

Obituary

DR. MAURICE GILBERT

Leprosy is indebted to tuberculosis in several ways; there are many instances of people who, having acquired deep knowledge of tuberculosis as a disease and a social problem, apply their expertise to leprosy. Dr. Maurice Gilbert was one such. His death on 12 March 1980 leaves a gap that will never be filled in the same way.

For 20 years, Dr. Gilbert was closely connected with the treatment of patients suffering from tuberculosis in its various forms. His qualities of mind and heart were early recognized by his peers and co-workers, and he was frequently called upon by the Order of Malta and the World Health Organization to travel, investigate, report and advise.

The last 20 years of his active professional life saw him becoming more and more interested in leprosy, the treatment of tuberculosis having been placed on a sound basis. In his capacity of Medical Adviser to the Order of Malta, he was a founder-member of the Federation of European anti-leprosy Associations (ELEP, later to be known as ILEP), and for three years was Vice-Chairman of its Medical Commission. Internationally, he was probably best known as the very active Editor of *Acta Leprologica*.

He will be sorely missed.

S.G. BROWNE