

control elsewhere, because they are sure to find many items that will be applicable to their own problems.—
EDITOR, I. M. G.]

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MYSORE STATE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, FOR THE YEAR 1938

THERE were 311 medical institutions working in the State at the close of the year 1938 against 291 at the end of the previous year.

Of the 311 institutions, 279 are classed as public, 26 as non-public (jail, military, forest, railway, etc.), and six as private-aided institutions. There are 32 maternity hospitals and female dispensaries exclusively for the use of women and children.

Including 13,078 parturition cases treated in the various hospitals and dispensaries 61,537 new in-patients were admitted during the year as against 53,254 in the previous year, showing an increase of 8,283 in the current year, *i.e.*, an increase of 15.5 per cent.

During the year 5,612,993 new out-patients were treated as against 5,271,437 in the previous year. Of these 3,485,302 were adults and 2,127,691 children, 4,293,342 were Hindus, 1,060,174 Muslims and 259,477 others; 4,124,665 attended personally and 1,488,328 were represented by friends or relatives. The daily average number of out-patients treated was 25,663.84 against 26,256.91 in the preceding year.

A total number of 335 midwives were working during the year compared with 325 in the preceding year.

A total of 32,038 parturition cases were conducted during the year both in and outside the medical institutions against 30,355 in the previous year. Out of these 13,078 were done in institutions and 19,010 outside.

As in the previous year there were 32 maternity hospitals and female dispensaries. A total of 881 beds was provided in these institutions for the use of in-patients including parturition cases, against 772 in the preceding year.

Correspondence

OBSERVATIONS ON THE USE OF NICOTINIC ACID IN THE TREATMENT OF PELLAGRA AND ALLIED CONDITIONS

To the Editor, THE INDIAN MEDICAL GAZETTE

SIR,—In the May number of the *Indian Medical Gazette*, Dr. W. R. Aykroyd has criticized my statement that 'pellagra is quite common in Bengal'.

According to Sen Gupta *et al.* (1939), the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine treats six to twelve cases of pellagra per annum. I myself have seen classical pellagra in parts of Bengal as far apart as Chittagong and Midnapore, and more recently in Calcutta.

I admit that in my experience advanced cases of classical pellagra are not common, but I believe that mild cases of pellagra and especially cases which respond well to nicotinic acid are quite common.

The truth of the matter is probably best expressed by Napier (1939) who wrote as follows 'If medical officers in India were more familiar with the signs and symptoms of pellagra it is probable that far more cases would be diagnosed'.

REFERENCES

- Napier, L. E. (1939). *Indian Med. Gaz.*, Vol. LXXIV, p. 136.
Sen Gupta, P. C., *et al.* (1939). *Ibid.*, Vol. LXXIV, p. 143.

Yours, etc.,

J. GOODALL,
CAPTAIN, I.M.S.

Second Resident Medical Officer.

PRESIDENCY GENERAL HOSPITAL,
CALCUTTA.
24th May, 1940.

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

To the Editor, THE INDIAN MEDICAL GAZETTE

SIR,—Our attention has been drawn to the article on 'British pharmaceutical products' commencing on page 175 of your issue of March 1940, and the two tables which appear on the following pages.

The article is apparently an extract from a publication which appeared in England very shortly after the outbreak of war, which contains a certain amount of misleading information, a certain amount of information which is untrue so far as India is concerned, and which takes no note of developments that have occurred since the outbreak of war.

The items in which we are interested are as follows:—

Knoll products—The following Knoll products appear in the tables under the heading 'Foreign Product':—

Bromural	Iod. calcium diuretin
Calcium diuretin	Matronax (known in India as
Cardiazol	Klimakton).
Digipuratum	Styptol
Diuretin	Styracol
Euresol	Tannalbin

The position with regard to Knoll products is, that the trade-mark rights in the United Kingdom are owned by Messrs. Knoll, Limited, London, an English firm closely affiliated with Messrs. Savory and Moore Ltd., and immediately after the outbreak of war, arrangements were made to carry on the manufacture of these in England, and at the present time they are definitely English products, manufactured and marketed by an English company. Arrangements have been made for the English company to supply the requirements of India, and continuity of supply to India of these particular preparations is now assured.

Argyrol—This is given as a 'Foreign Product', but this is not correct so far as India is concerned.

For many years the requirements of India have been supplied by the Canadian factory, and Argyrol, in so far as this country is concerned, is definitely an Empire product.

Veganin (Warner)—This is starred as a 'Foreign Product' now manufactured in England.

So far as India is concerned, this has never been a foreign product. All supplies made to India since the first introduction of Veganin, have been manufactured in England, and this is definitely an English product.

We shall esteem it a favour if you will take any measures possible to correct any misleading impressions that may arise from the publication of this article.

Yours, etc.,

MESSRS. MARTIN AND HARRIS,
LIMITED.

MERCANTILE BUILDINGS,
LAL BAZAR,
CALCUTTA,
29th May, 1940.

Service Notes

APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS

MAJOR-GENERAL W. H. HAMILTON, C.B., C.I.E., C.B.E., D.S.O., K.H.P., to be Director of Medical Services in India. Dated 12th March, 1940.

The Viceroy and Governor-General has been pleased to make the following appointment on His Excellency's personal staff:—

To be Honorary Surgeon

Colonel D. F. Murphy, M.C., *vice* Colonel A. C. Munro, vacated. Dated 22nd October, 1939.

The services of Colonel D. H. Rai, M.C., have been placed at the disposal of the Government of the C. P. and Berar, with effect from 11th March, 1940, and he has been granted leave from 11th March, 1940, to 14th May, 1940, preparatory to retirement.