

Conclusions

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Though the presented studies we can realize the difficult situation Mexico went through in 1915, whose society passed, as Alberto J. Pani would say, from poverty to misery, suffering the vicissitudes of civil war.

From the medicine point of view, there were negative and positive facts. The former included the presence of hunger, diseases, human losses and decrease of hospitals owing to destruction, transformation into barracks and others because of going out of budget. Positive facts, framed by the turbulent environment, which contributed to the development of medicine, were many. To confront the disease of hunger, the academic guild carried out investigations somehow encouraged by acknowledged organisms, such as the National Academy of Medicine. Their research allowed for the clinical and anatomopathological picture of

subacute undernourishment to be integrated and to re-classify other diseases until then considered as being epidemic, giving them the name of deficiency diseases.

As for the typhus epidemic, which in 1915 spread not only in Mexico City but also in multiple states of the Republic, etiologic knowledge of the disease was accepted, which allowed for campaigns to be directed to a particular end.

As a product of the armed struggle, different humanitarian assistance institutions were created or reorganized, such as the blood hospitals and the so-called crosses or emergency units, which always put social and ethical commitment ahead, and the medical convoys, which managed to increase wounded combatants' survival. A product of the armed struggle was also the professionalization of military physicians and the creation of the Military Medical School.

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