

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1963

THE MISSION TO LEPERS:
P. O. BOX 13,
TAEGU, KOREA

GENERAL

The in-patient department is a very small part of the work of the Mission in Korea, only those patients in severe reaction or requiring surgical treatment usually being admitted to the hospital, others being treated as out-patients in the monthly clinics.

MEDICAL TREATMENT

The great majority of patients are treated by DDS, those who cannot take it without reaction being put on DPT. If they react badly to it they are given sulphone if they are near enough to attend for injections. Etisul has been tried in a few cases but the results were not encouraging. Several patients have had prolonged progressive reactions and of these several are still with us.

SURGICAL TREATMENT

General surgery	No.	Ophthalmological surgery	No.
Application of plaster cast	9	Canthoplasty	1
Amputation of finger	1	Enucleation of eye	3
toe	7	Evisceration of eye	1
foot	3	Extraction of cataract	3
Partial	2	Dacrocystectomy	1
Excision of osteoma	1	Tarsoplasty	6
Curettage bone or tissue	12	Tarsorrhaphy	8
Excision scar tissue	1	Transplanting pterygium	1
Extraction of teeth	5		
Excision of necrotic tissue	3		
Herniorrhaphy	1		
Incision of abscess	2		
Nerve freeing and stripping	1		
Bone graft	1		
Open reduction of fracture	1		
Orchiectomy	1		
Removal of bone plate	1		
Removal of sequestrum	3		
Removal of metatarsal bone	1		
Skin graft	10		

Total of 90 surgical procedures

For a part of the year there was a great lack of water, then of electric light for the operating room. Also it was several months before there was an anesthetic machine available and the surgeons were reluctant about doing major surgery without the latter. For these reasons there was delay in starting rehabilitation surgery, i.e., tendon transplants for restoration of function to claw hands and dropped foot, but these are to be started early in 1964. Restoration of eyebrows is important to patients in Korea as without them it is practically impossible for a patient even though cured to obtain work.

PHYSIOTHERAPY

Exercises are taught by doctors and nurses. The wax bath is used a great deal.

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SOCIAL REHABILITATION

With the present staff it is not possible to do much home visiting but as much effort as possible is given to assisting poor patients with food and clothing, advice and encouragement. Most of our patients are living in their own communities and are either self supporting or supported by their families.

X-RAY EXAMINATIONS

The Mission to Lepers supplies x-ray films to the University Hospital who do our x-ray work without charge.

X-ray examinations in 1963 were as follows:-

Hands	9	Feet	28	Spine	3	Myelography	1		
Leg	4	Chest	10	Stomach	2	Urinary tract	1	Total	58

SPECIAL INTEREST

One long term patient came in with infected burns which required dressings and skin grafts. When healing was complete marked keloid formation took place in both grafted areas and donor sites. The surgeon in charge (from the University Hospital) sent the patient for x-ray treatment of the keloids. Apparently an assistant treated the patient and she was given an excessive dose as a result of which tissue necrosis followed and infection took place necessitating prolonged treatment and several operations for removal of necrotic tissue and repeated skin grafting. Fortunately the ultimate result was good and she left the hospital with almost complete healing. The long term result is still uncertain.

Florence J. Murray, M.D.