

NEWS ITEMS

OPENING OF THE NEW INSANE HOSPITAL

On September 15, 1929 the new insular insane hospital near Río Piedras was formally opened and inaugurated by Governor Horace M. Towner. This hospital is equipped to care for nearly one thousand patients and patients now housed in other quarters will soon be moved to the new institution. Additional patients will also be admitted for treatment. The most modern and up-to-date equipment and appliances have been installed in this new institution and the buildings have been planned along the line of the most advanced thought in hospital construction. It is estimated that nearly two thousand people attended the formal opening of the insane hospital and inspected the building and grounds. For the first time Porto Rico now possesses modern facilities for the care and treatment of cases of mental disease.

OPENING OF THE SAN JUAN DISTRICT HOSPITAL

On September 22, 1929, the San Juan District Hospital affiliated with the School of Tropical Medicine was formally opened by Governor Horace M. Towner. The San Juan District Hospital has a total of forty-four beds of which thirty-three are free for the use of the municipalities nearest to San Juan. There are also seven private and four semi-private beds. The hospital is particularly suited to certain needs of the island which have long been recognized. Being affiliated, and so closely associated physically, with the School of Tropical Medicine it is the plan to use this hospital for the benefit of the island as a diagnostic institution. Here the obscure cases of tropical disease may be sent for diagnosis and treatment. The laboratory facilities of the School of Tropical Medicine are at the disposal of the hospital for diagnostic purposes and specialists in pathology, parasitology, chemistry and bacteriology are available for consultation.

During the present year, due to a lack of funds, it will be possible for the hospital to run only twenty beds, or less than half capacity, but within a year it is hoped that the full facilities of this institution may be available to the Island.

OPENING OF THE PONCE DISTRICT HOSPITAL

On October 5, 1929, the Ponce District Hospital was formally opened by Dr. Antonio Fernós Isern, Assistant Commissioner of the Insular Health Department. The Ponce Hospital is the second district hospital in the Island and has a bed capacity of seventy-three at present though with further equipment this institution may be able to care for a total of 113 patients. The beds at present are divided as follows: Free . . . 55. Private . . . 18.

The hospital is equipped with the most modern appliances for the care of all types of diseases falling within the scope of general medicine and surgery. There is also a ward to be devoted to obstetrics. The Ponce Hospital will care for patients coming from the districts nearest to Ponce according to an apportionment plan which has been prepared by the Insular Department of Health. The Director of the Ponce District Hospital is Dr. O. Goyco.

EXPEDITION RETURNS

Late in September Dr. Paul Bartsch and Dr. William A. Hoffman returned from their two months' expedition to the West Indian Islands, South of Porto Rico. This expedition was undertaken for the purpose of collecting scientific material of interest in these islands. Dr. Bartsch, Curator of Mollusks of the United States National Museum, was particularly interested in obtaining specimens related to his field while Dr. Hoffman of the School of Tropical Medicine collected snails, mosquitoes and biting gnats. The full importance of this expedition will not be known for some time until the material collected is sorted and classified, but Dr. Bartsch has described the venture as a highly successful one and of great scientific value.

STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE

Fifteen graduate students have so far registered in the School of Tropical Medicine for the year 1929-1930. Most of these students are candidates for higher degrees (C. T. M., M. A. or Ph. D.). Courses elected include Mycology, Bacteriology, Helminthology, Bio-Chemical Methods, Research in Bacteriology and Mycology, Research in Public Health, Epidemiology, Laboratory diagnosis, Pathology and Out-Patient Clinics.

BELGIAN FELLOW COMES TO SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE

Dr. Joseph Dormal, Fellow of the C. R. B. Educational Foundation (Commission for Relief in Belgium), will come to the School of Tropical Medicine in November to study tropical diseases until next June. Dr. Dormal is from Belgium and has spent the past year at the School of Hygiene and Public Health at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. He is at present visiting other institutions in the United States and following his year in Porto Rico he will visit the new Gorgas Memorial Institute in Panamá.

DISTRICT MEDICAL MEETING AT ARECIBO, SUNDAY, OCT. 13

The Porto Rico Medical Association held a district meeting in Arecibo on Sunday, October 13. Among other papers presented at the meeting were two given by members of the faculty of the School of Tropical Medicine and visiting professors. Dr. Francis W. O'Connor spoke on his recent work in Filariasis while Dr. P. Morales Otero presented a report on recent investigation of Undulant Fever in Porto Rico. The next district meeting of the Porto Rico Medical Association will be held in Cayey sometime in November.

MUNICIPAL TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL

On October 14, 1929 a hospital for tuberculosis patients was opened in the city of Caguas, Porto Rico.

This is the first tuberculosis hospital in Porto Rico to be established on a cooperative basis. Land for the institution was obtained by public subscription, the municipality of Caguas provided the building and it will be operated by the Department of Health and the local municipal authorities.

The administrative activities will be carried on through the Tuberculosis Dispensary of the Department of Health already established in Caguas.

DR. O'CONNOR RETURNS TO PORTO RICO

Dr. Francis W. O'Connor, Associate Professor in Medicine at Columbia University, returned to Porto Rico in August to continue his work on filarial lymphangitis in Porto Rico. After remaining in Porto Rico through the month of October he returned to his post at the Medical Center on New York.

SACCARDO'S SYLLOGE FUNGORUM

Dr. William J. Matheson (Matheson Encephalitis Commission) of Lloyd Neck, Huntington, Long Island, has presented to the library of the School of Tropical Medicine the 26-volume set of Saccardo's Sylloge Fungorum. This notable work contains the description in Latin of nearly 140,000 species of fungi and represents a decided acquisition to the School's library. This work is priced at the present time at nearly \$1,600.

Dr. Matheson has also given to the School the sum of \$2,000 for the purpose of aiding certain research problems now in progress in the department of bacteriology of the School.

COMMISSIONER PEDRO N. ORTIZ TO HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Dr. Pedro N. Ortiz has received an invitation to deliver a series of two or three lectures at the Harvard School of Public Health sometime in January. It is probable that Dr. Ortiz will go to the mainland near the end of December and will visit Harvard University after the holidays.

FELLOWSHIP FOR DR. PABLO MORALES OTERO

Dr. Pablo Morales Otero has been appointed a fellow by the Rockefeller Foundation for the year 1930-31. Dr. Morales will leave for the United States in September 1930 and will spend the year doing research in bacteriology, the place of work to be decided upon at a later date.

OFFICE OF THE JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND TROPICAL MEDICINE

The office and headquarters of the Porto Rico Journal of Public Health and Tropical Medicine have been moved from the Insular Health Department to the School of Tropical Medicine. All communications should be addressed to THE MANAGING EDITOR, School of Tropical Medicine, San Juan, P. R.

MEETINGS AT THE SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE

The regular meetings at the School of Tropical Medicine for the coming year are as follows:

October:

- Thursday Oct. 3.—Seminar. Dr. P. Morales Otero.
- Thursday Oct. 10.—San Juan District Hospital Staff Meeting.
- Thursday Oct. 17.—Clinic. Dr. José Belaval.
- Thursday Oct. 24.—Clinico-Pathological Conference.
- Thursday Oct. 31.—Seminar. Dr. Arturo Carrión.

November:

- Thursday Nov. 7.—Clinic. Dr. M. Díaz García.
 Thursday Nov. 14.—San Juan District Hospital Staff Meeting.
 Thursday Nov. 21.—Clinico-Pathological Conference.
 Thursday Nov. 28.—Holiday. Thanksgiving.

December:

- Thursday Dec. 5.—Seminar. Dr. E. B. McKinley.
 Thursday Dec. 12.—San Juan District Hospital Staff Meeting.
 Thursday Dec. 19.—Clinic. Dr. Wm. R. Torgerson.
 Thursday Dec. 26.—Christmas holidays.

January:

- Thursday Jan. 2.—Seminar. Dr. Wm. Hoffman.
 Thursday Jan. 9.—San Juan District Hospital Staff Meeting.
 Thursday Jan. 16.—Clinic. Dr. Walter A. Glines.
 Thursday Jan. 23.—Clinico-Pathological Conference.
 Thursday Jan. 30.—Seminar. Dr. Bailey K. Ashford.

February:

- Thursday Feb. 6.—Dr. D. H. Cook.
 Thursday Feb. 13.—San Juan District Hospital Staff Meeting.
 Thursday Feb. 20.—Clinic. Dr. Ramón Suárez.
 Thursday Feb. 27.—Clinico-Pathological Conference.

March:

- Thursday Mar. 6.—Seminar. Dr. Hans Smetana.
 Thursday Mar. 13.—San Juan District Hospital Staff Meeting.
 Thursday Mar. 20.—Clinic. Dr. Jorge del Toro.
 Thursday Mar. 27.—Clinico-Pathological Conference.

April:

- Thursday April 3.—Seminar. Dr. George W. Bachman.
 Thursday April 10.—San Juan District Hospital Staff Meeting.
 Thursday April 17.—Clinic. Dr. Martin O. de la Rosa.
 Thursday April 24.—Clinico-Pathological Conference.

May:

- Thursday May 1.—Seminar. Dr. Antonio Fernós Isern.
 Thursday May 8.—San Juan District Hospital Staff Meeting.
 Thursday May 15.—Clinic. Dr. Wm. Galbreath.
 Thursday May 22.—Clinico-Pathological Conference.
 Thursday May 29.—Seminar. Dr. Jenaro Suárez.

Other clinics and public addresses will be given from time to time and special notices of these will be given out in advance.

PERSONALS

Dr. William Torgerson arrived in San Juan the latter part of August to become Associate Medical Director of the Presbyterian Hospital in Santurce. Dr. Torgerson is Associate Professor of Tropical Surgery in the School of Tropical Medicine.

Dr. William Galbreath spent September and October in the United States and while there attended the meeting of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Hans Smetana, Assistant Professor of Pathology in the School of Tropical Medicine, arrived in September from the University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria.

Miss Luz Dalman, former Assistant in Mycology at the School of Tropical Medicine, has accepted a position in the Department of Dermatology at the Medical Center, Columbia University, New York City.

Dr. Oscar Costa-Mandry is on a visiting tour of Public Health Laboratories in the United States for three or four months.

Mr. A. M. Goodman of the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation returned to Porto Rico for several weeks in September and October to inspect the work he inaugurated during the previous year for malaria control.

Dr. R. Ciferri, of Santo Domingo, spent a week working in mycology at the School of Tropical Medicine in September. Dr. Ciferri will return again for a month's visit at the School in November of this year.

Mr. Manuel Pérez, Chief of the Department of Vital Statistics of the Insular Health Department, spent some time in the United States recently studying vital statistics on the mainland.

Dr. George Dowling, Lieut. Commander, United States Navy, has received his orders assigning him to the School of Tropical Medicine for the year 1929-1930. Dr. Dowling plans to do his major work in mycology and carry on research in the clinical and laboratory phases of this subject.

FREE DISTRIBUTION OF THE JOURNAL

With the change in policy of the editors of the Porto Rico Journal of Public Health and Tropical Medicine to continue the old *Review* on a quarterly basis it has become necessary to revise the mailing list. During the past two years the free distribution of this publication has increased remarkably due to the many requests of institutions and private individuals. We find it now impossible to continue the former policy of mailing the publication to all of those who have been receiving it and to those new names which are constantly being added. Beginning with the first quarterly number (September, 1929) the free distribution of the Journal will be confined to the following:

- (1) Medical School libraries of Universities throughout the world.
- (2) The medical research institute libraries.
- (3) To Public Health Departments.
- (4) To selected educators and scientists.
- (5) To University libraries not having medical schools.
- (6) To physicians and public health officers of Porto Rico.
- (7) To heads of governments and legislators.

To all others not falling into one of the categories mentioned above it will be necessary to place the Journal upon a subscription basis. The annual subscription has been placed at \$2.00.

EDITOR.