INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS

MAURITIUS

Area: 720

Population: 420,861

A News Item in the JOURNAL (1936) cites the Annual Report of the Mauritius Medical and Health Department which showed an almost stationary leprosy population. There were 48 patients in the Leper Hospital in 1934. The Annual Report (1940) again showed 48 patients in the hospital in 1937.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, MAURITIUS.

1940. Annual report for the year 1937. Abstract in Internat. J. Leprosy, 8, 113-114.

NEWS ITEM.

Annual report of the Medical and Health Department, Mauritius, 1934. Internat. J. Leprosy, 4, 533.

REUNION

Population: 208,858

Area: 970

Sorel (1939) states that in 1937 there were 500 known cases of leprosy according to the latest reports of the Colonial Administration. He estimates the actual total to be at least 700 cases.

Delinotte (1939) says: "Leprosy exists everywhere on Réunion, particularly on the western part of the island. In 1852 a leprosarium called 'de la Montagne' was established near Saint-Denis in which all lepers of the colony were to be placed under absolute segregation, a measure which could never be enforced." In 1906 there were 43 cases confined there, and there has been little variation since that time. Information regarding the number of cases became available to the Commission Consultative de la Lèpre in 1932, in a report by Dr. Ozoux. There were 500 or 600 cases (3 per 1,000) and 30 patients in the leprosarium. A report made in 1934 gave 600 as the number of cases, only 20 of these being treated in the leprosarium. The work is handicapped by the unfavorable circumstances of the people; their poverty and lack of hygiene, associated with malaria and sometimes with chronic alcoholism, render uncertain the efforts designed to improve a situation which has existed for a long time.

DELINOTTE, H.

1939. The fight against leprosy in the French overseas territories. Internat. J. Leprosy, 7, 517-547.

Sorel, F. P. J.

1939. Die Leprabekämpfung in den Französischen Kolonien, Besitzungen und Mandaten. Deutsche med. Wchnschr., 65, 676-678.

SEYCHELLES ISLANDS

Population: 32,150

Area: 156

McKinley (1935) cites Bradley, chief medical officer of Seychelles, as stating that leprosy is one of the important health problems there. In 1931 there were 84 patients in segregation out of a total population of about 29,000.

McKinley, E. B.

1935. A Geography of Disease. George Washington University Press, Washington, D. C., ed. 1, p. 330.