

BRIEF NEWS NOTES

DR. A. FERNOS ISERN

Having returned from his trip to Havana, Dr. A. Fernós Isern, Assistant Commissioner of Health, is again in San Juan and at his desk.

Dr. Fernós Isern was one of the official delegates of the United States to the Fifth Pan American Congress on Child Welfare held in Havana from the 8th to the 13th of December last. A paper was presented by him to the Congress on Infant Morbidity and Mortality in Porto Rico.

Dr. Fernós returned via New York and while there held several conferences with members of the National Health Council, located at 370 Seventh Avenue, New York City. A film prepared at the Department of Health under his direction and entitled "A Panoramic Review of Public Health Activities in Porto Rico" was exhibited at the Academy of Sciences at Havana and also at New York to select audiences.

While in Havana Dr. Fernós was honored with the Honorary Chairmanship of the Section on Hygiene of the Pan-American Congress.

SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE

The following schedule of Clinics, Seminars and Clinico-Pathological Conferences is presented by the School of Tropical Medicine for this month:

- January 12 (Thursday) 8:30 p. m. Seminar. "The War on the Hookworm." Dr. Bailey K. Ashford.
- January 14 (Saturday) 11:30 a. m. Clinic. "Hereditary Deforming Chondrodysplasia." Dr. Garry Burke.
- January 19 (Thursday) 8:30 p. m. Clinico-Pathological Conference. Dr. Lambert and Staff.
- January 21 (Saturday) 11:30 a. m. Clinic. "Goiter." Dr. M. Díaz García.
- January 26 (Thursday) 8:30 p. m. Seminar. "Study of a Dysentery Epidemic near San Juan." Dr. Costa Mandry and Mr. Marín.
- January 28 (Saturday) 11:30 a. m. Clinic. Subject to be announced. Dr. Julio Rolenson.

NOTE: Dr. Wm. H. Taliaferro, Professor of Parasitology in the University of Chicago and visiting Professor to the School of Tropical Medicine of the

University of Porto Rico, will give two lectures of general interest during this month, as a supplement to the course in protozoology now in progress.

An important series of lectures is scheduled to be given during March. Dr. Haven Emerson, Director and Professor of Public Health Administration of the De Lamar Institute of Public Health of Columbia University, will discuss the following topics:

- “Public Health, a Personal Responsibility” (A public address open to the laity as well as physicians).
- “The Epidemiology of Non-Communicable Diseases.”
- “Diabetes, a Problem in Preventive Medicine.”
- “Heart Diseases. The American Effort at Prevention.”
- “Administrative History of Diphtheria in New York City, 1866-1927.”
- “Seasonal Variation in Growth of Children.”
- “Cancer Control. A Program of Prevention and Research.”
- “Non-attendance Rate a Measure of School Health Service.”
- “A Community Health Survey. Its Contents and Uses.”

The above lectures along with a special study of certain public health aspects of tuberculosis in Porto Rico will constitute course TM 22 (Public Health Problems), for which a credit of one point will be given to registered students who satisfactorily complete the course.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Arrangements have recently been made whereby a series of lectures covering public-health topics are being given to the nurses of the Department of Health.

The object of these lectures is to stimulate greater interest in the various phases of the nursing profession with a view to starting later on a course in public-health education.

The series of lectures being given is as follows:

- “The Preparation of Food in Relation to Health”. Miss Ruth Megchelson, Dietitian Presbyterian Hospital.
- “Health Education and Health Protection for the Child of the Laboring Class, an important Civic Duty”. Doctor E. Silva.
- “Collecting and Transmitting specimens for Laboratory examination”. Doctor P. Morales Otero.
- “Good Maternity Care—What it should include”. Miss Sara Lane, Superintendent, Public Health Nursing Service.
- “Records and Statistics”. Mr. Manuel A. Pérez, Chief, Bureau of Vital Statistics.
- “Indispensable Factors in Community Sanitation”. Dr. A. Fernós Isern.

- “The Relation of Microorganisms to Disease”. Dr. Salvador Giuliani.
- “The Relation of the Health of Adults to that of Infancy”. Dr. E. Martínez Rivera.
- “Causes of Tuberculosis, and Methods for its Prevention”. Dr. V. Gutiérrez Ortiz.
- “Public Health Surveys”. Dr. A. Fernós Isern.
- “Factors influencing Infant Mortality. The underlying Causes with Special Reference to Porto Rico”. Dr. Ramón Lavandero.
- “Mental Disorders”. Dr. Pedro N. Ortiz.
- “What Can Be Done to lessen the Incidence of Venereal Disease in a Community?”. Dr. E. Quintero.
- “The Influence of Environmental Factors on the Health and Behavior of the Child.” Dr. Ramón Lavandero.
- “A State-wide Program in Mental Hygiene”. Dr. Pedro N. Ortiz.
- “The Education of the Public on the Prevention of Transmissible Diseases”. Dr. E. Garrido Morales.
- “The Hygiene of Pregnancy”. Dr. J. Montalvo Guenard.
- “The Department of Health in Cooperation with Other Agencies”. Miss Consuelo Delgado, Superintendent Social Service Bureau.

Several lectures not appearing in the above schedule have already been given, and are as follows:

- “The feeding of Children in relation to Mal-Nutrition”. Dr. J. Rodríguez Pastor.
- “The Social Aspect of Mal-Nutrition”. Miss Sara Lane.
- “Sexual Problems in Relation to the Adolescent Period”. Dr. Ramón Lavandero.

On January third a very interesting talk was given by Miss Ruth Meghelson on the preparation of foods and the furnishing of a diet kitchen, at the Barrio Obrero Clinic.

The Department of Health expects to give instruction in the preparation of foods to the Pre-natal classes at the Barrio Obrero and Santurce Clinics. This service will be extended later to all the clinics throughout the Island.