

## LEPROSY NEWS AND NOTES

*Information concerning institutions, organizations and individuals connected with leprosy work, scientific or other meetings, legislative enactments, and other matters of interest.*

### SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ANTILEPROSY SERVICE COLOMBIA

The Department of Antileprosy Campaign of Colombia convened the physicians of the campaign in its second annual conference from March 26 to April 5, 1940. Most of the sessions were held in the Instituto Federico Lleras, in Bogotá, with one in the National Laboratory of Hygiene, while four days were devoted to a trip to the Agua de Dios leprosarium where the Nazareth and Santa Helena preventoria were also visited. Forty-five physicians took part in the 14 sessions, in which the subjects of major interest dealt with were administrative, epidemiological, clinical and therapeutic. The conference was convened by the Minister of Labor, Hygiene and Social Assistance, Dr. José Joaquín Caicedo Castilla, and the General Secretary, Dr. Arturo Robledo. The sessions were presided over by Dr. Mario Bernal Londoño, chief of the campaign. Dr. Humberto Cardoso, of the Instituto Oswaldo Cruz, Rio de Janeiro, was a guest member. The first issue of the *Revista Colombiana de Leprologia* for 1940 is devoted to a report of this meeting.

At the first session a general report was presented by Dr. Bernal Londoño, and an interpretation of the statistics by Dr. Dario Maldonado Romero, assistant physician of the department. Later, reports concerning the work in the various political departments of the country were presented. At Agua de Dios, several demonstrations were given by the physicians of the leprosarium, dealing specifically with incipient lesions and their treatment, leprosy in children, surgery, physiotherapy, ophthalmology and laboratory examinations. In Bogotá other demonstrations were given, pertaining to the preparation and use of chaulmoogra derivatives.

The general report referred to, which covers the year 1939, is of interest in comparison with the data reported for 1938 [see p. 122, this issue]. Work was carried out in 137 municipalities by the following entities: spe-

cial antileprosy dispensaries, in 9; visiting physicians, in 113; and sanitary entities, in 15. In total, 56,533 persons were examined and 960 cases discovered, 644 open and 316 closed. A total of 2,531 patients were under treatment, 1,726 in the leprosaria, 485 in the dispensaries, and 320 elsewhere. There were 8,077 patients in the leprosaria at the end of the year, and 59 others isolated in their domiciles. The government was also caring for 1,696 healthy children of lepers, 933 in institutions and 793 elsewhere ("pensionados"). In the past four years 402 (54 percent) of the 746 municipalities of the country have been visited.

The interpretation of the statistics, and the individual reports pertaining to the departments, are not readily to be reviewed. The latter include, besides general administrative data, special reports by the physicians in charge of the work in certain of the departments. Papers which pertain to some of the demonstrations mentioned, published in the issue mentioned, are:

Preparation and application of the derivatives of chaulmoogra oil; by Dr. Humberto Teixeira Cardoso.

Manufacture of chaulmoogra medicaments by the Cole-Cardoso method; by Dr. Humberto Teixeira Cardoso.

Treatment by the intradermal infiltration ("plancha") method; by Dr. Leopoldo Albarracin.

On the ethyl esters of the fatty acids of chaulmoogra oil, prepared in the Samper-Martinez National Institute of Hygiene; by Dr. Antonio M. Barriga Villalba.

The program also included the following titles:

The Instituto Lleras Acosta; by Dr. Luis Patiño Camargo.

Therapeutic attempts; by Dr. José I. Chala.

The histopathology of leprosy; by Dr. Sánchez Herrera.

Demonstration of acid-fast bacilli; by Dr. Guillermo Muñoz Rivas.

The Lleras reaction; by Dr. Federico Lleras Restropo.

At the final session of the conference, resolutions were adopted essentially as follows:

(1) That the establishment of a first colony-sanatorium for the segregation and treatment of lepers who require isolation should be undertaken immediately, in a locality in which the conditions of topography, climate and accessibility are suitable for its proper functioning.

(2) That the appropriation for the care and education of healthy children of segregated lepers should be increased, in order to broaden this fundamental service of the campaign.

(3) That the founding of private cooperating societies and the expansion of those already existing should be stimulated, for the benefit of the antileprosy campaign; and that they should be induced to take interest especially in helping those families that are left helpless when the sustaining members thereof have to be segregated in leprosaria.

(4) That a study should be made of the special conditions under which

the physicians and other employees of the antileprosy campaign work in the different social levels in order to establish and regulate the study of leprosy and to insure for them the tenure of office and an adequate return for their services.

A general assembly of the Sociedad Colombiana de Leprologia took place on the last day of this conference, attended by almost all of its members. The board of management and the editorship of the *Revista* were reelected: Drs. Arturo Robledo, Mario Bernal Londoño, Luis Patiño Camargo, Carlos Gomez Plata and Dario Maldonado Romero. Three honorary members were elected: Prof. W. H. Hoffmann of Havana (Cuba), Prof. Pedro L. Baliña, of Buenos Aires (Argentina), and Dr. Humberto Cardoso, of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil); corresponding member, Dr. Enrique Peña Masia of Buenos Aires (Argentina). Twelve Colombians were added as new members.

—M. BERNAL LONDOÑO

LEPROSY PROPHYLAXIS SERVICE, SÃO PAULO  
ANNUAL MEETING, 1940

The following is the program of the meeting, which, at the time of writing, it was planned to hold at the end of 1940.

DR. LAURO DE SOUZA LIMA: Position of tuberculoid leprosy in the clinical picture of leprosy.

DR. ANTONIO GIL DE CASTRO CERQUEIRA PINTO: Morphological study of the tuberculoid lesions.

DR. NELSON DE SOUZA CAMPOS: Reactional tuberculoid leprosy.

DR. LINEU MATTOS SILVEIRA: Tuberculoid leprosy of the nerves.

DR. JOSÉ MENDONÇA DE BARROS: The eye in tuberculoid leprosy.

DR. LAURO DE SOUZA LIMA: Clinical mutation and prognosis of tuberculoid leprosy.

DR. RABELLO JUNIOR: Pathogenesis of tuberculoid leprosy.

DR. LUIZ MARINO BECHELLI: Bacteriology of tuberculoid leprosy.

DR. FERNANDO ONOFRE LECHEREN ALAYON: Pathological anatomy of tuberculoid leprosy.

DR. ABRAHÃO ROTBERG: Immunology of tuberculoid leprosy.

DR. MOACIR SOUZA LIMA: Biochemistry and serology of tuberculoid leprosy.

DR. ANTENOR GANDRA: Hematology of tuberculoid leprosy.

DRS. MELO REIS FILHO AND DUARTE DO PÁTEO: Epidemiology of tuberculoid leprosy.

DR. JOSÉ CORREA CARVALHO: Therapeutics of tuberculoid leprosy.

DR. ARGEMIRO RODRIGUES DE SOUZA: Social position of the patient with tuberculoid leprosy.

—L. DE SOUZA LIMA

## A DONATION

Dr. H. C. de Souza Araujo, of Rio de Janeiro, who in 1932, at the time preparations were being made for the publication of THE JOURNAL, transferred to it a considerable sum of money which he had previously collected with a similar project in mind, has recently made a further donation in the amount of \$70.

## PROGRESS OF CONTROL IN BRAZIL

In July, 1940, the President of the Republic of Brazil approved a budget of ten thousand contos de reis (about \$800,000, official exchange) for the construction, enlargement and equipment of leprosaria and preventoria. The major part of this was for the improvement of 11 existing leprosaria, the completion of 12 new ones, and the construction of 2 others. The other part was for the enlargement of 1 existing preventorium, the completion and equipment of 10 new ones, and the continuance of construction of 2 other new ones. The distribution of these funds by states is as follows:

<i>States</i>	<i>Leprosaria</i>	<i>Preventoria</i>	<i>Total</i>
Acre Territory.....	749:000\$-	—	749:000\$-
Amazonas.....	1:716:000\$-	150:000\$-	1:866:000\$-
Pará.....	1:044:000\$-	200:000\$-	1:244:000\$-
Maranhão.....	187:000\$-	150:000\$-	337:000\$-
Piauhý.....	220:000\$-	—	220:000\$-
Ceará.....	300:000\$-	150:000\$-	450:000\$-
Rio Grande do Norte.....	—	100:000\$-	100:000\$-
Parahyba.....	55:000\$-	—	55:000\$-
Pernambuco.....	230:000\$-	150:000\$-	380:000\$-
Alagoas.....	90:600\$-	—	90:600\$-
Sergipe.....	110:000\$-	—	110:000\$-
Bahia.....	80:000\$-	50:000\$-	130:000\$-
Espirito Santo.....	100:000\$-	—	100:000\$-
Estado do Rio de Janeiro.....	250:000\$-	150:000\$-	400:000\$-
Distrito Federal.....	250:000\$-	—	250:000\$-
São Paulo.....	240:000\$-	120:000\$-	360:000\$-
Paraná.....	—	50:000\$-	50:000\$-
Santa Catharina.....	—	50:000\$-	50:000\$-
Rio Grande do Sul.....	—	100:000\$-	100:000\$-
Minas Geraes.....	1:171:200\$-	100:000\$-	1:271:200\$-
Goyaz.....	1:250:000\$-	—	1:250:000\$-
Matto Grosso.....	537:200\$-	—	537:200\$-
TOTALS.....	8:480:000\$-	1:520:000\$-	10:000:000\$-

Three new state services for the control of leprosy have been organized recently. One of these states is Maranhão, the service of which is now under Dr. Thomas Pompeu Rossas, who will contribute a report on the work in that state to THE JOURNAL in the near future; this change is actually a reorganization. Another is Piauí, where Dr. Candido Silva has been appointed chief of the service. The third is Ceará.

Three new preventoria for the care of children of leprosy parents were inaugurated in the early part of 1940, in the states of Espírito Santo, Rio Grande do Sul and Rio de Janeiro. In that connection, Mrs. Eunice Weaver has recently made an arduous trip of four months duration in the states of Paraná and Matto Grosso, where she succeeded in raising a considerable amount of money by public subscriptions and subventions for the building of new preventoria. —H. C. DE SOUZA-ARAÚJO