

NEWS and NOTES

This department furnishes information concerning institutions, organizations, and individuals engaged in work on leprosy and other mycobacterial diseases, and makes note of scientific meetings and other matters of interest.

NEWS ITEMS

Korea. *Wilson Leprosy Center.* The Wilson Leprosy Center, founded as a small shelter in Kwangju in 1909, and removed to Soonchun with more than 1,000 patients in 1926, is now a home for 680 leprosy patients and a rest and recuperative area for hundreds more. Its development along modern lines began in 1959 with the arrival of Stanley Topple of Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A. as missionary physician. The center is made up at present of a village for patients, a rehabilitation hospital, and mobile leprosy teams. Patients are admitted on a contractual basis for relatively short periods, during which they are given an intensive education program preparing them for self care.—(From M. Huntley, *The Star* (Carville) 27 (1968) 7 and 14)

India. *Annual Report of Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh.* The annual report of the Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh for 1967 records the following figures for field work under the National Leprosy Control Programme during 1967: population covered, 3.5 million; persons examined, 3.6 million; new cases recorded, 81,705; new cases registered for treatment, 78,094. At the time of writing 182 leprosy control units and 961 S.E.T. centers were functioning. Some 32 voluntary agencies were receiving grants-in-aid from the government for participation in the control program. Consolidated statements indicate that since the Programme was started about 34 million persons have been examined and 322,338 cases of leprosy have been discovered. Cases recorded from inside and outside the project area total 709,060, of which 642,329 have been registered for treatment. Summaries of work in various fields, including achievements of the Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute at

Chingleput, The Leprosy Mission, and the Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation, are set forth. Figures are presented for the individual elements of the Sangh, together with separate descriptive and financial accountings.

Socio-economic aspects of leprosy. The Social and Rehabilitation Services of the Christian Medical College in Vellore have undertaken a comprehensive study of social and economic influences on leprosy in a rural area. Two leprosy programs in neighboring communities will be studied. The two are identical except for the incorporation of reconstructive surgery and occupational therapy in one of them.—(From News from ALM, Fall 1968)

Combined leprosy and tuberculosis control program in South India. A new, village-based program, directed by Dr. Riggs, a United Church of Christ missionary, and former director of the Church of South India Hospital in Kilanjunai is being undertaken in a rural area with a population of 100,000, just north of the Kodaikanal mountains. Dr. Riggs' appointment was made by American Leprosy Missions, Inc. at the request of the Christian Fellowship Hospital in Oddanchatram. Four leprosy clinics form a nucleus for the new program, which will attempt to control the two diseases through early detection and treatment. A new hospital will be constructed.—(From News from ALM, Fall 1968)

Seminar on leprosy. The Indian Association of Leprologists held a 2-day seminar on leprosy at the Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute, Chingleput, Madras, 10-11 February 1968. Issue No. 3 of Vol. 40 (July 1968) of *Leprosy in India* is devoted in its entirety to publication of

papers presented. Brief abstracts of these papers are carried in the Current Literature section of this issue of THE JOURNAL.

Vietnam. *Restoration of leprosy program.* Christian and Missionary Alliance missionaries have restored the leprosy program that was severely damaged by a Viet Cong attack on Banmethout in the winter of 1967-68 (See THE JOURNAL 36 (1968) 345-346). New headquarters for the leprosy program have been set up and the inpatient unit has been reestablished, with necessary supplies of drugs and equipment. It has not yet been possible to reopen all of the previous outpatient clinics.—(From News from ALM, Fall 1968)

Rhodesia. *Leprosy program.* Leprosy work in Rhodesia is carried out by the country's Ministry of Health in a program looking toward eradication of the disease in the country within the next 10 years. The approach is based on recognition of the leprosy patient and his family as a social and economic entity, not to be disrupted lightly. Five public health provinces are concerned. The disease is limited to a few residual areas in low-lying valleys. Cases appear to be rare in the highlands. Surveys in endemic areas have revealed a maximum prevalence of 5 cases/1,000 population, a rate relatively low for endemic regions in Africa. Treatment, chiefly by oral sulfones, is largely on an outpatient basis. A special hospital known as Kgomahru has less than 400 patients. (From Hansen's Disease in Rhodesia. Webster, M. H., The Star (Carville) 28 (1968) 4)

Nigeria. *Outpatient leprosy work by graduates of bible school.* Eight former leprosy patients who recently graduated from the Tofa Bible School in Kano Province will be trained at Kano as auxiliary workers and assigned to outpatient leprosy work in Sokoto Province. The Kano and Sokoto leprosaria are under the direction of the Sudan Interior Mission and receive financial support from American Leprosy Missions, Inc.—(From News from ALM, Fall 1968)

Argentina. *Panel reports at Second National Conference on Leprology.* Dr. L. M. Balaña and Dr. J. C. Gatti, Secretary General and Secretary respectively of the 2^a Reunion Nacional de Leprología held in Buenos Aires, 6-10 November 1968, have forwarded detailed reports of panel conclusions to the INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LEPROSY. Panels were as follows: (1) Present state of endemic in different regions of the country (*Relator*, C. M. Brusco; *co-relators*, M. M. Giménez and A. J. Vaccaro. *Members*: E. Chapperis, J. J. Darchez, F. Fuertes and D. Rinaldi). (2) Up-to-date treatment of leprosy (*Relator*, J. C. Gatti; *co-relators*, A. J. Melamed and A. J. Mercau. *Members*: F. J. Compá, C. A. Consigli, R. Casanelli and J. M. D'Angelo). (3) Leprosy prophylaxis (*Relator*, E. Jonquière; *co-relators*, P. A. Arcuri and E. Capurro. *Members*: H. Agüero, L. A. Pitt, O. A. Hauviller and J. E. Scappino). (4) Bacteriology, susceptibility and genetic factors in leprosy (*Relator*, J. E. Cardama; *co-relators*, E. Castillo and F. Wilkinson. *Members*: H. Sanchez Caballero, E. Santabaya, S. Schujman and C. Urquijo). (5) Physical, psychic, family and racial rehabilitation (*Relator*, E. Carboni; *co-relators*, L. M. Balaña and R. O. Manzi. *Members*: R. Borsani, L. A. Bragadini, J. J. Frontera Vacca and A. A. Marzetti).

United Kingdom. *Leprosy patients.* By the end of 1967, 196 patients with leprosy were reported to have been cured out of a total of 732 notified since 1951. Of the 357 cases remaining on the register at the end of 1967, 196 were known to be quiescent, but treatment was being continued as a precaution against recurrence. No evidence suggested that in any notified case the disease had been contracted in the United Kingdom.—(From Lancet 2 (1968) 1252)

Honors for leprosy workers. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has bestowed New Year Honors upon several distinguished workers in the field of leprosy, as follows:

Dr. Robert G. Cochrane, F.R.C.P., President Emeritus of the International Leprosy Association, who is already the recipient of the Damien-Dutton Award and other

international honors, is appointed a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (C.M.G.) for his services in the treatment and control of leprosy. After 40 years of devoted service throughout the world, notably in India, and in a variety of capacities, Dr. Cochrane is "back on the job" in Tanzania with his wife. (*Present address*: Kola Ndoto Hospital, Box 46, Shinyanga, Tanzania).

Dr. Margaret Fitzherbert, F.R.C.O.G., is appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.). Dr. Fitzherbert gained a great reputation in Ethiopia as a specialist obstetrician and gynecologist, and now for the past few years has been foremost in leprosy work both in Addis Ababa itself and in the district.

Dr. Katherine M. Young, of the Christian Dispensary, P.O. Dandeldhura, Ex. Off. Baitadi, West Nepal, is accorded the same honor (O.B.E.) by Her Majesty. Dr. Young has been in real and intimate touch with the medical and social problems of leprosy patients for many years, and has devoted herself in sympathetic service to their needs.

Miss M. M. Stone becomes a Member of the Order of the British Empire (M.B.E.). Sister Stone is well-known for her work at Kumi-Ongino in Uganda in connection with the BCG vaccination trial conducted by Dr. J. A. Kinnear Brown, C. M. G. (*From Leprosy Rev.*)

United States. *Rehabilitation International.* The International Society for Rehabilitation of the Disabled has been "described" by the Society's Council, as "Rehabilitation International," to afford a shorter

term more convenient for everyday use and publicity. The designation International Society for Rehabilitation of the Disabled remains the legal and official title of the Society, which has functioned since 1922 to provide a means for international cooperation and coordination. The Society has members in 62 countries. Leprosy is among the diseases in its spheres of activity.

World Leprosy Day. In the United States this day for 1969 was observed on Sunday, 16 February. Dr. Detlev M. Bronk, President Emeritus of the Rockefeller University and Past President of Johns Hopkins University served as chairman, and Hawaii's Governor and Mrs. John A. Burns as honorary cochairmen. A service memorializing the day was held at the Washington, D.C. Cathedral by the Very Rev. Francis B. Sayre, Jr., Dean of the Cathedral. Dr. Sayre, a trustee of the Leonard Wood Memorial, has an active interest in the fight against leprosy.

Anniversary of Leonard Wood Memorial. The Leonard Wood Memorial for the Eradication of Leprosy celebrated its Fortieth Anniversary in ceremonies at the Plaza Hotel, New York City, 3 December 1968. General Lucius D. Clay, retired Army officer, who had served in the U.S. Army in General Wood's time, acted as chairman. President D. V. Wilson and Trustees W. C. Rappleye and J. C. Traphagan welcomed the guests. Dr. E. R. Long, consultant to the Memorial, and Dr. R. C. Parlett, chairman of its Advisory Medical Board, addressed the gathering.