

East African Leprosy Research Centre, Itesio. Short Report for the year 1954.

This report starts as follows: "The East African Leprosy Research Centre is a new project for East Africa initiated by the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association, who gave a large part (18/27th) of the capital funds necessary, as well as a large part of the recurrent cost (half). The Centre is under the administration of the East Africa High Commission, and the East African governments have also contributed to the capital and recurrent costs." The centre is at the Itesio leprosarium, which itself is a new venture founded in 1952 and now growing. Itesio is on the Kenya/Uganda border. Makerere College is 2½ hours by road, Buluba leprosarium 1½ hours, Kumi leprosarium 2½ hours, and the East African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Research and Reclamation Organisation has research laboratories at Sukulu, only ten miles away. The initial staff of the centre include the Director, Dr. J. Ross Innes, the laboratory technologist, Mr. E. J. Bishop, the secretary, Mrs. Bishop, the clerk, Mr. A. S. Ferandes, and two drivers.

"The main work of the centre during 1954 was the struggle to come into existence." Building has been delayed by the state of emergency in Kenya, but good progress is reported in recent months. Laboratory equipment has arrived and the laboratory-office building is nearing completion. Proposals for research include studies of the action of new drugs in leprosy, the value of B.C.G. vaccine in leprosy, the control of leprosy, studies of lepromin, etc.