

NEWS

"Hanseníase" in the Portuguese edition of the "International Classification of Diseases" (World Health Organization)

The 1978 edition in Portuguese of the "International Classification of Diseases" (W. H. O.) adopts the entry "Hanseníase", which includes "doença de Hansen" and "infecção por *Mycobacterium leprae*". The term "lepra" does not appear among the synonyms.

A translation follows :

- 000 Hanseniasis — includes Hansen's disease, infection by *Mycobacterium leprae*.
- 030.0 Virchowian hanseniasis (type V) . Macular, diffuse, infiltrated, nodular, neuritic.

- 030.1 Tuberculoid hanseniasis (type T). Macular, maculo-anaesthetic, neuritic.
- 030.2 Indetermined group (Group 1). Macular, neuritic.
- 030.3 Dimorphous hanseniasis (Group D) or "borderline". Infiltrated, neuritic.
- 030.8 Others.
- 030.9 Non-specified type.

The "Classificação" was edited by the W. H. O. Center for Classification of Diseases in Portuguese, Ministry of Health, University of São Paulo and Pan-American Health Organization.

The term "lepra" prohibited in Brazil

The Brazilian Senate has approved a project of law forbidding the use of the word "lepra" in official documents,

where it must be replaced with "hanseniasis".

Apud JAMB, 20(936):4, 1978.

Ernani AGRICOLA

Dr. Agrícola was head of the Brazilian delegation to the International Congress of Leprosy in Cairo (1938), Havana (1948), and Madrid (1953), and a member of the delegation to the congresses in Tokyo (1958) and Rio (1963) . He was president of the Second Pan-American Conference on Leprosy in Rio de Janeiro in 1946, and was head of the Brazilian delegation to the

third conference in Buenos Aires, in 1951. From 1935 to 1953, Dr. Agrícola directed the struggle against Hansen's disease all over Brazil and encouraged wide participation of individuals in the work of social assistance to patients and their families.

He was honored by membership in many associations throughout the world. He was a founder, and twice

president, of the Brazilian Leprosy Association; vice-president, 1963-1968, of the International Leprosy Association; and honorary vice-president of it since that time. He was a corresponding member of the Argentine Association, as well as the Spanish Academy of Dermatology and Syphilology, and of many other national dermatological and leprosy organizations, as well as an honorary member of the Academy of Medicine of the State of Minas Gerais and of the National Academy of Medicine of Brazil, tributes paid him in 1973 and 1974 respectively. He had published

scores of articles on public health and leprosy in both English and Portuguese.

Dr. Agricola enjoyed the affection and esteem of his colleagues in full measure. He was a quiet, friendly, unostentatious gentleman, who led through ability, industry, and effectiveness, not through bombast or the exercise of authority. All who knew him liked and respected him. We are all diminished and saddened by loss. *Requiescat in pace!*

From the obituary

ARNOLD JR., H. L. *Int. J. Lepr.*, 46(4):343, 1978.

N.A. TORSUEV

Professor Nickolay Alexandrovich Torsuev, one of the leading leprologists of the USSR, a member of WHO Expert Committee on Leprosy, died on 6 May 1978. The first article by N.A. Torsuev on leprology appeared in 1931. Since that, during all his scientific life N.A. Torsuev was constantly investigating different problems of leprosy. In his studies N.A. Torsuev was dealing with epidemiology of leprosy, its classification and differential diagnosis, its treatment and prophylaxis. He studied different aspects of pathogenesis, early manifestations of the disease, interactions between murine and human leprosy. In all he published about 230 articles on leprosy, the most important of which were the following: a guide for medical practitioners *Leprosy* (1951, 1952), monographs *The History of Leprosy Classification* (1956), *Leprosy in the Former Russian Empire* (1958), *Brief Reference-book on Leprosy Control* (1958), *Recognition and Differential Diagnosis of Leprosy* (1971) and various articles on the problems of leprosy treatment, relapses in leprosy, differential diagnosis of lep-

rosy and some tropical diseases. Thanks to N.A. Torsuev's initiative and energy, in 1947 a clinico-experimental leproarium was founded in Rostov-on-Don (closed in 1970) which he headed up to 1960. In this role he played a great part in the training of doctors and scientists. During this period under his guidance a great number of scientific researches were performed and 23 collections of the scientific works on leprology and dermatology were published. Prof. N. A. Torsuev took part in preparing the 4th Report of WHO Expert Committee on Leprosy (1970). He was an honoured member of 13 Societies of Dermatologists, a member of the International Association of Tropical Diseases and International Leprosy Association, and a member of the editorial boards of many medical publications including *International Journal of Leprosy*, *Castellania*, *Vestnik dermatologii i venerologii* and others. For his dedicated work in the field of medical sciences and health services, Prof. N. A. Torsuev was awarded with honorary titles "Meritorious Physician" and some Government rewards. N. A. Torsuev,

specialist, scientist and teacher, will always be remembered by his students, friends and colleagues.

From the obituary

JUSCENKO, A.; SHUBIN, V.; LOGINOV, V.
Nickolay Alexandrovich Torsuev
1902-1978. *Obituaries. Lepr. Rev.*, 50(1):
79-81, 1979.

HANSENIASIS: ABSTRACTS AND NEWS

As announced in vol. 3, number 2, 1979 of "Hansenologia Internationalis", the periodical "Hanseniasis: Abstracts and News" was discontinued. The most interesting abstracts of the hansenological literature will be published in a special section of "Hansenologia Internationalis", starting with this number.