

Editorial.

SINCE we last went to press the Association has sustained a severe loss in the death of Sir Andrew Balfour. Sir Andrew's valuable help and advice will be sadly missed, the more so as he had been connected with the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association since its foundation in 1923. We associate ourselves very sincerely with all who mourn the loss of this outstanding man of science and would wish to express our deep sympathy with Lady Balfour and her family.

The Secretary has just returned from the Leonard Wood Memorial Conference on Leprosy. This meeting was a great success, and every member came away confident that it was absolutely unique and that never before had a conference on leprosy been so productive of results. The time and money spent in the effort to attend has been eminently worth while. The conference was in session from January 9th until the 23rd, and twenty-three members attended. It was no mean achievement for twenty-three persons, all with different experiences and viewpoints, to come to unanimous conclusions on every subject raised. It is hoped to devote a large part of the next issue of the REVIEW to the findings of this Conference, and the résumé issued by the Executive Committee of the Conference will be published.

Printed copies of the full memorandum of the Conference will be available shortly, and those of our readers desirous of obtaining copies should communicate with us.

One of the important decisions come to was the founding of an International Leprosy Association; the main objects of this Association will be to encourage and facilitate mutual acquaintance and collaboration between persons of all nationalities engaged in leprosy work, and to publish a scientific journal of leprosy. Details of the Association will be given in our next issue, but it might be well to say that the President of the Association is Dr. V. G. Heiser, of the Rockefeller Institute. One of the Vice-Presidents is Dr. E. Muir, and among the councillors is Sir Leonard Rogers. The Editor is Dr. H. W. Wade, the Medical Director of the Leonard Wood Memorial, associated with whom is Dr. H. Lie of Norway, and Dr. James L. Maxwell, of China. Dr. R. G. Cochrane has been appointed Secretary, to whom all communications should be addressed. Needless to say, all office-bearers are temporary, and will be subject to re-election when the International Leprosy Association is completely organised.

We express our sincere satisfaction that such an organisation has come into being, for Sir Leonard Rogers and others in the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association have noted the need for such a scientific body for many years. We would wish the new Association many years of useful and productive work.

We are glad to bring to the notice of our readers in this number of the REVIEW, the first part of an article on Quinine Therapy in Malaria, by Dr. Philip Manson-Bahr. Malaria is a serious problem, and many workers in leprosy will welcome clear guidance from such an authority.

We are reprinting extracts from "Leprosy" in "A System of Bacteriology," and we do this because we feel many of our readers would otherwise be unable to avail themselves of this excellent contribution to leprosy literature.

The articles on a survey in S. Rhodesia and on the leprosy problem in British Guiana are of extreme interest and deserve close study. It is hoped others will be stimulated to make similar surveys and report the results.

We should like to draw the attention of readers to the article on Gold Treatment of Leprosy by Prof. Hoffmann, and mention that Schering Ltd., has offered to supply samples if workers wish to test out this treatment. Small doses of the heavy metals such as gold and antimony are known to control lepra-reaction while large doses may induce it.