

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF LEPROSY

Under the patronage of the Government of Spain and the International Leprosy Association, the Sixth International Congress of Leprosy will be held from 3rd to 10th October, 1953, in Madrid. The meetings will take place in the *Esquela de Estomatología* (School for Ear, Nose and Throat) situated in the University City. His Excellency the Head of the State has accepted the Honorary Presidency of the Congress. A national Organisation Commission has been constituted, of which His Excellency, Sr. Dr. José A. Palanca is the President, Dr. D. Felix Contreras Dueñas, the Secretary, and Sr. D. Manuel Ambles Pipo, the Treasurer. The Foreign Ministry has sent, through its embassies, official invitations to all Governments with which it has diplomatic relations, asking them to appoint official delegates to the Congress.

Apart from these official invitations, the National Commission is inviting all who are interested in a practical way in the study of leprosy, and sending with the invitations a form for completion and return to the office of the Congress (Esquela Nacional de Sanidad, Ciudad Universitaria, Madrid) before the 30th of June.

The great importance of this Congress is shown by the official subjects which will be debated, the most important of which are: *Revision of Classification; Treatment of Leprosy; Immunology in Leprosy; Control of Leprosy*. The last of these will include any communications which deal with *Epidemiology and Social Organisation*.

Before the opening of the Congress an Executive Committee will be formed, which will include members of the International Leprosy Association and of the National Commission. It will plan and explain the arrangements before the beginning of the meetings, and at the first session will ask for confirmation or modification as may be agreed upon. During the course of the Congress various committees will be created to study and formulate the different problems which arise at the combined sessions.

Likewise there will be an Exhibition to which all members of the Congress are invited to send exhibits, such as drawings and cinematograph films. All such exhibitors should communicate with the local Secretary before 30th June, mentioning the nature and size of their exhibits.

All scientific works which are to be presented at the Congress should include a resumé of 200—300 words, which should give a clear understanding of the matter dealt with. The resumé should be sent before the 30th of June to the Secretary of the National Commission, Dr. Felix Contreras Duenas. Those resúmenes received after that date cannot be published. Complete copies of each work should be delivered at the Secretary's office before the beginning of the Congress on October 3rd.

So that the scientific sessions may function as well as possible, it has been agreed that 10 minutes should be allowed for the reading of each paper, and 5 minutes for each member who desires to take part in the discussions. Five minutes will also be allowed for a reply by the reader of the paper. To facilitate the understanding of the works presented in different languages, the Congress has arranged for the service of a number of interpreters and the installation of a modern simultaneous translation service. Spanish, French, English and Portuguese have been adopted as the official languages of the Congress.

The definite programme of the Congress has not yet been drawn up, but it will be published in sufficient time before the inauguration. We can say beforehand, however, that in addition to the working sessions there will be various social functions arranged by the Foreign Office, the Municipal and Provincial authorities of Madrid, the Institute of Spanish Culture and the *Patronato Social Antileproso* etc.

The Administration of Spanish Railways has made a concession of 20% to all members of Congress, and the French Railways have similarly made a rebate of 20% in their communicating lines. It is necessary for all members of Congress who wish to make hotel reservations to pay a deposit of one day's charge. Also at the time of registering as a member of Congress, the registration fee must be paid. The National Commission has appointed as official travelling agencies The American Express Company for America, Canada and the Philippines, and Wagon-Lits Cook for the rest of the world.

All persons who wish to attend the VIth International Congress of Leprosy, and have not yet received a registration bulletin, should communicate with the General Secretary, Dr. Felix Contreras, Esquela Nacional de Sanidad, Ciudad Universitaria, Madrid.