

ANNOUNCEMENT

THE JAMES A. DOULL AWARDS

During the 8th International Congress of Leprosy, held in Rio de Janeiro in September, 1963, MR. C. I. CROWTHER, President of the Leonard Wood Memorial for the Eradication of Leprosy, announced the James A. Doull Awards. They have been created to honour the memory and the significant scientific contributions of the late James A. Doull, who served for 15 years as Medical Director of the Leonard Wood Memorial.

The purpose of the Awards, whose donors remain anonymous, is to stimulate bacteriologists, biochemists, and others to undertake intensified investigations, including the exploitation of the new knowledge and techniques, that the cultivation of *Myco. leprae* and *Myco. l. muris* may be achieved. The inability to cultivate these organisms has been a source of

frustration for bacteriologists from the time these two species of the genus *Mycobacterium* were discovered.

The Award Committee consists of DR. R. J. W. REES of London; DR. CHARLES C. SHEPARD of Atlanta, Georgia; and DR. JOHN H. HANKS of Baltimore, Maryland.

Those desirous of obtaining more precise information regarding the Awards may communicate with:

MR. C. I. CROWTHER

President, Leonard Wood Memorial for the Control of Leprosy,
Inc.,

79 Madison Avenue, New York 16, New York.

Note: Should it seem desirable, the context of the above 'Announcement' may be revised by the addition of relevant material from Mr. Crowther's presentation at the Congress:

'I am grateful for this occasion. This is a moment when sorrow over the loss of a friend and associate is diminished by realization that his work in the Leonard Wood Memorial and in the field of leprosy continues to bear fruit.

One of the measures of a great man is the fact that his attitudes and determination inspire others even after he is gone.

The purposes of the JAMES A. DOULL AWARDS as described to me by the donors, are as follows:

1. To honour the memory of Dr. Doull's brilliant and untiring devotion to all aspects of the leprosy problem – both humanitarian and scientific.
2. To stimulate among biochemists and bacteriologists a wider recognition that, through exploitation of modern knowledge of metabolism, bacteriologic cultivation of rat and human leprosy bacilli could soon become a reality. As Dr. Hanks will explain in his paper, the existence of a major defect in respiratory mechanisms of these organisms has long been defined by the natural observation. This has since been confirmed by laboratory studies in several countries.
3. To provide a mechanism and occasion for giving early recognition to the person or group which succeeds in solving a most urgent and challenging problem.

CONDITIONS FOR THE AWARDS

As you know, many different types of mycobacteria have been cultivated from leprosy lesions. It is necessary, therefore, to state that the merits of applications for the Award must be judged by the terms to be outlined below.

Since judgment or confirmations will be required, the Awards can be made only after unanimous certification of three qualified microbiologists who know the pitfalls involved in such questions. Therefore, on behalf of the Leonard Wood Memorial, I wish to appoint, as an Award Committee, the following persons: DR. R. J. W. REES, DR. CHARLES SHEPARD, DR. JOHN H. HANKS. The arrangement is that, if any member of this committee should be lost, incapacitated or unwilling to serve, the two

remaining members will nominate a replacement. Upon recommendation by the Medical Director of the Leonard Wood Memorial, the President of that Institution will be in a position to appoint replacements as required.

CHARACTER OF THE AWARDS

Taking into account the possibility that succession problem may occur in two steps, provision had been made for two separate awards.

1. For cultivation of three strains of *M. lepraemurium*, the rat leprosy bacillus, with fulfilment of KOCH's postulates:

(a) A certificate, appropriately designed and inscribed for this purpose, and

(b) A cash award of \$500.00 in US currency.

2. For cultivation of *M. leprae* and satisfying the requirements of the 1963 report of the Panel on Bacteriology and Immunology:

(a) A commemorative plaque, and

(b) A cash award of \$1,000.00 in US currency.

It is proposed that the respective awards will be made during a subsequent meeting of the International Leprosy Association while in session for an International Congress of Leprology.

I must hasten to comment on a fact that will be evident to all. The amount of the cash awards is not great. This is because the awards have been established by persons who are endowed only with a scientist's annual income. The true value of the awards arises from a desire to acknowledge and honour a great undertaking and to continue the power of Dr. Doull's influence.'