimated, the number of proffered papers that will be accepted for reading at the congress will be small.—S. G. Browne

**Leprosy in the Netherlands.** In the Netherlands the total number of leprosy patients registered since 1946, has risen from 620 in 1967 to 1,100 in 1977. In the first ten years most patients were immigrants from Indonesia, and in the last ten years the great majority of patients were immigrants from the West Indies, mainly from Surinam. Segregation of leprosy patients was not practiced. So far only three definitely autochthonous cases of leprosy have been discovered: one adult without known contact with other patients and who had never been outside the country, and two children of known leprosy patients born in the Netherlands.

In spite of the immigration of relatives, large numbers of infectious patients have not become endemic again. On the contrary, in the group of Ambonese and Indo-European
immigrants endemic leprosy has now virtually vanished. In these groups in the last ten and five years respectively, no new patients have been discovered. It is expected that these two groups will disappear in due course in the group of immigrants from Surinam. — D. L. Leiker

Philippines. History of leprosy appears in Culion coins. Culion, an island of the Philippines, some 150 miles southeast of Manila, was chosen for the establishment of a leprosy colony on 22 August 1904. The first group of patients arrived in 1906 numbering around 365. In 1921 Governor General Leonard Wood personally took a hand in the affairs of Culion and saw to it that the standards of treatment were upgraded and established objective standards of release of patients from the colony. In 1913 when the island was permitted to set up a measure of self-government, the colony was issued its own coinage valid only for use on the island. Money received from or to be sent to other parts of the country was exchanged by money order at the post office, handled by a non-patient. The coins were identical in value to those elsewhere in the Philippines, but were plainly marked “Culion Leper Colony.” These coins were used in the everyday commerce of the island until 1930, when regular Philippine coinage was brought into use. Today these Culion coins remain as historical curiosities in the history of leprosy. — (Adapted from ALM BULL., Spring 1977)

Spain. Two leprosy courses to be held in Fontilles. XIV Curso Internacional de Leprología Para Médicos y XIX Curso Internacional de Leprología Para Missioneros y Auxiliares Sanitarios, organized by the Sanatorio San Francisco de Borja de Fontilles and patrocinado por la Soberana Orden Militar de Malta, con la colaboración de la Escuela de Profesional de Dermatología de la Universidad de Valencia. Dirección General de Sanidad and profesores de dermatología de las facultades de medicina. El XIV Curso tendrá lugar en el Sanatorio de Fontilles desde el 22 de septiembre al 1 de octubre 1977, y el XIX Curso tendrá lugar en el Sanatorio de Fontilles desde el 1 al 26 de noviembre de 1977. bajo la dirección del Director del Sanatorio, Dr. Jose Terencio de las Aguas. — J. Terencio de las Aguas

Switzerland. The WHO establishes THELEP task force. Following up on the IMMLEP program, the WHO has set up THELEP, the first meeting being recently held. This new task force is expected to speed up the development of more effective chemotherapy for leprosy. The plan of attack of THELEP is two-pronged. First, laboratory and clinical investigations are proposed to find more effective ways of using existing drugs so as to hinder the emergence of drug-resistant M. leprae and also shorten duration of treatment. Secondly, a program for designing and testing new drugs is proposed which will involve simultaneous studies in several areas. — (Adapted from Lepr. Rev. 48 [1977] 48)

Thirteenth World Health Assembly held in Geneva, May 1977. An extensive report on leprosy was presented by Dr. H. Mahler, Director-General WHO. The following excerpt was taken from the report appearing on the first page.

One of the most serious problems at present is the secondary salivation resistance of M. leprae in multi-bacterial patients, which will necessitate the use of more costly combinations of drugs. The report discusses the gradual acceptance of leprosy project formulation within country health programming and reviews encouraging new data on the increased mobilization of resources for country programmes and the closer coordination of the activities of bilateral agencies in funding, in field participation and provision of training facilities. The promising start made on the leprosy research programmes of the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) is described, together with the early steps taken towards regional involvement in leprosy research. WHO's tasks for the future in the strengthening of leprosy control are stated. Finally, recommendations are made on improved coordination at regional and country level through the use of advisory groups. — (Excerpted from "Leprosy"

U.S.A. ALM 18th Annual Seminar, Carville, 12-20 April 1977. There were thirty-nine participants this year representing over 20 countries. Over half of the registrants were medical doctors; the rest were nurses, mission personnel and ALM staff members. The seminar is held to acquaint mission personnel going overseas with detailed information about leprosy and to serve as a refresher course for those already in the field. Among the 20 clinical topics shared by the 11 participating Carville staff members and the 5
Dr. Margaret Brand honored at Carville. Dr. Brand, ophthalmologist at Carville, was presented the Woman of the Year Award by the hospital director, Dr. John Trautman at a reception held 21 January. Dr. Brand has been on the staff at Carville for ten years and was recognized for the quality care she renders to the patients, not only serving them, but serving them with kindness, patience and love. She is also highly respected by her professional colleagues, and has become one of Carville’s best public relations people as she never misses an opportunity to speak on Carville and to advocate better understanding of Hansen’s disease and those who are afflicted with the disease. (Adapted from The STAR 36, No. 3 [1977] 13)

Dr. Olaf K. Skinsnes honored by the University of Chicago Medical Alumni Reunion. Dr. Skinsnes was presented the Distinguished Service Award which is given annually to selected alumni. Dr. Skinsnes became an alumnus of the university in 1947. The citation reads: “In recognition of contributions of distinction to the advancement of the medical sciences.” The recipient of this award is also required to present a paper at the time of the presentation: Dr. Skinsnes’ paper was entitled “A Vaccine Potential for Leprosy?” The staff of the IJJ congratulates Dr. Skinsnes as a recipient of this most distinguished award.—L. W. Peterson

Dr. Waldemar Kirchheimer receives HEW award. The Department of Health, Education and Welfare honored Carville’s Dr. Kirchheimer with its highest distinguished service award in May. He has been with the Public Health Service for 16 years. He holds a master’s degree from Giessen in Germany and a Ph.D. degree in microbiology from the University of Washington in Seattle. He assumed his responsibilities as a microbiologist at Carville in 1962. His willingness to help and collaboration with other organizations interested in the field of leprosy certainly makes him a distinguished researcher in this field and his efforts and contributions are well appreciated by HEW and others. —(Adapted from The STAR 36, No. 5 [1977] 4)

Gene Phillips, former director of Public Relations for American Leprosy Missions, died in New York City on 12 February 1977. Miss Phillips had retired from ALM on 1 November 1976. Miss Phillips began her working life as a social worker in her home state of Oklahoma. In May of 1951 she joined the American Leprosy Missions staff. Her 25 year career with ALM spanned a period which saw many advances in scientific research, understanding and public awareness about leprosy. Miss Phillips was a leader in the dissemination of factual information about leprosy. She was well-known in both medical and journalism circles and was the author of two books. The first, which was written in collaboration with Dr. Emory Ross former general secretary of ALM (1937-1941), was entitled New Hearts-New Faces, describing leprosy missions in many parts of the world. The second book Drum Call of Hope, concentrated on leprosy missions in Africa. Both books are abundantly illustrated with her photographs as she was a fine photographer who thoroughly documented many significant milestones in the fight against leprosy.
Part of her legacy consists of thousands of photographs in the ALM files. She traveled all over the world in search of stories and pictures with which to promote public knowledge and acceptance of leprosy.

Throughout her career she retained her social worker’s concern for people which clearly showed in her writings and pictures. She was known to her co-workers as a selfless, determined, cheerful person of great courage and compassion. Those who work for the cause of leprosy control have lost a good friend and staunch ally. — (Adapted from ALM Bull., Spring 1977)

Kalaupapa, on the Hawaiian island of Molokai, featured in national magazine, “A Helish Spot in Heavenly Surroundings” by Bil Gilbert with photographs by Douglas Faulkner (Audubon 79 No. 2 [March 1977] 30-47). Accompanied by a number of spectacular color photographs, this article discussed many features of Kalaupapa not usually dealt with in articles about the peninsula. By integrating the beauty and historical significance of the land itself with the history of Kalaupapa and the introduction of leprosy into the Hawaiian Islands, this article provides a unique look into what the author refers to as one of the more spectacular and instructive bits of land, geographically, botanically, scenically (and I would add, historically), in the United States. Additionally, a description of Kalaupapa today accompanied by some of the attitudes and reminiscences of a few of its residents illustrates the various aspects of the lives and characters of the people who live on this peninsula and serves to raise some questions and to provide suggestions for its future. (Copies of this article may be obtained for U.S.$2.50 by writing to Audubon, 950 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.) — A. V. Skineses