

#8 – May 16, 2023

1' to discover an aspect of the history of Rotary

Most of this information is taken from the publications of Jacques KERISIT, RC Rennes Du Guesclin, District 1650, France

PolioPlus Precursors

We all know that it was in 1985 that Rotary International launched the PolioPlus program.

However, many years earlier, Rotary-Clubs had taken initiatives to fight against this terrible disease.

Thus, in 1915, the Rotary-Club of Toledo, Ohio, USA, was the first to invest in this field.

In 1937, Porter LORING, member of the Rotary-club of San Antonio, Texas, USA, had offered an iron lung worth \$2,400 and had been named " Friend of Humanity".

In 1945, members of the Rotary Club of Deming, New Mexico, USA, donated an \$1,800 iron lung to the local hospital.

Then, in 1950, the Rotarians of Stoneham, Massachusetts, USA, offered a portable steel lung.

These few actions identified are probably not the only ones and testify to the fact that Rotary International's efforts to fight polio began more than a century

