

SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS IN LATIN AMERICA

INSTITUTE OF ENDOCRINOLOGY (INSTITUTO DE ENDOCRINOLOGÍA)*

Montevideo, Uruguay

Director: Dr. J. C. Mussio Fournier

The Institute of Endocrinology of Montevideo, created in 1937, serves as a teaching, preventive, treatment and research center in the endocrinological field. Its Director is Professor of Endocrinology of the School of Medicine of Montevideo, and classes are given at the Institute, which also offers post-graduate courses. The Institute is lodged in a building of its own.

The Institute has a corps of visiting nurses who make regular visits to the schools of Montevideo, and, under the guidance of the school physician, select for observation and treatment children with endocrine disturbances. About 2,000 such children are now on the records of the Institute, a high figure in proportion to the school population. These children receive treatment at the Institute, and receive at-home supervision through the visiting nurses.

There is a three-ward hospital division, one for men, another for women, and the third for patients needing surgical care. While the majority of cases are endocrine disorders, other diseases are also treated, and the Institute has a number of clinics: Gynecology, Neurology, Otolaryngology, and Heart Disease, for both adults and children. Routine blood and urine tests are made to determine the hormone and vitamin content.

The results of the scientific studies made in the Institute are published in both national and foreign journals. Much work has been done in the field of infantile endocrine disorders and with sex hormones. The Director of the Institute has been working in the field of endocrinology for many years, and has made a number of contributions on the clinical pathology of the thyroid gland, and in experimental work with sex hormones. He recently presided over the II Pan American Congress on Endocrinology held at Montevideo, Uruguay.

* One of a series of papers describing the principal scientific institutions in Latin America.