

# South African Medical Journal

## Suid-Afrikaanse Tydskrif vir Geneeskunde

P.O. Box 643, Cape Town

Posbus 643, Kaapstad

Cape Town, 11 August 1956  
Weekly 2s. 6d.

Vol. 30 No. 32

Kaapstad, 11 Augustus 1956  
Weekliks 2s. 6d.

### ITALIAN MEDICINE

#### MESSAGE FROM THE ITALIAN MINISTER OF HEALTH

(Translation)

The initiative of your *Journal* in dedicating a special number to Italian Medicine can only have my deepest appreciation.

It is a noble answer to the initiative of the Italian journal *Minerva Medica* in 1953, and also a proof of the circumstances and necessity that institute and strengthen the relationship between our Schools of Medicine which, although operating at a great distance apart, are united by the same desire for scientific research and the promotion of human health.

In truth the language of Medicine can only be the same in every latitude, and to overcome distinctions of race and boundary cooperation must be complete and cordial, because indispensable to the solution of the many and complicated health problems that burden humanity.

That is why the World Health Organization continues to develop its activity so as to form a point of reference of coordination and initiative.

The Administration over which I have the honour to preside attributes great importance to international health reports and actively participates in the works

of O.M.S., in the certainty that it is interpreting the aspirations of all Italian doctors.

It is therefore with great cordiality that I take this opportunity of thanking the Minister of Health of the Union of South Africa, who in the special number dedicated by *Minerva Medica* to Medicine of his country was so kind as to speak flattering words about the scientific tradition of Italy. On my part I express the hope that the spirit of that tradition will always live, not only in the hearts of the doctors of my country but also in those of the South African doctors who have succeeded in overcoming those formidable infectious diseases once rooted in a country climatically favourable to them and in creating excellent social and sanitary conditions.

And it is with the hope that, within the communion of our civilization, the ties of collaboration and of friendship between the medical professions of our two nations will always grow closer that I convey to the readers of the present number the greetings of the Italian Health Administration.

Tiziano Tessitori

#### MESSAGE FROM THE UNION MINISTER OF HEALTH

In 1953 *Minerva Medica*, in the true spirit of international medical cooperation, devoted an entire number of one of its medical journals to South African Medicine. I have much pleasure, as Minister of Health, in congratulating the South African Medical Association and the South African Council for the Exchange of Medical Sciences on the decision to devote one of the numbers of the Association's *Journal* to Italian Medicine. This gesture, a token of goodwill and reciprocity, can only lead to much that is good and much that is of benefit to the peoples of both countries.

Italy has a vast medical experience to draw upon; the length of this experience is measured in centuries, not years, and I am sure South Africa can learn much from Italian progress in planning an efficient and worthwhile medical and health service.

Exchange of medical knowledge is essential for progress in this science, the aim of which is to bring about a healthier and happier world. International cooperation, aimed at the alleviation of human suffering and mental ill-health, is cooperation on the highest plane and deserving of every encouragement.

I wish to express my appreciation to Prof. T. Oliaro,



President of the Italian medical press, and of the renowned *Minerva Medica* group of medical journals, for the opportunity afforded to the medical profession

in the Union of enriching their knowledge by the experience of their colleagues in Italy.

J. F. T. Naudé

### LETTER FROM PROF. TOMASO OLIARO

*Editor-in-Chief, Gruppo Giornalistico Minerva Medica, Turin, Italy*

The whole medical world will appreciate and acclaim the decision taken by the *South African Medical Journal* to dedicate one of its issues to Italian Medicine, publishing the articles carefully chosen and assembled by *Minerva Medica*, which, on 24 February 1953, published an issue completely devoted to South African Medicine.

These exchanges of scientific works constitute a sound brotherly bond between two countries eagerly aiming at the attainment of a peaceful and healthy prosperity for their people. They also prove the inter-

national character of Medicine and how lively in physicians all over the world is that fraternal feeling which, overcoming all barriers of nationality, race or religion, makes possible fertile team-work in their unwearied, continuous and successful struggle for the welfare of humanity.

This issue of the *South African Medical Journal* will indeed further strengthen that close and brotherly bond of friendship which has long existed between Italy and South Africa.

Tomaso Oliaro