

# *Leprosy Notes.*

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## **Editorial.**

Our readers will be interested to hear that Mr. Oldrieve has arrived safely in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia. The latest news we have is that he and his wife are busily engaged in farm work of all kinds, in preparation for the time, not far distant, when they will own their own land. Mr. Oldrieve is still keeping in touch with the Association, and is showing in many ways his continued sympathy and keen interest in the work.

To take up the reins where Mr. Oldrieve dropped them is no light task, and one of the most difficult pieces of work is to undertake the editorship of *LEPROSY NOTES*. It is our aim to maintain the same standard of efficiency that has been set in the past, and we trust that this journal will increase in its usefulness and continue to fill a need. Not only do we wish to secure the most helpful and practical articles from workers, but it is felt that there are numerous questions which are puzzling those who, without special training, are doing routine work amongst lepers. We have decided, therefore, to discuss these various problems from time to time, and in this number we are dealing with the question of potassium iodide. Forthcoming numbers will include articles on such problems as "The Choice of Hydnocarpus Preparations," "Criteria of Cure," etc. If workers have any subject which they would like discussed, it would make matters easier if they would communicate with us, and the difficulty in question, if a common one, will be discussed in one of these special articles.

We are glad to bring to the notice of our readers the new quarterly entitled "*Leprosy in India*," which is issued by the Indian Council of the Association. This magazine is primarily for the use of leper workers in India, but we are sure those engaged in the fight against leprosy in other countries will find it of extreme value. Will any of our readers outside India who would like to have "*Leprosy in India*" supplied to them regularly, kindly communicate with us.

The Annual Report of the Indian Council of the Association is full of encouragement and hope. This report brings out clearly the wide prevalence of the disease, the necessity for the dissemination of knowledge of the early symptoms, and provision of properly organised clinics for the purposes of diagnosis and treatment.

To those who are in charge of large anti-leprosy schemes this report contains much information which is of value. Each country has to approach the leprosy problem from its own angle, and a method in one country may not be possible in another. India is peculiarly well suited for extensive anti-leprosy schemes, for, in the first place the Association is endeavouring to organise treatment centres for the early cases of leprosy, and in addition there are leper homes and hospitals throughout India, mainly under the care of The Mission to Lepers, which are dealing to a large extent with the problem of indoor treatment of leprosy. It is the proper balance of out-patient centres, with an adequate provision of leper hospitals and homes, combined with intelligent propaganda, which will ultimately bring this scourge under control. We cordially recommend the Report of the Indian Council to all those who have anti-leprosy schemes to organise on a large scale.

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