

LEPROSY IN  
ANGLO-EGYPTIAN SUDAN EAST  
AND CENTRAL AFRICA

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INTRODUCTION.

I had the privilege of undertaking on behalf of BELRA an extensive tour through East and Central Africa visiting Anglo-Egyptian Sudan en route. I left London on September 30th 1952, and returned again on December 17th 1952. This tour took twelve weeks to complete and was, except for internal travel in the territories visited, undertaken by air. It is interesting to note that when I was Medical and General Secretary of BELRA between 1929 and 1935 I made a similar journey in 1930 and the travel time was over twenty-eight weeks or seven months! This emphasises the speed of travel today and the opportunities for much more extensive work.

This present tour took me from Khartoum in the North to Ngomahuru (200 miles south of Salisbury) in Southern Rhodesia in the South, from Dar-es-Salaam in the East to the borders of Angola (Portuguese West Africa) in the West. Wherever I went I was most cordially welcomed and the arrangements for my itinerary were such as to enable me to see a very good cross-section of the work. I am most mindful of the assistance and help of the Directors of Medical Services of the territories visited, but I would particularly like to record my appreciation of the splendid co-operation of Dr. J. Ross Innes, the Inter-territorial leprologist of the East Africa High Commission, who most kindly accompanied me on my safaris in Kenya and Uganda. The Directors of Medical Services of Tanganyika, Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia made excellent arrangements for my visit and this enabled me to see more of the work than I originally thought possible.

I had the opportunity of discussing the leprosy situation and future developments, plans and policies with Dr. J. A. Kinnear Brown, Specialist (Leprologist) to the Government of Uganda. Dr. Garrod, Leprologist-designate of Northern Rhodesia, accompanied me personally through that territory, and from his knowledge and experience and his seniority in the service was able to acquaint me with local conditions and so made my task easier. With this introduction I will pass on to a review of leprosy in each of the territories visited.