

NEWS ITEMS

Philippines, Culion.—Dr. H. W. Wade, Medical Director and Pathologist of the Leonard Wood Memorial, and Mrs. Wade; Dr. John Hanks, Bacteriologist of the Leonard Wood Memorial, Mrs. Hanks and their two children are interned in the Leprosarium at Culion.

Reliable information has been received from Culion that supplies of food and medicine are being received and that both the Filipino and American physicians (the latter being the members of the staff of the Leonard Wood Memorial) are permitted to carry on with their work.

Philippines.—No word has been received from Dr. José Rodriguez, noted Philippine leprologist or his family; nor from Dr. Ricardo S. Guinto, Leonard Wood Memorial epidemiologist, or from Mrs. Guinto and their infant son since the beginning of hostilities in the Philippines.

Malaya, Sungei Buloh.—Mrs. Gordon Ryrie cabled from Sydney that she and the Ryrie children were in Australia but that Dr. Ryrie was interned in the leprosy colony at Sungei Buloh. This is the largest colony in the British Empire.

China, Kwangtung.—Bishop J. E. Walsh, Superior General of the Maryknoll Mission, writes that Father Sweeney, Superintendent of the new leprosarium near Kong Moon, "Continues his work under most trying circumstances—rice, formerly worth about one American dollar per hundredweight, now costs \$44.00. The Japanese occupy an island across the river from the leprosarium and occasionally have shelled the institution. He has between five and six hundred natives of this district who look to him for their livelihood."

Burma and Thailand.—Dr. Richard S. Buker of Kengtung, Burma, and Dr. Douglas Collier of Chiangmai, Thailand, with their families were in the United States on furlough at the time of the United States entrance into the war.

Trinidad, B. W. I.—Dr. Ernest Muir, Secretary of the International Leprosy Association, together with Mrs. Muir, is now in Trinidad, Dr. Muir having accepted the superintendency of the leprosarium at Chaca-chacare, Trinidad, during the emergency.

India.—Dr. Robert G. Cochrane, Honorary Secretary of the Madras Provincial Council of the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association, and Chief Medical Officer, Lady Willingdon Leprosy Sanitarium, Chingleput, wrote on August 14th, 1942—"I do not think that the international situation will deteriorate so greatly that it will be impossible to carry on." He states also that Dr. John Lowe is on active duty at his post at the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta.

British Guiana.—Dr. F. G. Rose, Medical Superintendent of the Mahaica Leprosy Hospital, was a patient at the Mayo clinic last April. He has returned to Mahaica. He writes "the leprosarium here is suffering greatly from the enhanced prices of all goods."

THE AMERICAN MISSION TO LEPERS.—This organization reports the following to have returned to the United States on the Swedish ship "Grips-holm" or earlier:

Korea, Taiku.—Dr. A. G. Fletcher, Superintendent of the leprosarium, was detained in his home at the outbreak of hostilities between the United States and Japan. Later legal responsibility for the colony was transferred to Christian Koreans.

Korea, Soon Chun.—Reverend J. V. N. Talmadge, Superintendent of the Presbyterian Mission property and the leprosy colony here, was placed in jail and not released for several months. The government seized the colony but permitted the Korean personnel to continue their operations.

China, Hoikow, Hainan Island.—Dr. Nathaniel Bercovitz was imprisoned in his own home when the United States entered the war. He was forbidden to continue his mission medical work but was permitted to continue his leprosy work two days each week. This he was compelled to do under the supervision of an armed Japanese guard. It is believed that this colony is continuing.

China, Weih sien.—Dr. E. E. Murray conducted a countrywide public health service for leprosy patients. (This is probably discontinued.—P.B.)

China, Tenghsien.—Miss Alma Dodds, after December 7th, had her Leprosy Home as well as other mission institutions placed under the direction of the local Chinese Christian Church. Since the Leprosy Home was supported from London it is feared that it will be seriously affected by lack of funds.

China, Kuilungkiang.—Reverend and Mrs. Howard E. Thomas were in Bangkok at the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor. They were interned in Bangkok. It is thought that the leprosy work at Kuilungkiang continues.

Burma, Kentung.—Reverend Raymond Buker reports that the Mission Compound was bombed but the leprosy colony was not damaged. Mr. Buker developed eight or nine colonies in the State of Kengtung. The fate of these is not known but it is believed that some at least will be permitted to continue.