

DR YOSHINOBU HAYASHI
1890-1977

The Japanese Leprosy Association, and indeed the whole world of leprosy, will mourn the death, on 1 November 1977, of the doyen of Japanese leprologists, Dr Yoshinobu Hayashi.

Born as long ago as 1890, Dr Hayashi began his very fruitful service for leprosy sufferers soon after qualifying as a doctor in 1914, when he joined the medical staff of the Tama Zensho-en Hospital. From the outset, his keen mind and wholehearted dedication to his work were abundantly evident. Interested no less in the clinical than in the pathological aspects of leprosy, Dr Hayashi became Head Physician to the Hospital, and then was appointed Head of the Hospital. In 1941, he was made Director of the National Leprosarium of Tama Zensho-en. It was during this period that Dr Hayashi made his greatest contributions to the study of leprosy, pursuing his researches into the host reactions to the invading organisms and paving the way, through his meticulous observations, for the recent spectacular advances in the immunology of the disease.

Retiring from his responsibilities at the National Leprosarium in 1963, he continued very actively his professional work as a member of the medical staff of the Ministry of Health and Welfare. An appointment that gave him great personal pleasure was that of Honorary Director of the National Leprosarium, a position that he graced from 1964 till the time of his death.

For many years, Dr Hayashi maintained close and cordial links not only with the Japanese Leprosy Association and with such personal stalwarts as Dr Mitsuda, Dr Hamano and Dr Yoshie, but also with the International Leprosy Association. He was a much-respected figure at Congresses of the Association and his opinions were always welcomed. The Leonard Wood Memorial valued his co-operation as consultant during 1953 and 1954.

We salute the memory of a great and good man, who devoted himself to the well-being of leprosy sufferers in Japan itself, and who, through his internationally renowned researches, served the larger weal of leprosy sufferers throughout the world.

S. G. BROWNE
Secretary-Treasurer, International Leprosy Association