

YEAR OF THE CHILD, 1979

The United Nations has designated 1979 as "The Year of the Child", and has expressed the wish that all governmental and voluntary agencies should emphasize during that year the special needs of children throughout the world.

At the General Assembly of ILEP held in Paris in March 1976, an appeal was made that the problems associated with leprosy in children should provide the springboard for education and fund-raising activities, and that determined efforts should be made in all countries to intensify the search for early leprosy in children so that they may be spared progressive deformity and social ostracism. World Leprosy Day 1979 would be a most appropriate occasion for launching such a campaign.

SECOND REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF DERMATOLOGY

The International Society of Tropical Dermatology is encouraging the holding of regional conferences at which those who practise, teach or conduct research into skin diseases may meet to exchange information on recent research in their respective fields. The second such Conference will be held in Bangkok from 17 to 20 January, 1977. It is being organized mainly by the Dermatological Society of Thailand, with the active support of the Ministry of Public Health and the SEAMEO-Tropical Medicine and Public Health Project.

A full programme for the 4 days is being prepared. Intending participants are invited to make contact with Dr Tongnan Vibhatavanija, the Executive Secretary General, at the Institute of Dermatology, 420/7 Rajvithi Road, Bangkok 4, Thailand.

In addition to papers of general dermatological interest, with special emphasis given to dermatoses common in the countries of South-East Asia, a whole session will be devoted to leprosy, and an exhibition covering many aspects of leprosy and leprosy control in Thailand is being organized by Dr Teera Ramasoota, of the Phrapradaeng Leprosy Institute.