

# Correspondence.

The Editor,  
"Leprosy Review."

Dear Sir,

At the Group meeting last night it was decided that we should very much like to develop the point Mr. V. R. Hackmeyer, one of our members, raised privately about it really being the duty of the various Governments concerned to tackle this problem. Until such time however it is the Christian duty of the General Public to do its best.

Perhaps we can best make our point clear with one or two analogies. Slum clearance for instance can only be effectively solved by the State, and private efforts at building houses, through charity, would definitely be wrong. Again, think of all the various State services on which in 1928 £338,500,000 were spent on social services (British Industrial Future, p.245), and imagine private charity trying to attempt it. Such things as Unemployment Insurance, National Health Services, Council Houses etc.

In our opinion it is our duty to do all we possibly can to help the lepers, but we owe them the duty of informing the general public that we are only asking for their help till such time as the Government undertakes the work itself.

Perhaps these thoughts may be of some help to you in your splendid work.

Yours sincerely,

R. HUNT, *Secretary*,  
Trowbridge Group, Toc H.

9th February, 1937.

[This question is dealt with in the editorial. Ed.]