

TUBERCULOSIS IN INDIA*

THE Seventh Annual Report of the Tuberculosis Association of India for the year 1945, records another year of its useful work for the prevention, control and relief of tuberculosis in India. The factors which have hampered the progress of work of the Association since its inception still continue, but with the cessation of the war, it is hoped that considerable amount of energy which was so far mobilised in the country's war effort will now be diverted towards fighting the menace of India's "public enemy No. 2", tuberculosis.

In spite of all the difficulties that stood in the way, the Association, during the year under report, has been able not only to consolidate the work already started, but also to make considerable progress in new directions. There are at present 124 tuberculosis clinics and 70 tuberculosis hospitals and sanatoria with a total of 4,384 beds. The Government of Bengal is contemplating the opening of two tuberculosis sanatoria of 500 beds each in the Presidency. It is expected that the Government of Bombay and Bombay Municipality will complete two more clinics in near future. A tuberculosis sanatorium is being constructed at Ranchi by the Marwari Relief Association, Calcutta.

Under the auspices of the Central Association, Post-Graduate Refresher Course has been organised in different parts of the country. Two such courses were organised in Lahore and Madras during 1945; 32 doctors in all have received post-graduate training. It is the intention of the Association to organise similar courses at frequent intervals. Training of Health Visitors has also been undertaken. The course which commenced in October 1944, terminated in June 1945. Out of seven candidates who received instructions, four have been successful. Twelve candidates are, at present, receiving training. So far, New Delhi Tuberculosis Clinics and Lady Linlithgow Sanatorium, Kasauli, had been giving such training, but it is hoped that other affiliated associations will arrange in due course, to train this class of workers within their own provinces. The Association has also continued to afford training to a limited number of doctors at the Lady Linlithgow Sanatorium and New Delhi Tuberculosis Clinics. The Association has also decided to take suitable candidates at the

Lady Linlithgow Sanatorium for training in the field of nursing.

The Madras Tuberculosis Diseases Diploma Course continues to be popular. The Mysore T.D.D. Course was started in June 1945 and it is expected that the Calcutta University will institute a similar course in the near future.

Dr. P. V. Benjamin has acted as Technical Adviser throughout the year and has devoted a considerable portion of his time to the affairs of the Association. He undertook an extensive tour in Western and Northern India and visited several centres to tender expert advice.

The full development of the Publicity and Propaganda Section has unfortunately been hampered to a great extent, but it is hoped that with the end of the war, more facilities will be available for the expansion of this section. In the meantime activities were carried on, by means of pamphlets, charts and other useful materials. Regarding the outlet for scientific papers on the subject, the Association has been labouring under serious handicap. The *Indian Medical Gazette* had been publishing Special Tuberculosis Number for the past eight years, but there are now difficulties in the continuation of this arrangement. The Association feels that at this stage, it should have a journal of its own, and it is expected that a journal predominantly of a clinical nature will be started after the next conference of the tuberculosis workers.

During the year under review, the Lady Linlithgow Sanatorium has carried on very useful work. The increasing progress and success of the Sanatorium can be judged from the receipt and payment account which appears in the Appendix. The activities of the New Delhi Tuberculosis Clinics in 1945, as in the previous years, represent a stage in the development of the propaganda, treatment and survey method of control of tuberculosis. The Clinics continued to function as a demonstration centre for diagnosis, treatment, care and after-care of patients, educative and preventive activities in the tubercular homes and a training centre for tuberculosis workers. Summaries of the reports of the Provincial and State Tuberculosis Associations appear in Appendix IX. The reports show that these Associations have concentrated their efforts on the training of tuberculosis workers and anti-tuberculosis propaganda and that a uniform progress has been maintained throughout the year.

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V-2 ROCKETS TO RECORD SUN'S ULTRAVIOLET RAYS

FILMS developed by Eastman Kodak Co. with special fluorescent coatings will be used in spectrographs mounted in the noses of V-2 rockets. Ultraviolet sunlight, unable to penetrate either our atmosphere or ordinary photographic emulsions, will be recorded when

the rockets reach altitudes of about 100 miles. The fluorescent film coating glows when ultraviolet light strikes it, and the glow is recorded on the film.

—(Courtesy of "Sky and Telescope," August 1946, p. 10.)