

900
Orq5-a

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

copy filed 908
Pro-4b

RESOLUTIONS ESTABLISHING THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION

June 27, 1913

OFFICES OF THE COMMISSION
725 SOUTHERN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.
U. S. A.

RESOLUTIONS ESTABLISHING THE INTERNATIONAL
HEALTH COMMISSION.

Whereas the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission, organized in 1909 for the eradication of hookworm disease in the United States, has found more than two million people in the Southern States to be infected with the disease, involving vast suffering, partial arrest of physical, mental and moral growth, great loss of life, and noticeable decrease in economic efficiency over vast regions; and

Whereas the Commission has treated or caused to be treated more than five hundred thousand persons; has ascertained that the diagnosis of the disease can be made with ease and certainty and that it can be readily cured and easily prevented; has found that the people, physicians, state boards of health, county and municipal officers are eager to cooperate in all helpful ways, and that, following the treatment and cure of this disease, an intelligent public interest is awakened in hygiene and in modern scientific medicine and in practical measures for permanent public sanitation; and

Whereas the Commission has ascertained by diligent and extensive inquiry that hookworm disease prevails in a belt of territory encircling the earth for thirty degrees on each side of the equator, inhabited, according to current estimates, by more than a thousand million people; that the infection in some nations rises to nearly ninety per cent of the entire population; that this disease has probably been an important factor in retarding the economic, social, intellectual and moral progress of mankind; that the infection is being spread by emi-

gration; and that where it is most severe little or nothing is being done toward its arrest or prevention; therefore be it

Resolved, that this Foundation is prepared to extend to other countries and peoples the work of eradicating hookworm disease as opportunity offers, and so far as practicable to follow up the treatment and cure of this disease with the establishment of agencies for the promotion of public sanitation and the spread of the knowledge of scientific medicine; and to this end, be it

Resolved, that this work be entrusted to a special committee to be called the International Health Commission, consisting of the members for the time being of the Executive Committee of this Foundation and such other persons, members of the Foundation or otherwise, as they may associate with themselves; and be it further

Resolved, that the International Health Commission be authorized to adopt such policies and to employ such agencies as it may deem best adapted for the conduct of the work, and also to adopt rules and regulations for its own government and for the expenditure of such funds as shall be placed at its disposal; and

Resolved, that at each annual meeting of the Foundation, the International Health Commission shall report to the Foundation in detail its operations and expenditures, and shall present for approval its budget for the following year.