

REPORTS

The Leonard Wood Memorial is reported by DR. J. A. DOULL in *Leprosy Briefs* of 1962, for the year 1961:

This is of great interest and encouragement, because it provides details of the widespread beneficial activities of the Memorial, and a list is given of publications by the staff. Perhaps the most outstanding event of the year was the Symposium on Leprosy Research held at Johns Hopkins University. The Report should be studied in detail.

13th Meeting Directing Council PAHO and Regional Committee WHO.

The 13th Meeting of the Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization, 13th Meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization, was held in Washington, D.C., 3rd to 13th October 1961. The International Leprosy Association was represented by Dr. J. A. Doull, Medical Director, Leonard Wood Memorial.

Dr. Luther L. Terry, Representative of the U.S.A., presided. Drs. Jose Alvarez Amezcuita, Mexico, and Doroteo Castillo Rodriquez, Nicaragua, were vice chairmen. All the Latin American republics except Colombia, the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the Kingdom of the Netherlands were represented. Canada sent an official observer. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the World Health Organization and by observers from the Organization of American States, United Nations, United Nations Children's Fund Food and Agriculture Organization, Inter-American Development Bank, International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacy and 20 non-governmental organizations.

Leprosy: The report of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to the Meeting for the year 1960 which was adopted contains the following paragraph on leprosy:

'The Organization gave special importance to the problem of leprosy. In 1960 consultants were appointed for eight countries in the Americas, and the information from earlier surveys in Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru was brought up to date. UNICEF gave valuable help to some of these programmes. Wherever the programmes were beginning their operations, the number of cases diagnosed – including tuberculoid and lepromatous forms as well as indeterminate manifestations of the disease – was on the rise. That phenomenon was customary in any epidemiological investigation. Agreements were signed with Argentina and Brazil for the extension of their control programmes with the co-operation of UNICEF. Naturally, the currently accepted doctrine had been applied, in which the patients were given ambulatory treatment and kept within their own

social environment, rather than segregated behind the locked doors of the leprosarium.'

The following is included in the comments of the Executive Committee on the Programme and Budget for 1962.:

'Leprosy – It was noted that the work of the consultant in Zone III had to be continued, although originally planned for termination in 1961. The Director reported that in a recent meeting of ministers of public health in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, an analysis of the problem showed that as a result of the work of the consultant and the presentation of short courses for the training of professionals in each country, the number of cases discovered in some countries had doubled or tripled, which confirmed the need for continuing the work of the consultant. It was also reported that UNICEF had indicated its readiness to co-operate through the provision of equipment and drugs for leprosy campaigns. In Zone IV it was noted that provision was made for a Zone consultant in leprosy to work in all countries rather than for a consultant for each country as originally planned.'

In Annex II of the final report of the Meeting, which outlines the general programme for the years 1962–65, there is the following paragraph:

'During this period the Organization must devote special attention to research and co-operation with the interested Governments in the execution of pilot projects designed to control onchocerciasis, Chagas' disease, schistosomiasis, hydatidosis, leprosy, and other communicable diseases that can be controlled with a modest per capita investment.'

During the period 1962–65 the Organization will extend its programme of stimulating, co-ordinating, promoting and where appropriate, supporting medical research. Although not so designated, it was learned that leprosy is included among the communicable diseases considered suitable for research by the Organization.

Budget: The budget for the year 1962 was fixed at \$5,240,000.