

CENTENARY EDITORIAL

Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas 1951-1960: Thoughts From a Decade Past

Dr. Carlos Daudén Sala (CDS) was Secretary of *Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas* from 1951 to 1960. These 8 years covered an extremely active period for the journal, reflecting events in Spanish dermatology at the time. His son, Esteban Daudén Tello (EDT), now a Secretary of *Actas* himself, interviews CDS on his experiences during those years.

EDT: How did you come to accept the position of Secretary of *Actas*?

CDS: *In 1951 I was appointed by public competition as Assistant Physician in the Dermatology Department of Professor Gay Prieto, in the Faculty of Medicine, Madrid (Hospital Clínico de San Carlos). Professor Manuel Álvarez Cascos, Secretary General of the Academy, also worked with Professor Gay. He was very fond of me and recommended that the President at the time, Professor José Gómez Orbaneja, invite me to join the Board of Directors as Secretary of Actas. Professor Álvarez Cascos was a man of great simplicity and charm; I could not refuse him. On the contrary, I was very grateful for his support. I had finished my training 2 years previously; I was in the prime of life, ready and willing to discover all the world of dermatology had to offer. I thought this would be a good way to contribute to development of the discipline.*

EDT: What did you think of the journal in 1951?

CDS: *The Secretaries of Actas before me, between 1947 and 1951, were Gerardo Jaqueti del Pozo, Julio Rodríguez Puchol, Emiliano Lobato, and Antonio García Pérez. They had built the extraordinary foundations that made our later work easier. The first issues reflected in PubMed date from 1947-1948. These predecessors established a high level of content and regular publication schedules.*

EDT: You were Secretary of *Actas* between 1951 and 1960, 2 consecutive periods, under different Boards of Directors. What do you remember from the first term?

CDS: *The first period ran from the end of 1951 to 1955. At that time, as I said before, Professor Gómez Orbaneja was President of the Academy and also an occasional Editor of Actas, although in practice he rarely intervened, letting us get on with it. Secretary General of the Academy was Manuel Álvarez Cascos, the de facto Editor in Chief, although he was never actually appointed as such. His advice and suggestions were very useful. The Secretaries of Actas included Marcelo Laporte Mendía, Ramón Morán López, Pedro Álvarez*

Quiñones, and myself. The Board of Directors also included 2 Vice Presidents (Félix Contreras Dueñas and Luis Álvarez Lowell), a Treasurer, my father Francisco Daudén Valls, and a Librarian (Julio Rodríguez Puchol) (Figure 1).

EDT: What was the journal like at that time?

CDS: *Each issue of Actas has had 3 basic sections (Figure 2). The first section was the Educational Section, which included clinical studies, review articles, and reflections or comments related to dermatology. Figures and tables could be included. They were signed by one or more author who occasionally added bibliography at the end, while some carried comments by various other authors related to the text. We also had contributions from prestigious foreign authors, frequently on invitation from the President or Secretary General who had many contacts outside the country. Sometimes articles were published in languages other than Spanish. The second section covered the Grand Rounds, which presented records of the Academy's scientific sessions. This is the section that demanded most of our commitment. The third section was known as Scientific Information and Current Developments and was also written by the secretaries of Actas. It included various chapters, such as Bibliographic Reviews, Book Reviews, News and Comments, Obituaries, Treasurer Reports and other matters. The last issue of the year included an alphabetic index of authors and a subject index. Creating this took a great deal of work; but helped maintain Actas presence on PubMed.*

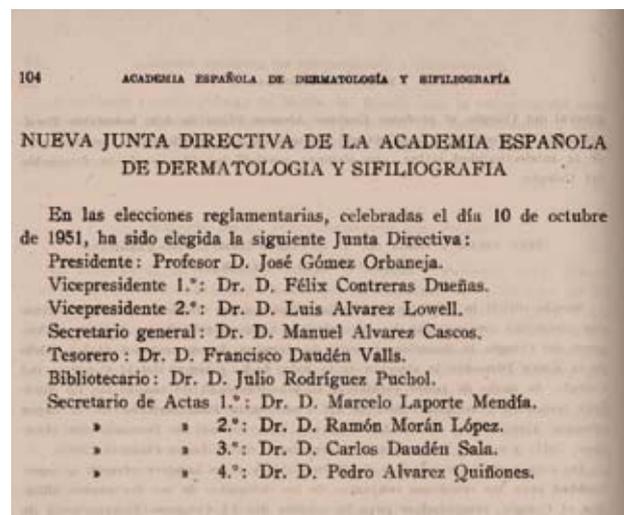


Figure 1. Board of Directors of the Spanish Academy of Dermatology and Syphilography (1951-1955).

AÑO XLIII DICIEMBRE 1951 NÚM. 3

SUMARIO

	Págs.	Págs.
SECCIÓN DOCEREFAL		
Estado de una zona de síndrome de Sjögren-Larsson (epitelio bilabial de tipo Sjögren-Larsson), por el profesor L. ARZA BUCHA y los doctores B. MAR MINICK, J. MARÍN GARCÍA y J. LARA BARRALANA	187	
Neurólisis intersticial de los antihidrotáticos en Termitología, por el doctor A. BOSCH GRAY	207	
Pruebas séricas en lepra, por el doctor A. GARCÍA PÉREZ	227	
SECCIÓN CLÍNICA		
Primo constitucional, por el profesor X. VILANOVA y el doctor C. CARDONA, síndrome cianótico primitivo de piel en eroderia pigmentada, por el doctor F. MARTÍN DE HITA	233	
Dermatitis por cambios nocturnos por el doctor A. ZUBER	241	
Alcunas consideraciones con motivo de los casos de dermatitis por el grupo del arbutano, por el doctor J. M. TOLÓ	248	
SECCIÓN CIENTÍFICA		
Acta de la sesión científica celebrada el día 21 de noviembre de 1951	251	
Un caso de lepra, por el doctor IGNACIO DE MORA	281	
Un caso de keratoderma climactericum, por el profesor GAY PRINTEO y el doctor ALFONSO GARCÍA	284	
Un caso de dermatitis artefacta, por el profesor GAY PRINTEO y el doctor MIGUEL GARCÍA	288	
Lepra cutánea y sistémica, por el profesor GAY PRINTEO y el doctor ALFONSO GARCÍA	291	
Un caso de enfermedad de Dühring, por el doctor MARTÍN TORRES	298	
Tuberculosis de inoculación, por el profesor GÓMEZ ORRANTEA y el doctor RAMÍREZ	299	
Un caso de síndrome cianótico con artemisolemia, por el profesor GAY PRINTEO	301	
Adenomas sebáceos de Trénel, por el profesor GÓMEZ ORRANTEA y el doctor GARCÍA SÁEZ	301	
Trifolixia y tratamiento de las lepras en el Dispensario Dermatológico del Instituto Provincial de Sanidad de Valencia por el doctor GONZÁLEZ MARTÍN	302	
Tratamiento de la sífilis nerviosa secundaria con inyecciones intratecrales de antiovario penicilina, por el doctor GONZÁLEZ MARTÍN	303	
Noticias sifiligráficas en Dermatología, por el doctor GONZÁLEZ MARTÍN	304	
Sección Central—Acta de la sesión científica celebrada el día 5 de diciembre de 1951	306	
Con referencia al caso de un enfermo hereditario expuesto en la última sesión por el doctor BARRIO DE MEDINA, por el doctor CASERO	306	
Un caso de lepra, por el profesor GAY PRINTEO	307	
Un caso de primario pilar rojo de Dühring por el profesor GAY PRINTEO y el doctor ALFONSO GARCÍA	308	
Un caso de tumoración pre y retroauricular, por el doctor PÉREZ	310	
EXPOSICIONES CIENTÍFICAS Y DE ACTUALIDAD		
Revisión bibliográfica	322	
Noticias y comentarios	327	

Figure 2. Contents page of issue 3 volume 43 (December 1951) of *Actas Dermo-Sifiligráficas*.

hacer diagnóstico. Puede que inicialmente
 no lo haya pero después sí.
 Le parece mal usar hipod. Diabético
 al principio de la diabetes así pero
 cree debe ser usar hipod. solo
 porque a veces se cura de diabetes y los
 leños antiguos, entre
 que ha buscado hipod. pero los habrán
 perdidos. ¿en un ps. no hay necesidad
 de tener vacunas, e infiltrar epitelio?
 ¿cómo se puede comparar?
 ¿hay. siempre hay alfa vacunas.
 Síntesis: he caso que preguntan en
 que hay vacunas.
 Orrantea: Dif. entre ps. y vac.
 no puede decirse. Parece que en ps.
 no hay alterac. vac. y en vac. sí,
 pero en ps. hay 2 tipos:
 { primario bien establecida
 { fran. con defensas colapso, sin
 infiltrado epitel. ni pigmentos
 (este caso)
 ¿vacinas sean para quitarlas pero
 no vac. vac. se curan histológic.
 con el tiempo.
 Cree que en (hay) hay esta diferencia
 { hay: si estos dos tipos con una inf.
 2 distintas.

Figure 3. Fragment of handwritten notes from a Grand Round of the Central Section (Carlos Daudén Sala).

ACTA de la sesión científica celebrada el día 20 de octubre de 1953.
 Presidencia Prof. GÓMEZ ORRANTEA y BARRIO DE MEDINA

Prof. GAY PRINTEO: Refiere que este verano, durante su estancia en Sabana, tuvo ocasión de comprobar que ~~el~~ ^{esta} ~~en~~ ^{en} ~~la~~ ^{en} ~~que~~ ^{en} ~~añalaba~~ ^{añalaba} 210 rs. como dosis de depilación.

Prof. GÓMEZ ORRANTEA: Recuerda que aún guarda un «morte-personal» de ~~la~~ ^{esta} ~~que~~ ^{en} ~~añalaba~~ ^{añalaba} 210 rs. como dosis de depilación. Admite que posteriormente haya podido rectificar, pero ~~hacia~~ ^{hacia} 1935-1937 que este ~~no~~ ^{no} ~~trabajando~~ ^{trabajando} con él, su dosis era aquella misma ~~en~~ ^{en} ~~la~~ ^{en} ~~que~~ ^{en} ~~ha~~ ^{en} ~~venido~~ ^{en} ~~em-~~ ^{em-} ~~pleando~~ ^{pleando} hasta la actualidad, obteniendo excelentes resultados. Hubiera ~~querido~~ ^{querido} ~~que~~ ^{que} ~~el~~ ^{el} ~~Dr.~~ ^{Dr.} ~~Gay~~ ^{Gay} ~~intentase~~ ^{intentase} esta depilación. ~~iniciara~~ ^{iniciara} ~~comunicado~~ ^{comunicado}

Prof. GAY PRINTEO: Le ha empujado con ~~ésta~~ ^{ésta} ~~no~~ ^{no} ~~obtuvo~~ ^{obtuvo} resultados satisfactorios.

Figure 4. Typewritten record from the scientific session held on 28 October 1953. Author: Carlos Daudén Sala. Handwritten corrections.

EDT: It still seems strange to me that there were 4 Secretaries of *Actas*. What tasks did they undertake and what role did each one play?

CDS: Although we worked on the journal in general, our main role was related to the Grand Rounds of the Central Division. The relationships between us were very good and we shared the Sessions of the Academy in an equitable manner, one each. Firstly, the Secretary General called the meeting, which was held in Calle Sandoval No. 7 (the Martínez Anido Dispensary). On the day of the sessions, the various speakers would present their cases and the corresponding Secretary of *Actas* would take handwritten notes of each presentation and any business that took place at the end (Figure 3). Each Secretary would then pass the content onto a third person who would type this up and send it to the authors for their approval. The authors then made handwritten corrections on the text (Figure 4) and we would later create a definitive version to be sent to the press for printing. Sometimes a degree of conflict arose when some author, seeing the written content, would want to correct errors or slip-ups they had made in their contribution. This sometimes created extremely tense situations. On the other hand, I also remember the many helpful comments made by Dr. Rodríguez Puchol in the sessions (always appropriate and highly respected by his colleagues), especially in relation to histopathological aspects.

EDT: And the Secretaries of *Actas* in the various Territorial Sections?

CDS: At that time dermatology was quite centralized and most of the journal content related to the Sessions of the Central Section. However, each territorial section (Andalusia, Catalonia, Valencia, and Basque Country-Navarre-Aragon) had its own Secretaries of *Actas*. They also kept records during meetings, which were sent to us for publication. They had no other function within *Actas Dermo-Sifiligráficas*.

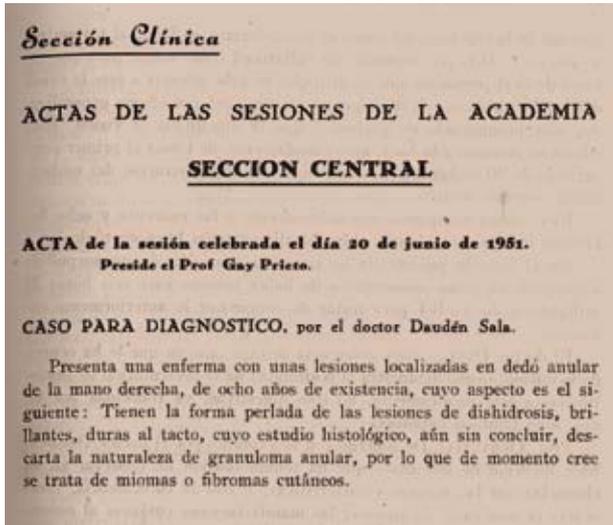


Figure 5. Case for diagnosis by Dr. Carlos Daudén Sala (*Actas Dermosifilogr.* 1951;43:77).

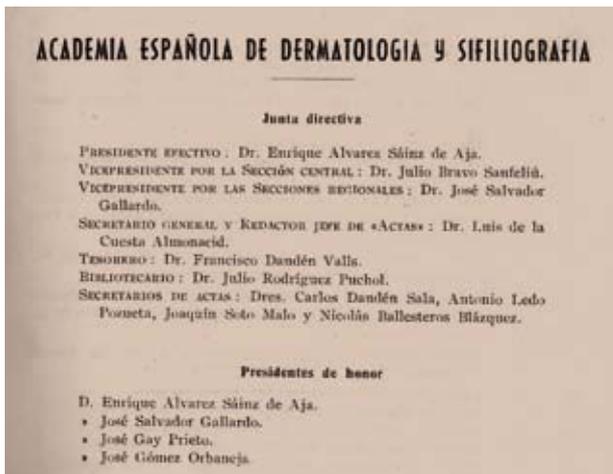


Figure 6. Board of directors of the Spanish Academy of Dermatology and Syphilography (1955-1960).

EDT: In October 1951 you published the first *Case for Diagnosis* in *Actas*. What can you tell me about this?

CDS: *That's right, in October 1951 minutes of the session held on 20 June 1951 were published. On that occasion the case of a patient with localized lesions on the ring finger of the right-hand had been presented for diagnosis by participants. There was a suspicion of myoma or fibroma of the skin (Figure 5). I am glad to see that this form of presentation, the Cases for Diagnosis, is still being used today.*

EDT: Between 1955 and 1960 you were also Secretary of *Actas* with another Board of Directors. Were there many differences to the previous Board?

CDS: *Not that many. The new Board of Directors was an almost complete change from the previous Board. This time round the President was Enrique Álvarez Sáinz de Aja, returning to the presidency after 3 previous mandates, and the Secretary General and Editor in Chief of Actas (appointed as such) was Luis de la Cuesta Almonacid. Neither of them was very hands-on and did not intervene much in Actas business. The Secretaries of Actas included Antonio Ledo Pozueta, Joaquín Soto Melo, Nicolás Ballesteros Blázquez and, once again, myself for a second term (Figure 6). We behaved in a way very similar to the previous period; we shared out attendance and record keeping tasks for the Central Section. During both this and the previous period, the camaraderie was always excellent. We had good relationships and we supported each other when this was necessary (standing in for each other in unforeseen circumstances etc).*

EDT: You haven't said anything about the *Interviews* section you created.

CDS: *It seemed a pretty original idea to me. It was a section I thought would be interesting in raising the profile of some important figures in dermatology at the time. Three interviews were included between 1955 and 1957 with Professors Juvenal Esteves (1955; Dermatology Department at the University of Lisbon), Enrique Álvarez Sáinz de Aja (1956; as homage shortly after his retirement as Director of the Hospital de San Juan de Dios in Madrid), and Oscar Gans (1957; Director of the Dermatology Clinic in Frankfurt) (Figures 7A, 7B, and 7C). Given my fondness for painting and drawing I accompanied each one with a caricature. They were very happy with this; they liked the idea and the drawings.*

EDT: Both in the second period and the previous period, your father Francisco Daudén Valls was on the Board of Directors as Treasurer. Did he play any role in the *Actas* journal? What sort of a professional relationship did you have?

CDS: *My father worked with the Academy for many years as Administrator and Treasurer. In fact, in 1986 he was named Honorary Administrator Treasurer of the Academy. As well as keeping all the Academy accounts, he played a very important role in Actas. He was responsible for relationships with the publishers and payments, delivery of the journal to other libraries, exchange with other journals, he managed publicity and other issues, and above all he worked on the balance sheets, income (subscriptions), and outgoings. He produced an annual report that was presented to the Board of Directors and the Academy at the Annual Congress. Meanwhile, apart from the father-son relationship that naturally bound us together, we operated very independently, keeping out of each other's business. He always respected my initiatives. Perhaps it would be interesting to describe working conditions in those days: as the Academy did not have its own premises, Paquita, aunt of*

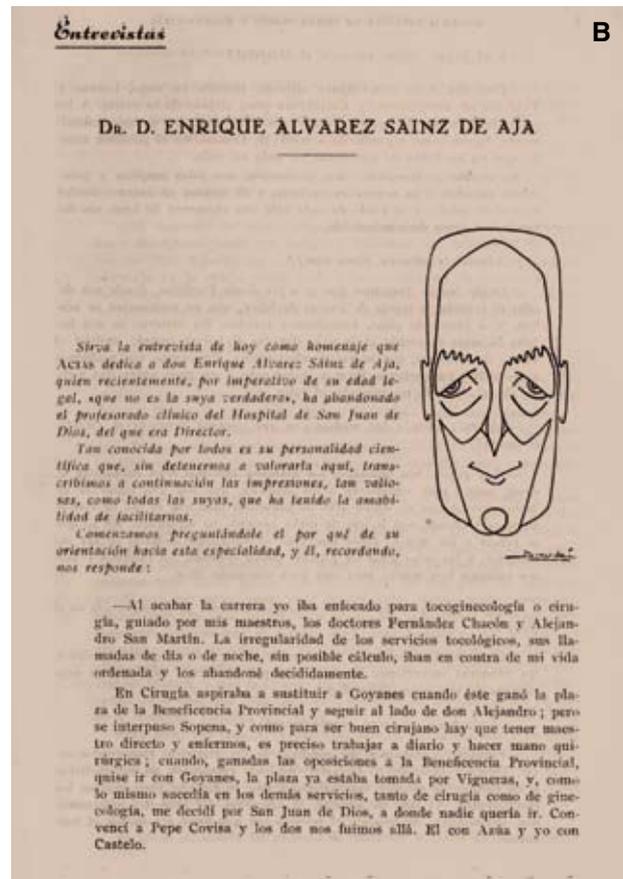
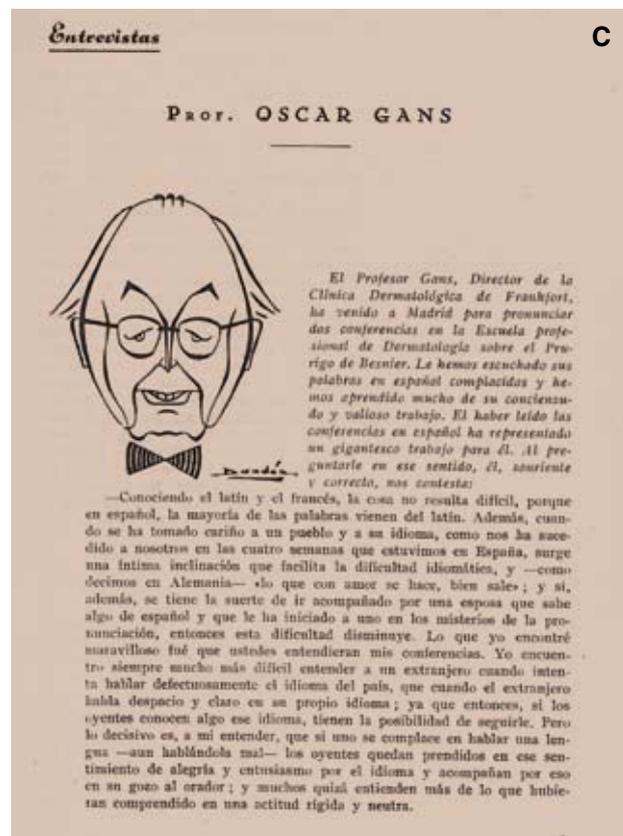


Figure 7. Cover pages for interviews by Dr. Carlos Daudén Sala. A. Professor Juvenal Esteves (*Actas Dermosifiligr.* 1955;47:263-7). B. Professor Enrique Álvarez Sáinz de Aja (*Actas Dermosifiligr.* 1956;47:358-64). C. Professor Óscar Gans (*Actas Dermosifiligr.* 1957;48:208-12).

Milagros, the current Secretary of the Academy, frequently came to my father's house in the Calle Alcalá to deal with correspondence, type letters, and keep the books... and a room was provided for her to work in. It still seems strange to me that the room used for this had been my bedroom when I was a child.

EDT: Was the work supervised? Who held the reins of the journal?

CDS: *The truth is that neither the successive Presidents nor the Secretaries General intervened much in the journal. It was the Secretaries of Actas who really dealt with the journal. There were no real reviewers of articles. Practically everything that came in was accepted. In the era of Luis de la Cuesta Almonacid, board members would periodically meet at the President's house to discuss various issues, although there was really very little disagreement. The authority of the Presidents was such that what they said was effectively done, with no room for complaint.*



EDT: 8 years heading the journal, wasn't that a long time? Didn't it imply a great deal of personal effort and sacrifice?

CDS: *The truth is that we worked quite hard, but the situation never got too much for us. The support we were given by the other Secretaries of Actas was very important. We really were a team. It's also true that many important events were happening in my life at the time. In 1951, when I started on Actas, I was 27 years-old and had finished my medical training only 2 years before. I got married in 1953. My first 4 children were born in 1955, 1956, 1958, and you, Esteban, in 1959. In 1952 I was appointed by public competition, to the Madrid Municipal Welfare Medical Service [Cuerpo Médico de la Beneficiencia Municipal de Madrid] and in 1953 and 1959 I was appointed Medical Director at the Provincial Welfare Service [Beneficiencia Provincial] of the Hospital San Juan de Dios in Madrid. Also, between 1953 and 1954 I spent time in London (with Professor Wilkinson at the Royal Free Hospital and with Professor SeQUIRO at St Peters Hospital), Paris (Professor Durel at the Hospital Saint Lazare and Professor Degos at the Hospital Saint Louis), Utrecht, Rotterdam, and Amsterdam. In 1955 I joined the National Anti-Venereal Disease Unit, again through public*

competition. As you can see, these years were far from boring, but I managed to balance my professional activities with family life, and the support my wife provided was a decisive factor in all this. I am very happy to know that you, my son, have continued to work in Actas and have been able to benefit from the legacy that I and many others have modestly been able to leave you.

EDT: Thank you very much. I have greatly enjoyed hearing your experiences and anecdotes. It felt as though the past had returned to us. I'm also very happy to have emulated, even if just for once, the interview format, which was a very good idea of yours. I truly hope the work of the current team is proving worthy of the legacy left us by our predecessors.

C. Daudén-Sala^a and E. Daudén-Tello^b

^a*Former Head of Dermatology Services for the Hospital del Niño Jesús, Beneficiencia Municipal y Dispensario Martínez Anido, Madrid, Spain.*

^b*Servicio de Dermatología del Hospital Universitario de la Princesa, Madrid, Spain.*