

Miscellanea

Amongst the many treasures included in the leather conference bag presented to each delegate on registration were the following:

The Programme of the XII International Leprosy Congress, 1984 with full details of all events from the pre-Congress workshops to the closing session. The opening pages describe the foundation of the International Leprosy Association and list the previous congresses, beginning with that held in Berlin in 1897 to the last which was in Mexico in 1978.

The Abstracts, a strongly bound paperback of over 200 pages, listing all the 510 papers accepted under the following headings: Clinical Aspects; Immunology; Treatment; Microbiology; Surgery and Rehabilitation; Rehabilitation; Ophthalmology; Nerve Damage; Experimental Leprosy; Epidemiology and Control; Experimental Therapy; Pathology; Social Aspects.

An address list of the official delegates, an invaluable and absolutely up-to-date record of the family names, initials and addresses of all those attending.

The Souvenir of the Congress, with 'keynote' articles as follows: 'The Organizing Secretary's Report' by Dr R H Thangaraj; 'The XII International Leprosy Congress', by Dr K V Desikan (Editor); 'The International Leprosy Congress Comes to be Held in India' by Dr Dharmendra; 'National Leprosy Eradication Programme in India' by Dr K C Das; 'Leprosy Work in India by Voluntary Agencies' by Mr S P Tare; 'Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation' by Mr S D Gokhale; 'The Leprosy Mission: Southern Asia at a Glance'; 'Report on the Activities of the Leprosy Mission in Southern Asia' by Dr R H Thangaraj; 'Training Programmes in Leprosy' by Dr R K Sengupta; 'Leprosy Research in India' by Dr K V Desikan and Dr U Sengupta.

Atlas of Leprosy, produced by the Sasakawa Memorial Health Foundation, Tokyo, Japan. This superb atlas of leprosy is a successor to the 'loose-leaf' format produced some years ago, and reviewed in this Journal. The patients are from Cebu in the Philippines and virtually all manifestations of leprosy are covered in a series of colour prints of outstanding quality. There is now a section on differential diagnosis and also on the histopathology of leprosy.

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NLO; National Leprosy Organization of India. This 59-page booklet describes in considerable detail the origin, objectives, policy, development and current activities of the NLO and lists over 80 member institutions. Beginning with the Acworth Leprosy Hospital in Bombay this valuable source of information goes on to describe the main activities of its members in widely scattered parts of India, including programmes in rural, urban and slum settings. Read in conjunction with the above-mentioned account of the National Leprosy Control Programme, this booklet gives a most valuable insight into leprosy work in India generally.

Future; a quarterly from UNICEF, India. This 1983 issue of 16 pages, under the title of 'Development Perspectives on Children' carried a leading article on community development in Anandwan, Somnath and Hemalkasa in the Vidarbha region of the State of Maharashtra, based mainly on a visit to Baba Amte, this year's winner of the Damien–Dutton Award, and Dr Vikas Amte in Anandwan. Considerable attention is given to the way in which such centres have welcomed people who would usually be considered outcasts, including those suffering from leprosy.

UNICEF: Leprosy Control: Everyone's Concern; United Nations Children Fund Regional Office for South Central Asia, New Delhi-110003. This 45-page booklet was written specially for the Congress and the closing paragraph of the Introduction summarizes its objective:

'A breakthrough can come through a change in the knowledge, attitudes and practices of society, and in particular of various influential groups including of course, the health personnel. This publication is intended to promote the process of such change. It is addressed to different segments of society—the health profession, the education system, voluntary agencies, the media, the policy makers and the general public. It is hoped that the discussion that follows will stimulate the reader to make his or her own invaluable contribution to leprosy control.'

Chapters following are: 'Towards Eradication' by K C Das; 'Community Action' by K V Desikan; 'The Medical Role' by R H Thangaraj; 'Effects of Education' by M S Nilakanta Rao; 'Voluntary Work' by S P Tare; 'Leprosy and the Law', by S P Tare; 'Communication for Control' by R Ganapati; 'Gandhi on Leprosy'. An Annex carries a list of voluntary organizations engaged in leprosy control.