

BRIEF REPORTS

The purpose of this department is to facilitate the reporting of interesting cases and observations that otherwise might not be recorded.

RESULTS OF TREATMENT AT THE NGOMOHURU LEPROSY HOSPITAL OVER A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS, 1929-1938

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In an attempt to discover the relative efficacy of the various preparations used in the treatment of leprosy in this institution, the following table (Table 1) has been compiled. It shows the crude annual figures for the numbers of patients under treatment, the numbers and percentages discharged as "arrested," and the kinds of drugs used.

In compiling statistics of this sort, it is impossible to eliminate the personal element. For instance during 1929, my first year here, I was too cautious in allowing discharges. The figure of 26.8 percent for 1930 more correctly represents the percentage for the two years 1929 and 1930 taken together, i.e., 13.5 percent for each year. The notable lowness of the figures for the years 1933 and 1938 is explained by the fact that I was away on leave for 6 months in each year, during which periods no discharges were made.

My experience here has given me the impression that Burroughs and Wellcome's preparation Moogrol is the most effective of those employed, and the figures above certainly tend to endorse that impression. Alepol and Glycalepol were painful. Hydnocreol was not painful, but it was so viscous that a large needle had to be used, and leakage occurred.

With regard to Bayer's preparations, 4S28a and aJ., and Jantol and Jantol forte, these were given to only two patients, both Dutch. One of them, a male, classified L1-N1, was discharged after 2 years and 3 months treatment. The second patient, a female, classified L1-N1, showed considerable improve-

ment but had to leave the hospital after one year's treatment. I am now informed that she has relapsed badly.

The average length of residence in hospital of patients who have been discharged works out 20.3 months.

TABLE 1. *Results of treatment at the Ngomohuru Leprosy Hospital.*

Year	Number of cases under treatment	Number of cases discharged	Percentages discharged	Preparations used in treatment
1929	263	1	0.3	Alepol
1930	365	98	26.8	3% Alepol and glycalepol
1931	394	34	8.6	6% and 9% Alepol Hydnocreol
1932	521	98	18.8	7% Alepol Antileprol Iodized esters ^a
1933	633	24	3.7 ^b	Iodized esters 7% Alepol Antileprol
1934	629	78	12.3	Iodized esters
1935	666	114	17.1	Iodized esters Bayer 4828a and aJ (Moogrol started)
1936	600	159	26.5	Moogrol Bayer 4828a and aJ Jantol and Jantol forte
1937	586	128	21.8	Moogrol Jantol and Jantol forte
1938	586	50	8.5 ^b	Moogrol

^a Iodized esters prepared by the Government Chemist, Union of South Africa, Cape Town.

^b Medical Superintendent away on leave for 6 months; no discharges during these periods.