



*executive committee of  
the directing council*

PAN AMERICAN  
SANITARY  
ORGANIZATION

*working party of  
the regional committee*

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



*17th Meeting  
Havana, Cuba  
10-12 September 1952*

CE17/14 (Eng.)  
9 September 1952  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Topic 16. PUBLICATION OF A TEXTBOOK IN SPANISH  
ON PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Background

The Executive Committee adopted at its XVI Meeting Resolution XVI, which reads in its operative part as follows:

"To authorize the Director of the Bureau to apply any available funds for the translation into Spanish and publication of a textbook on public health administration that will serve as a reference and a guide to the administrators of public health programs in Latin America."

In compliance with the above-mentioned Resolution, the Director has reviewed the textbooks on the subject published in the English language, as well as estimated the expenses involved in the translation and publication of those which seemed more useful in Latin America.

Discussion

Three textbooks have been considered as meeting the purposes envisaged by the Executive Committee. Brief comments are presented on each of them:

1. Principles of Public Health Administration by John J. Hanlon (C.V. Mosby Company, 1950).

Dr. Hanlon, based on his wide experience in the field of public health both in the United States of America and in Latin America, presents in this book concepts and principles of preventive medicine and health services.

The book is divided into three parts. Part I deals with the philosophy of public health, the background and development of public health in the United States, the socio-economic justification of public health activities.

In Part II the following subjects are discussed: organizational considerations, personnel factors, fiscal management, legal considerations, governmental aspects of public health and public relations.

Part III includes: present organization of official public health programs, vital statistics, control of communicable diseases, maternal and child health, chronic diseases and adult health, environmental sanitation, laboratory services, health education, public health nursing.

The last three chapters deal with voluntary agencies, public health, the private physician and medical care, as well as with public health and private enterprise.

The book has 506 pages, 48 figures and 41 tables.

The cost of its translation into Spanish and publication of a Spanish edition is estimated roughly at US\$10,900.

2. Public Health Administration in the United States by  
Wilson G. Smillie.

The author summarizes in this book the present information as to the most suitable methods of public health administration in the United States and indicates possible development of this type of work in the future.

The original book is divided into four parts: Functions of a Health Organization and Development of Public Health Administration in the United States; Administrative Control of Communicable Diseases; Basic Activities of a Health Organization; Organization of Public Health Programs. It has 553 pages, 22 figures and 9 plates.

It deals specifically with problems encountered in the United States and indicates methods currently used in that country.

A translation into Portuguese was published under the auspices of the Brazilian Hygiene Association and is available for sale in Brazil.

The expenses involved in the translation and publication of a Spanish edition are roughly estimated at US\$11,850.

3. Rural Health Practice by Harry S. Mustard (The Commonwealth Fund)

This book is intended particularly for health officers and their associates in rural areas and in cities other than the very large ones. It presents the various rural public health problems in the light of present knowledge and available facilities in the United States and recommends procedures for their solution.

The book is divided into seventeen chapters dealing with the various activities of the public health service in the rural areas.

It has 603 pages, 28 figures and 31 tables.

The translation of this book into Portuguese was published under the auspices of the Brazilian Hygiene Association and is available for sale in Brazil.

The cost of the translation into Spanish and publication of a Spanish edition are roughly estimated at US\$12,750.

Having reviewed the three books mentioned above, the Director feels that Hanlon's book is the most comprehensive and the most practical of the three.

Proposed Resolution

The Executive Committee, having considered this document, may wish to adopt a Resolution along the following lines:

WHEREAS:

The Director has presented information and estimates on the cost of translation and publication of a textbook on public health administration,

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES:

To recommend that the Directing Council approve the translation into Spanish and the publication by the Organization of the textbook, "Principles of Public Health Administration" by John J. Hanlon.