The Twelfth International Cancer Congress, organized under the auspices of the International Union Against Cancer, will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on October 5 to 11, 1978. The headquarters for the Congress is at Instituto de Oncología "Angelo H. Roffo."

Angelo H. Roffo (1882–1947) was an outstanding figure in clinical and experimental cancer in Argentina. He was born, was educated, and died in Buenos Aires. His doctoral thesis of 1909 was on cancer, and cancer remained his lifelong interest.

In 1922 the Argentine Republic created the Institute for Experimental Medicine for the study of cancer. Two years later, the Institute became part of the University of Buenos Aires and Roffo was named its director. Roffo’s dynamic leadership guided the clinical and research programs of the Institute. At the same time, he began to educate the public about cancer and had to overcome the fear stimulated by the belief that cancer was contagious. He created the Argentine Society for the Study of Cancer and the Argentine League for the Fight against Cancer. He established the Bulletin of his Institute and participated in numerous international conferences on cancer.

Roffo and his scientific collaborators, including his wife, published 6 books and 400 reports on cancer, most of them in the Spanish language. Among the many fields of research, two contributions retain particular importance. One was the pioneer report on the induction of cancer in rabbits with tobacco smoke condensates (Roffo, A. H. Durch Tabak beim Kaninchen entwickeltes Karzinom. Z. Krebsforsch., 33: 321–332, 1931). The other was on the induction of cancer in white rats exposed to sunlight (Roffo, A. H. Krebs und Sarcom durch Ultraviolett- und Sonnenstrahlen. Z. Krebsforsch., 41: 448–467, 1935).

The photograph is of the Instituto de Oncología "Angel H. Roffo," at Av. San Martin 5481, Buenos Aires, Argentina. The staff consists of 120 professionals, divided into 7 departments, of which 4 are clinical (surgery, medicine, radiology, and pathology) and 1 is for research. During 1972, almost 50,000 patient visits were made at the clinic and approximately 1,300 patients were admitted to the Institute.

We are indebted to Dr. Eugenia A. de Lustig, head of the Investigations Department, for the photographs and the information.

M. B. S.