

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.

Brazil. *New leprosy periodical published in Brazil.* HANSENOLOGIA INTERNATIONALIS, which supersedes REVISTA BRASILEIRA DE LEPROLOGIA (1933-1970), has been approved for publication by the Secretary of Health of the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil. The new periodical will publish original and reprinted articles, reports of anatomic-clinical sessions, iconographic documents, letters, news, and other leprosy-related material. Abstracts will continue to be published in "Hanseniasis: Abstracts and News."

Volume 1 will have two issues and is expected to appear in print by the end of 1975. As a new service of the Government of the State of Sao Paulo, all issues will be sent to institutions and leprosy workers upon request, as well as to those already on the mailing list of "Hanseniasis: Abstracts and News." Drs. Cassio Marcondes de Carvalho, Joao de Aguiar Pupo, Francisco Rabello and A. Rotberg will be editor, scientific director, head of the scientific council, and redactor-in-chief, respectively, of the new periodical. It is hoped that a productive relationship can be established between leprosy workers and those organizations engaged in the eradication of leprosy and this periodical.—(Adapted from letter from Dr. A. Rotberg)

England. *LEPRA film wins award.* LEPRA's new film "Leprosy" has won a Silver Award in the 1974 film competition organized by the British Medical Association. Many high quality medical films were presented at this competition and those responsible for producing this splendid film are to be congratulated for this honor.—(From Lepr. Rev. 46 [1975] 124)

Mr. Colin Surman awarded prize by Royal Microscopical Society. Mr. Surman of the photographic section of the department of human anatomy at Oxford recently received a prize by the RMS for his color micrograph of crystals of B663. These were photographed against dark field illuminations on a Leitz Orthoplan, using Kodak 2483 film, 35 mm, as a preliminary to studies on the re-

markable accumulation of this drug in the cytoplasm of macrophages in the living animal.—(From Lepr. Rev. 46 [1975] 124)

India. *Greater Calcutta Leprosy Treatment & Health Education Scheme (GRECALTES).* GRECALTES, a voluntary and charitable organization, promotes public health through the control of leprosy and has adopted a plan of work similar to that of the National Leprosy Control Program of India.

The scheme operates under the advisory support of a local committee composed of eminent citizens representing different professions. This body is registered under the Societies Registration Act 1961 of West Bengal, and has as its sponsor the international organization "German Leprosy Relief Association."

GRECALTES operates along three main lines: 1) tracing of all leprosy cases especially the early ones through simple examination of the population schoolchildren, Bustee (a small village) dwellers and the general population; 2) treating all leprosy cases in outpatient clinics in each ward administering free treatment; 3) teaching people about the facts of leprosy and the prospects of its control relating principles of hygiene, diet, nutrition, family planning and sanitation. GRECALTES is seeking the cooperation of the community and its leaders to promote constructive public health work and to obtain consolidation of a sound urban leprosy control plan in Greater Calcutta. For more information on GRECALTES please address all correspondence to the Project Director, 14/2A Broad Street, Calcutta-19, India.—(Issued by and adapted from Project Director Letter, GRECALTES, May 1975)

Jamaica. *Dr. Oliver W. Hasselblad appointed leprosy officer in Jamaica.* As of 1 September Dr. Hasselblad assumes his new appointment as Specialist Leprosy Officer of the Ministry of Health and Environmental Control in Jamaica, West Indies.

After his retirement in 1974 as president of American Leprosy Missions Dr. Hassel-

blad continued to serve as medical consultant to ALM. In this capacity he made in-depth surveys of the leprosy problem in Guyana and in South India. Dr. Hasselblad will be working in close collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization where there will be many opportunities to participate in seminars and provide consultative services in the Caribbean and Central and South America. He has in the past 15 years become known worldwide for his contributions to leprosy control and has received many honors including the Damien Dutton Award for 1975.—(From ALM Bull., Fall 1975)

Hansen Home, Spanish Town, Jamaica slated for closing. News received of the impending closing of Hansen Home is a success story very close to the aims and origins of the Damien Dutton Society, whose inception dates back to the visits to the leprosarium by American G.I.'s stationed in the Caribbean area during the war years.

Hansen Home, established by the government at the turn of the century when leprosy was reaching epidemic proportions, was confined in 1940 to the direction of the Marist Missionary Sisters who brought sister-doctors, nurses and social workers to the project. Shortly thereafter a mobile clinic was established bringing early detection and treatment into the outlying endemic areas.

Today, the patient roster which once taxed the capacity of the 200-bed facility, has been reduced to a mere 20, who will now be cared for in normal medical and social units of the general public, as a further step in the effort to educate society to a better understanding and more humane attitude towards the problems of leprosy.—(Adapted from Damien Dutton Call, Summer 1975)

U.S.A. American Leprosy Missions issues new twice-a-year publication. The first issue entitled "American Leprosy Missions Bulletin" recently appeared as the Fall 1975 issue. Through this publication devoted not only to the news of ALM overseas programs, patients served by ALM services and workers supported by ALM, it is hoped that the readers will have a greater sense of sharing in ALM's common cause. Because ALM is closely involved in the many advances taking place in the progress of leprosy patients worldwide and in research, this bulletin is obliged to keep those interested supporters

better informed about the exciting changes taking place as a result of their assistance.—(Adapted from ALM Bull., Fall 1975)

Dr. John R. Trautman revises rules and regulations concerning Carville. Through the efforts of Dr. Trautman, Director, US Public Health Service Hospital at Carville, new US Public Health Service official rules and regulations relating to leprosy have been issued. They are as follows.

Persons With Hansen's Disease

Admission to Service facilities. Any person with Hansen's disease who presents himself for care or treatment or who is referred to the Service by the proper health authority of any State, Territory, or District of Columbia shall be received into the Service hospital at Carville, Louisiana, or into any other hospital of the Service which has been designated by the Secretary as being suitable for the accommodation of persons with Hansen's disease.

Confirmation of diagnosis. At the earliest practicable date, after the arrival of a patient at the Service hospital at Carville, Louisiana, or at another hospital of the Service the medical staff shall confirm or disprove the diagnosis of Hansen's disease. If the diagnosis of Hansen's disease is confirmed, the patient shall be provided appropriate inpatient or outpatient treatment. If the diagnosis is not confirmed, the patient shall be discharged.

Examination and treatment. Patients will be provided necessary clinical examinations which may be required for the diagnosis of primary secondary conditions, and such treatment as may be prescribed.

Discharge. Patients with Hansen's disease will be discharged when, in the opinion of the medical staff of the hospital, optimum hospital benefits have been received.

Notification to health authorities regarding discharged patients. Upon the discharge of a patient the medical officer in charge shall give notification of such discharge to the appropriate health officer of the State, Territory, or other jurisdiction in which the discharged patient is to reside. The notification shall also set forth the clinical findings and other essential facts necessary to be known by the health officer relative to such discharged patient.—(From The STAR 34, No. 6 [1975] 1)

Mr. Ackley reports need for paramedical

training in Africa. Mr. Roger Ackley, president of ALM, recently returned from a tour of American Leprosy Missions-supported work in Africa. In a two and a half month survey this past summer he visited some 20 leprosy programs, both mission and government, in Liberia, Nigeria, Cameroun, Angola, Zaire, Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania and Ethiopia. During his tour he discussed upgrading present leprosy work and extending village control programs with mission officials, government health ministers and heads of related agencies. Mr. Ackley feels that one of the greatest needs in the leprosy programs of most African countries is for more training of paramedical workers. ALM is prepared to assist in upgrading leprosy work and medical programs by providing materials about leprosy in the context of a total health program, and in the dissemination of information on new trends in the management of the disease. He reported that leprosy work in Angola and Mozambique, where Portuguese oppression has prohibited the training of personnel, has not kept up with the development in other countries. There is urgent need for reconstructive surgery, prostheses and special footwear in these countries. Mr. Ackley stated that "We must be ready to accept the fact that medical programs will be taken over increasingly by governments. It is up to us to see that the level and quality of leprosy work be adequate to meet the needs."—(*Adapted from ALM Bull.* Fall 1975)

Mr. Howard E. Crouch receives 1975 Modern Samaritan Award. Mr. Crouch, Founder and President, Damien Dutton Society, was cited for his dedication and efforts to help victims of leprosy throughout the world and "as one whose compassionate concern and courageous example heals the lives of others." The Alexian Brothers who present the award, date back to the 14th century and are outstanding in the United States for their professional and apostolic services to the sick, in nursing, physiotherapy, counseling and, in recent years, specialized care and therapy for alcoholics.—(*From Damien Dutton Call*, Summer 1975)

Mr. Thomas H. Rickman, Jr. retires from staff of Carville. Mr. Rickman of Chicago, Illinois first reported for duty at the USPHS Hospital in Carville on 1 September 1948. He came to Carville from the University of

Minnesota where he was assistant professor of recreation to assume his new position of Director of Community Activities. When he arrived the institution was a barbed-wire enclave which physically restrained patients, quite a number of whom were dispirited and apathetic. He now retires from an institution which is a bustling, dynamic hospital where a gratifying percentage of patients lead full to near normal lives and actually do, to use one of his favorite expressions, "make time live not just kill it." As he retires he can look back over many productive years in which his efforts on behalf of the patients have played a considerable role in achieving this change.—(*Adapted from The STAR* 34, No. 6 [1975] 2-3)

The Victor Heiser Awards for Research in Leprosy. Two categories of awards are available: 1) Postdoctoral Research Fellowships requiring candidates to have a Ph.D. or M.D. degree and to be at the beginning or early stage of postdoctoral training in a field of basic biomedical science directly related to leprosy. Up to two years of support will be provided at stipend levels between \$10,000 and \$14,000 per annum. 2) Visiting Research Awards requiring that applicants be established investigators in leprosy wishing to carry out a specific project at a distant institution. Per diem and travel support will be provided for up to six months of collaborative research.

The deadline for receipt of all applications is 1 February 1976. Further instructions and information may be requested from Ms. Caroline R. Stanwood, Director, Heiser Fellowship Program for Research in Leprosy, 1230 York Avenue, New York, New York 10021.—C. R. Stanwood

World Leprosy Day. American Leprosy Missions is launching a vigorous campaign to enlist the cooperation of U.S. churches in the 23rd annual observance of World Leprosy Day on 25 January 1976. ALM is the American sponsor for this observance. To aid churches in the preparation of special services, ALM has prepared a kit of program materials, including a wall poster, sermon material, Bible study, suggested Scriptures, bulletin insert, facts about leprosy and Christian leprosy work around the world. The kit may be obtained free of charge by writing to American Leprosy Missions.—(*Adapted from ALM Bull.*, Fall 1975)