

Salute to

DIABETES

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When we were young, we were told: "Hitch your wagon to a star." The American Diabetes Association is still young, and I think it is hitching its wagon to a very important star with its new Journal, DIABETES.

Two previous publications of the Association, its *Proceedings*, appearing annually, and *Diabetes Abstracts*, heretofore a quarterly, are now combined in the new Journal. All who have known the *Abstracts* have recognized its worth, which has increased with every issue since it first appeared in 1941. Whenever one seeks information from it on any topic relating to diabetes, one finds no essential work done anywhere in the world has been omitted.

The significance of the *Proceedings* of the American Diabetes Association has grown continually over the years as well. The scientific articles read at the Annual Meetings and reprinted in this series of volumes have represented *increasingly authoritative presentations of the subjects calling most urgently for discussion and solution* in our special field.

Heretofore these two publications have been limited in distribution primarily to the membership of the Association, almost wholly confined to the United States and Canada. The new Journal, however, is available to

interested readers everywhere and will serve as a splendid medium for the dissemination of the latest and most important researches on diabetes throughout the whole civilized world.

This is of paramount importance. Diabetes is a universal disease. It knows no political boundaries. What happens anywhere in the world to improve the condition of the diabetic is important to diabetics everywhere else. One of the major reasons for the founding of our Association was that it should aid in the spread of knowledge about the disease and that reason is now finding its fully effective expression in the publication of DIABETES.

Science has no boundaries, as DIABETES should emphasize both through its contributors and through its subscription rolls. We all have the same purpose: to discover methods of prevention or cure of diabetes. Is there anyone anywhere who would withhold the news of such discoveries from the world? I doubt it! No one would care particularly in what country such a discovery was made, but everyone would care deeply if that country tried to restrict the information. DIABETES will be devoted to spreading worldwide every bit of useful information about the detection, diagnosis, management, prevention and cure of the disease, with no restrictions, no withholding, no censorship.

The diffusion of knowledge about diabetes resulting from the publication of our new Journal should stimulate research. Research material and ideas are by no means limited to great medical centers or large laboratories. Thomas Willis found them in Oxford, England; the United States Public Health Service and local physicians discovered them in Oxford, Massachusetts. There are 21 Oxfords in these 48 states—and many thousands of towns like them. Toronto and Strasbourg are not the only cities where research opportunities are available, either. There are hundreds of others, all equally suitable for great discoveries in the field of diabetes.

The ultimate objective of diabetes therapy is the care of the worldwide diabetic family. This involves the treatment of its members, the detection of those whose disease is still hidden early enough to make simplified control possible, and the prophylaxis of all those who have not yet developed the disease. I conceive that our new DIABETES can become a powerful weapon in bringing about this desired goal.

How enthusiastically Sir William Osler would have greeted the appearance of DIABETES! I am sure that, in expressing his hearty approbation, he would have extended to physicians the same message he gave to Toronto medical students on the Master Word in Medicine—Work. For work, in medical research and the practice of medicine as in every other branch of human activity, is the secret of success, if it is intelligently and selflessly planned and carried out. Sometimes I feel sorry that Dr. Osler never quoted a saying which is commonly attributed to Isidore, the Archbishop of Seville in the early part of the 7th Century. He would have enjoyed repeating it, just as I do:

Disce ut semper victurus, vive ut cras moriturus. Learn as if you would live forever, live as if you would die tomorrow.

In diabetes research, in diabetes therapy, in every aspect of our attack on this disease, including the publication of our own Journal, DIABETES, let us follow in Bishop Isidore's footsteps. They will take us far, if we stay with them.