

Book Reviews

Leprosy in Northern Territory Aborigines. Northern Territory Medical Service, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia, 1968. 39 pages.

This publication, which is well described as “a short guide for nursing sisters in the diagnosis, treatment and management of leprosy in aborigines”, is remarkable for the quality and range of the 20 pages of coloured reproductions of leprosy lesions and of conditions often confused with leprosy. The author of the text is Dr. J. C. Hargrave, M.B.E., the Medical Superintendent of the East Arm Leprosarium at Darwin, and the photographs are the work of Sister E. R. Jones. Both of them, and the printers, are to be congratulated on a first-class elementary introduction to leprosy, as practical as it is accurate. With this slim volume in their hands, nursing sisters and para-medical workers in the Northern Territory of Australia may confidently face the “walk-about” presenting a dermatosis that might be leprosy, and then treat leprosy if and when the diagnosis is made. All enquiries about this book should be addressed to: Dr. J. Hargrave, M.B.E., Medical Officer-in-Charge, East Arm Leprosarium, P.O. Box. 1847, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia.

Physical therapy in the treatment of leprosy (Hansen's disease). World Confederation for Physical Therapy, 1968. 28 pages.

This 28-page booklet consists of lecture notes suggested for use in physical therapy training schools. Now that, thanks to the efforts of the World Leprosy Committee

of the International Society for Rehabilitation of the Disabled, leprosy is included in the training syllabus recommended by the World Confederation of Physical Therapy, a guide like the present is essential. Most schools of physical therapy are far from the places where leprosy is a considerable endemic problem, yet more and more physiotherapists are bringing their knowledge and skill for a longer or shorter time to leprosy projects. Without their help, the work of the reconstructive surgeon is seriously hampered, if not rendered completely impossible. Hence, the need for a booklet setting out succinctly the broad outlines and the details of the work of the physical therapist in the treatment of the victims of leprosy who present with the results of nerve damage.

Armed with the knowledge contained in this little book, supplemented by appropriate demonstrations wherever possible, the physical therapist called upon to co-operate with the reconstructive surgeon will find here the basis for his or her work both in therapy and in prevention. The information offered will also serve, when suitably modified, for training the aides on whom the main burden of treatment will necessarily fall.

We welcome this little booklet, and wish it a wide sphere of usefulness. We understand that French and Spanish translations are in preparation. For further information, readers are advised to write to Miss M. J. Neilson, M.B.E., at the office of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy, Burdett House, 15 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.