

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY, INC.



THE ROLE OF THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

IN THE

INTERNATIONAL FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

August 31, 1961

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Recognizing that a total effort against cancer cannot be limited by boundaries or political philosophies, the by-laws of the American Cancer Society include the following statement of purpose:

"To encourage international cooperation in connection with the study and control of cancer."

In 1954, the Board of Directors appointed a Committee "to advance the worldwide fight against cancer."

In 1955, the Executive Vice President established a "Foreign Desk" in the National Office: to maintain a foreign correspondence register, to maintain contact with appropriate officers of The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, The Department of State, the United States Information Agency and other offices of the Government, and with the International Union Against Cancer and affiliated groups.

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There is a tremendous interest around the world in the organization and activities of the American Cancer Society and, as a result, we have a dual opportunity: first, to advance knowledge and assist in cancer control in other countries; and, secondly, to promote better international relations.

The American Cancer Society assists voluntary and official agencies interested in cancer control throughout the world to further strengthen the groups where they now exist and to encourage the development of such organizations in other countries.

The Society, working through the International Union Against Cancer (53 countries are at present affiliated with the Union) seeks to encourage wider dissemination of information on the organization and programs of an effective cancer control program.

Pertinent information is made available to cancer experts at national and international meetings to further the worldwide fight against cancer.

With 8,000 foreign interns and residents in training in United States hospitals, American Cancer Society Divisions are encouraged to put on local program demonstrations for these students, and to invite them to various activities at the Division and local Unit level. These include training schools, annual meetings, etc., which would advance their knowledge and understanding of how our voluntary health agency works in the field of cancer control.

Divisions are also encouraged to invite physicians interested in cancer control to attend the National Cancer Conferences sponsored by the American Cancer Society and the National Cancer Institute.

The International Association of Laryngectomees

The International Association of Laryngectomees, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, aims to promote and support total rehabilitation of laryngectomized persons, under the supervision of medical advisers. Postlaryngectomy speech training is a vital part of the IAL program, which also includes returning laryngectomees to their former work, or, when this is not possible, helping them obtain training and employment in a suitable vocation. The Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society approved the adoption of a program of rehabilitation for laryngectomees in October 1958, and the IAL receives the full cooperation of the Committee to Advance the Worldwide Fight Against Cancer and the Foreign Desk. The number of affiliated clubs is 66 representing 31 states and the District of Columbia. The bi-monthly newsletter, the IAL News, is now distributed to approximately 8,200 persons throughout the United States and approximately 400 persons outside the U.S.

Special Projects

At the American Cancer Society Board Meeting on October 31, 1955, Mr. Elmer H. Bobst introduced the proposal that the Society invite a cancer specialist and a highly qualified key layman from each of several countries to attend the Third National Cancer Conference (held in Detroit, Michigan in June 1956). Through the generosity of two Board Members (Mr. Elmer H. Bobst and Mrs. Albert D. Lasker), funds were provided to carry out this special project to increase the exchange and

interchange of knowledge regarding cancer control programs. Twenty-three (23) medical and scientific representatives and twelve (12) laymen, representing 22 countries, participated in this vitally important and most successful project. This group attended the Conference, visited a Division Office of the ACS, spent two days in the National Office of ACS, met with officials and toured medical centers and hospitals, the National Cancer Institute, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Department of State, and were received by their Ambassadors.

The American Cancer Society offered its cooperation to the People to People Health Foundation, Inc. (a non-profit citizens' organization formed to carry out volunteer international medical aid activities as part of the President's People-to-People Program) for its Project HOPE -- a floating medical center on a good-will mission to Southeast Asia. Thirty-one films (28 professional education and 3 public education) were made available, together with printed materials, for members of the hospital ship staff and members of the medical profession in the ports they will visit.

The American Cancer Society cooperates with the Office of International Trade Fairs, U. S. Department of Commerce, and with the United States Information Agency, in making materials available for exhibits abroad relating to "health education and medicine in the U. S. A."

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Members of the ACS Board of Directors and Staff Officers participate in national and international conferences and are members of such committees as -- the U. S. A. Committee to the International Union Against Cancer; committees of the International Union Against Cancer; and the World Health Organization.

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Foreign Desk Activities:

As of August 31, 1961, the Foreign Desk has exchanged correspondence with cancer groups and/or cancer specialists in 108 countries of the world.

Packets of ACS published materials - samples of brochures, leaflets, posters, manuals (for members of the medical profession as well as for the public) have been shipped to organized cancer control groups in over 50 countries of the world.

The Foreign Desk records also show:

Foreign subscriptions to ACS Publications: (as of August 31, 1961)

Cancer News (Free)	250 to 61 countries	
CA (Paid).	662 to 38	"
CA (Free to Medical Libraries)	84 to 27	"
Journal CANCER (Paid).	1642 to 81	"
Professional Films — Loaned.	228 to 39 countries	
Professional Films — Sold.	116 to 18	"
Public Education Films — Loaned.	132 to 40	"
Public Education Films — Sold.	312 to 23	"

In answer to many requests from cancer societies abroad, permission has been granted them to translate and reproduce ACS professional and public education material (except for the ACS registered sword symbol) for their own distribution.

The International Union Against Cancer:

Officers of the American Cancer Society participated in the Seventh International Cancer Congress, held in London, England, in July 1958 (attended by 2,500 delegates from 64 countries), and presented papers as follows:

Dr. Lowell T. Coggeshall, President of the ACS, on
"The Philosophy of the American Cancer Society";

Mrs. W. Parmer Fuller, Jr., National Board Member, on
"The Role of the Volunteer in the American Cancer Society";

Dr. Alfred M. Popma, Chairman, Committee to Advance the
Worldwide Fight Against Cancer, on "The Physician's
Responsibilities Toward Public Education";

Dr. Harold S. Diehl, Senior Vice President for Research
and Medical Affairs and Deputy Executive Vice President, on
"The Unique Contribution of the Voluntary Health Agency and
Government in Support of Cancer Education"; and,

Dr. Harry M. Wenver, Vice President for Research, on "Support
of Research on Cancer in the United States through the Coopera-
tive Efforts of Voluntary Health Agencies, Institutions for
Higher Learning and the Federal and State Governments."

Dr. Harry M. Nelson, (Present Chairman of the Committee to
Advance the Worldwide Fight Against Cancer), on "The Cytology
Program of the American Cancer Society."

The program included plenary sessions on cancer control, hormones and cancer, carcinogenesis, and the chemotherapy of cancer; experimental and clinical group and sectional meetings; sessions arranged by the Commissions of the International Union; and many proffered papers.

At the first Plenary Session of the Congress, Dr. John R. Heller, then head of the National Cancer Institute, presented a white paper on cancer control in the U. S. entitled "The American View of Cancer Control."

At the close of the Congress it was announced that the Eighth International Cancer Congress will be held in Russia in 1962.

The Eighth International Cancer Congress will be held in Moscow, U.S.S.R. - July 22 - 28, 1962, under the auspices of the International Union Against Cancer.

The Congress will meet at the Moscow State University.

The working languages of the Congress will be English, Russian, French. All lectures and papers are to be given in one of these languages. Simultaneous translation into the two other working languages will be arranged and all proceedings will be published in these three languages. Scientific exhibitions and exhibitions of special equipment will be organized at the Congress. Facilities for demonstration of scientific films on oncological problems will be offered.

All correspondence concerning the Congress should be addressed to the National Organizing Committee of the Eighth International Cancer Congress: General Secretary of the Soviet National Organizing Committee, Prof. L. Shabad or Assistant General Secretary, Dr. N. Perevodchikova, Academy of Medical Sciences of the U.S.S.R., 14, Solyanka, Moscow, U.S.S.R.

THE INTERNATIONAL UNION AGAINST CANCER - UICC

L'UNION INTERNATIONALE CONTRE LE CANCER

PURPOSE

The objective of the International Union Against Cancer is to promote international cooperation in the fight against cancer in three major aspects, research, therapy and control. It strives to accomplish this objective by a) facilitating the exchange of information between national organizations, b) holding international cancer congresses and symposia, c) publishing an international journal to keep its members informed of its activities, d) stimulating and encouraging national efforts in research, therapy and control, and e) establishing working groups for such problems as tumor nomenclature and clinical staging.

The present Commissions of the Union are:

- A. Commission on Cancer Research concerned with scientific research.
- B. Commission on Cancer Control concerned with clinical medicine, therapy, and the public campaign against cancer.

The International Union is affiliated with the World Health Organization (WHO) and with the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (C.I.O.M.S.)

The first efforts at international collaboration in the fight against cancer were made in Europe shortly after 1900. Three International Congresses were held prior to World War I -- at Heidelberg in 1906, at Paris in 1910, and at Brussels in 1913. Between 1920 and 1926 several additional international conferences were held: Strasbourg, London and Lake Mohonck, New York. The first successful attempt to establish a permanent international organization was made at what is now called the First International Cancer Congress held in Madrid in October 1933. An organizing committee met in Paris in March 1934 and prepared plans for the establishment of the International Union Against Cancer. A general assembly of the Union was held in Paris in May 1935. Since then, six International Cancer Congresses have been held under the auspices of the International Union Against Cancer. (Brussels, 1936; Atlantic City, USA, 1939; St. Louis, Missouri, 1947; Paris, 1950; Sao Paulo, Brazil, 1954, and London, 1958.)

THE INTERNATIONAL UNION AGAINST CANCER

"The officers of the International Union Against Cancer (1958 - 1962) are: *

President - -	Prof. V. R. Khanolkar (India)
Past-President - -	Prof. J. H. Maisin (Belgium)
President-Elect - -	Prof. Alexander Haddow (England)
General Secretary - -	Dr. Harold F. Dorn (U.S.A.)
Treasurer - -	Dr. P. Loustalot (Switzerland)

"The International Union has five Vice-Presidents who represent the five major regions of the world:

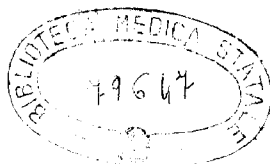
Asia-Africa - -	Dr. Aboul Nasr (Egypt)
British Commonwealth - -	Prof. Robert Scarff (England)
Europe - -	Prof. Nicolai Blokhin (U.S.S.R.)
Latin-America - -	Dr. Abel Canonico (Argentina)
United States of America - -	Prof. William U. Gardner

"The program of the International Union is carried on by two Commissions and Technical Committees. The chairmen of these are:

Commission on Cancer Control - -	Dr. J. R. Heller (U.S.A.)
Commission on Cancer Research- -	Prof. O. Mühlböck (Netherlands)
Committee on the Acta - -	Prof. J. H. Maisin (Belgium)
Committee on International Congresses - -	Dr. Cuthbert Dukes (England)

"The Eighth International Cancer Congress will be held in the U.S.S.R. during 1962. I have been authorized to announce by the delegates of the U.S.S.R. that the Government of the U.S.S.R. will issue a visa to all persons who wish to attend the Congress."

By Dr. Harold F. Dorn
General Secretary of the International Union
ACTA, Vol. XV, No. 1, 1959



* Professor V. R. Khanolkar
Tata Memorial Hospital
Parcel-Bombay 12, India

Professor J. H. Maisin
61 Voer des Capucins
Louvain, Belgium

Professor A. Haddow
Chester Bontty Research
Institute
Fulham Road
London, S.W. 3, England

Dr. Harold F. Dorn
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda 14, Maryland, USA

Dr. P. Loustalot
Ciba Limited
Basle, Switzerland

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