HISTORICAL NOTE 2: THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE IN 1952
THE SOCIAL PROGRAM AND THE EXHIBITIONS

By Haim Ring, MD and Joel A. DeLisa MD

In the January issue we started a condensed report on the above, based on the Second John Stanley Coulter Memorial Lecture, Report on the International Congress of Physical Medicine, by Frank H. Krusen, presented at the meeting of the American Congress of Physical Medicine in London, England in New York August 27, 1952. The lecture deserved a full 10 pages (!) in the Archives of Physical Medicine’s November 1952 issue pp 651-660. In the previous issue we addressed the scientific program and in the present issue we continue with the amazing social activities and exhibitions.

The Exhibitions
At 2:30 in the afternoon of July 14, the exhibition, held in the upper floor of the King’s College, was opened by Lord Horder, the president of the Congress. Scientific, trade and historical exhibitions were offered by the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum of Great Britain. Among the exhibits were American and British (kitchen unit for the disabled housewife, and electronic equipment). The trade exhibition included equipment from Great Britain, Austria and Germany. Electrodiagnostic devices, variable frequency apparatus, ultrasonic-therapy equipment, short-wave-diathermy machines, micro-wave-diathermy apparatus, and textbooks on physical medicine, were also displayed. (In the 2nd ISPRM world congress In Prague, May 2003, the following was in display: drugs (for spasticity, anti-rheumatic, pain-killers, etc), radio-frequency energy therapy, electro-therapy, ultrasound, lasers, short-wave, magneto-therapy, hydrotherapy, infrared radiation, orthosis (“dynamic bracing”, etc.), extra-corporal shock wave therapy (ESWT), neurodiagnostic devices (EEG, EMG, EP’s, ERP, etc.), brain motor control assessment, topical anesthetic skin refrigerant, devices for quantitative sensory testing & small fibers function evaluation, thermal quantitative testing, functional electrical stimulation, software and instrumentation of human behavior, intelligent machines for automated motor rehabilitation, transcranial doppler (TCD) device, disability and outcome measurement systems, professional books and journals.

The Social program
The opening ceremony was held at 11 a.m. on July 14 1952, at the Great Hall of the King’s College. Following the recession there was a reception in the robing room (at King’s College) tendered by the American delegation for speakers and guests of honor. The same afternoon of the opening ceremony, the social program provided a tour of the Zoological Gardens in Regents Park. Then from 6 to 8 p.m. Her Majesty’s Government held a reception for the members and associate members of the congress at Lancaster House, St. James. The Right Honorable Ian Macleod, Minister of Health, received the guests (In Prague we had the vice-Minister). The President and the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England tendered a dinner to all the national representatives of the International Federation at the Royal College of Surgeons, Lincoln Inn Fields. The President of the College, Sir Cecil Wakeley, greeted the participants and “finally, preceded by his mace bearer, led us to the dining hall. Following this delightful and friendly dinner, there was toast to Her Majesty the Queen and the members of the royal family”, a lengthy series of toasts followed.
Following dinner, participants paid a visit to the museum of the college “where they viewed the interesting relics of the investigations of Lord Hunter and the early surgical activities of Lord Lister”. They also viewed “a recent acquisition, the collection of Belsen hearts...of people who had died of starvation in Belsen prison camp...and were approximately one-fifth the size of normal hearts”. The author also comments the visitors were “profoundly shocked by this tragic evidence of...man's inhumanity to man.” On Tuesday morning the social associate members visited Windsor and the Windsor Castle. In the evening all the congress “were entertained by the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London at a reception in the Ancient Apothecaries Hall, which was built in the tenth century and was once occupied by the Black Friars”. On Wednesday evening there were two receptions: one by the Ciba Foundation and another jointly tendered by the Empire Rheumatism Council and the Heberden Society. On Thursday evening there was a reception at the Royal Institution of Great Britain where Lord Brabizon welcomed the attendants and they viewed the equipment employed by Michael Faraday and Sir H. Davy in their early researches and a lecture by Professor Andrade entitled “Physics and Medicine.”

In the morning of July 18 (the congress ended by noon, see N&V January issue) the social associate members “spent a pleasant day in an excursion to the Royal Naval College and National Maritime Museum at Greenwich.” In the evening “an impressive” formal banquet was held at the Dorchester. At the end of the dinner toasts were proposed by Lord Horder to Her Majesty the Queen, to the Congress and the Federation by Sir Lionel Whitby, chancellor of the University of Cambridge, and to the guests by Dr. Frank Krusen and replied to by Sir Walter Russell Brain, president of the Royal College of Physicians.

Summary (from the text): "A warm feeling of friendship and international amity spread among the 350 guests, representing twenty-two nations, who attended this banquet and who remained to exchange friendly farewell greetings during the congress ball which followed. Everyone seemed convinced that physical medicine and rehabilitation had made another tremendous stride forward and that there was promise of enormous gains in exchange of ideas and promotion of scientific investigation among the physicians of the many nations which were represented."

Do we leave our congresses nowadays with the same feeling?, should we add peace between the people as an additional aim?.....

AMLAR PANAMA 2003
XX CONGRESS OF THE LATIN-AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF REHABILITATION:

By Marta Maria Roa, AMLAR President

The LATIN-AMERICAN MEDICAL REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION (AMLAR) with 40 years of existence celebrated its twentieth edition successfully in the modern and beautiful city of Panama, Panama Republic. This encounter, with representatives of the 22 Latin American countries and with guests coming from all other continents, served as a framework for the Association - whose members are representatives of the associations of each country of the region - to confirm its objectives among the ones that advocate the exchange of knowledge in the search of the upgrade and continuous modernization of Rehabilitation Medicine, confirming the high quality that the American physicians obtain to reach the world level.

During the congress where more than 900 Rehabilitation professionals of the area met, 7 SYMPOSIA OF ACTUALIZATION tackling specialty themes were organised: Orthopaedic Rehabilitation, Neurological, Pediatric, Neurophysiology, Chronic Illnesses, Degenerative Illnesses, Gynaecological Rehabilitions and others Topics of Interest in Rehabilitation, at the same time 8 COURSES/WORKSHOPS were given: Sports Wounds, Sexual Rehabilitation in the discapacity, Project Magic of David Copperfield, Spine Wounds, Actualization in Evoked, Potentials Geriatric Rehabilitation, Breathing Rehabilitation, selective Control of trunk that went of the complete academic satisfaction of the concurrent breaking the expectations that own and strange they had hope to the regarding the event.
The congress President, the hospitable Panamanian physician Dra. MARTA ROA, together with her young and enthusiastic ORGANIZING COMMITTEE surprised the congress members, offering them all the nights, tropical and happy parties that permitted the Latin-American Rehabilitation professionals to renew their friendship and eternal fraternity.

The city of Panama: BRIDGE OF THE WORLD, HEART OF THE UNIVERSE honored its SPECIAL GUESTS AND FOUNDERS OF AMLAR by delivering ILLUSTRIOUS VISITORS DIPLOMAS to them by the MAYOR of the capital in person, Mr. Lic. Juan Carlos Navarro. Physicians of world fame were present: Dr. Joel DeLisa, Dr. Jun Kimura, Dr. Jaime Ring. The occasion was favorable so that the Latin-American Association (AMLR) SIGNED an INTENTION DOCUMENT with the INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE - ISPRM in the sense of continuing administrative and educational relations of exchange that are beneficial to both groups.

It is an honor for us to greet all the members of the ISPRM on this occasion and I hope and wish to meet you in AMERICA with the celebration of the next one XXI Congress AMLAR in Caracas, Venezuela in November 2004 and on the occasion of the III CONGRESS of ISPRM in Sao Paolo Brazil in 2005.
Best Wishes!!!

PM&R IN BANGLADESH
By Mohd Taslim Uddin

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation is a relatively new and growing medical specialty in Bangladesh. The speciality is mainly urban oriented and Community Based Rehabilitation is a new concept here. The main topic of interest in physiatry of Bangladesh is electrotherapy and electrodagnosis, pain management, sports medicine and neurorehabilitation. Cardiac rehabilitation and prosthetics and orthotics are growing in interest. The number of active physiatrists in private and academic positions is 28. We could not reach all medical colleges yet. At present we have fellowship (consisting of Part-I and Part II) and MD (five years) courses. The Bangladesh Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (BAPMR) has started its activity in 1995 and holds its conferences routinely.

ISPRM - INDUSTRY DISCUSSION FORUM – THE ISPRM LIAISON COMMITTEE

We would like to draw your attention to the text below that was already published in the January issue of the News & Views: we are still looking for company representatives willing to come to the fore and represent the whole of the PM&R industry.

In order to have a more close collaboration and to exchange ideas between the ISPRM and the industry active within the field of PM&R, the ISPRM intends to establish a Liaison Committee which will be an advisory board acting between the ISPRM and the Industry. This means that the ISPRM will discuss its activities, marketing, sponsorship, industry and congress related matters within this Liaison Committee first before taking major decisions Senior managers with an international function within a headquarters of a multinational company have the ideal profile for this function.

We encourage industry representatives to apply for a seat within this ISPRM Liaison Committee, which will consist of Dr. W. Peek, chairman of the First ISPRM Congress, Haim Ring as the chairman of the Second ISPRM World Congress and ISPRM President and Werner Van Cleemputte, Executive Director of the ISPRM, and three industry representatives.

For any details: please contact the Central Office.
NEWS FROM THE MEMBERS

Istituto Auxologico Italiano - Milan, Italy
By Luigi Tesio, MD, Physiatrist

Dr Luigi Tesio, moved in December 2003 to the IAI – some 600 inpatient beds overall plus labs and outpatient facilities- is located both in Milan and Piancavallo-Verbana (80 km north-west of Milan, on the Lake Maggiore). It is among the 33 Italian Hospitals with special acknowledgment and funding by the Ministry of Health for bio-medical research (so-called Istituti di Ricovero e Cura a Carattere Scientifico - IRCCS - Scientific Institutes for Inpatient Care).

The specific goal of the IRCCS is translational research linking basic science to clinical practice.
The mission of the IAI is research and care in Rehabilitation, with specific emphasis on disability subsequent to cardiovascular, neurologic and metabolic impairments.

In his new position, Luigi Tesio is responsible for either the Clinical Unit or the Research Laboratory for Neuro-motor rehabilitation in Milan. The Clinical unit – some 45 post-acute inpatient beds - will be located within a new hospital under construction in Milan, to be inaugurated by the end of 2005. Both the hospital and the Rehab unit will be provided with the most advanced technologies.

Dr. Tesio’s research continues to be mostly focused on functional assessment and outcome measurement, but it will soon include again the study of motor performances and exercise treatments. His new Units will add to the evidence of neurological rehabilitation in Milan.

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Please feel free to submit articles for the News & Views and to take part in our Editorial Board.
UPCOMING MEETINGS AND CONGRESSES

- 25th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australian Pain Society, 7-10 March 2004, Canberra, Australia. www.apsoc.org.au, email APS2004@dcconferences.com.au
- State of the art in Chronic Low Back Pain Symposium, 4-6 April 2004, Bodrum (Turkey) organized by the Erasmus MC. Info: h.j.stam@erasusmc.nl
- Joint Conference of the American Society on Aging and National Council on Aging, April 14-17, 2004, San Francisco, California, visit www.asaging.org/summer-series
- Combined Annual Scientific Meetings of the Australian Society for Geriatric Medicine (ASGM) and the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM), 27 – 30 April 2004, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle Western Australia; Contact: AFRM@racp.edu.au
- Annual Scientific Session of the American Pain Society, May 6-9, 2004, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, visit www.aps.org
- SCI ASIA Meeting, Denver USA, May 14-16. www.asia-spinalinjury.org
- 5th World Congress on Brian Injury (IBIA), 23 – 26 May, 2004. Stockholm, Sweden, contact: braininjury@congrex.se.


8th Congress of the European Federation for Research in Rehabilitation (EFRR) June 13-17, 2004, Ljubljana, Slovenia. Visit www.cd-cc.si/EFRR2004/ or contact: cmt.marineck@mail.ir-rs.si


Rehabilitation International Assembly and World Congress, June 21-24 (date changed), 2004; Oslo, Norway. www.RI-Norway.no

Principles and Practice of Pain Medicine, June 23-27, 2004, The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston, USA Visit www.med.harvard.edu/conted


11th World Congress of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO), 1-6 August 2004 Hong Kong: ispo@pctourshk.com


3rd World Congress of the World Institute of Pain, 22-25 September 2004, Barcelona, Spain info@clinicadeldolor.com or wipcongress@meet2.net


5th Mediterranean Congress on PM&R, September 30 –October 03, 2004, Antalya, Turkey, visit www.medcongress.org or contact Pr. Tansu at Arasil, tansu@surf.net.tr

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• 5th Interdisciplinary World Congress on Low Back & Pelvic Pain, 10 – 13 November 2004, Melbourne, Australia – visit www.worldcongresslbp.com

3rd ISPRM World Congress - April 10-14, 2005 in Sao Paolo, Brazil, www.isprm.org/brazil

• 6th World Congress on Brain Injury – IBIA, in conjunction with the 13th Annual Meeting of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM), 5 – 8 May 2005, Melbourne, Australia – www.icms.com.au/braininjury


4th ISPRM World Congress – October 8 - 12, 2007 in Seoul, Korea

5th ISPRM World Congress – May 9 -13, 2009 in Istanbul, Turkey

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Please feel free to announce your upcoming congresses in this agenda by sending an email with all relevant information to the Central Office