

rise in the number of new cases of gonorrhœa 24,381 compared with 20,388 in 1956 and 18,064 in 1951. As the report points out 'it is now apparent that penicillin, effective though it has been, cannot by itself make a lasting impression on the incidence of this disease.'

Yours faithfully,

Bombay, 17th February, 1959.

P. J. SHROFF

HOMŒOPATHIC NEWS

HOMŒOPATHIC BOARD'S RECONSTITUTION DEMANDED. PLEA FOR HOMŒOPATHIC INSTITUTIONS.

A Conference of Homœopaths which ended its two days' session in Lahore on Jan. 5, was attended by well over five hundred delegates, who had assembled here from all over Pakistan. The Conference which was most representative ever to be held was addressed by experts, research scholars and other eminent homœopaths.

Earlier in the morning of the first day, Mr. Moizuddin Ahmad C.S.P., Commissioner Lahore Division, laid the foundation stone of the first indoor homœopathic hospital in the country.

The Conference, the annual feature of the Society of Homœopaths, Pakistan, urged upon the Government to open up homœopathic hospitals, dispensaries and teaching institutions throughout the country in view of the great cheapness and curative effectiveness of this system.

Dr. Muhammad Masood Qureshi, President of the Society, while addressing the Conference pointed out that to-day more than twenty thousand M.D's in Europe and the U.S.A., were practising homœopathy as a truly scientific medical system and in all these developed countries homœopathy was treated at par

with other medical systems by their respective countries. Under these circumstances, he strongly hoped that the present Government in Pakistan would extend its full, due patronage to this system, after shedding all unjust prejudices, which under the new regime belonged only to the past.

The General Secretary of the Society, while presenting his annual report to the conference, referred to the political and other considerations which influenced the formation of the existing Homœopathic Board and demanded its reconstitution on a just and fair basis. He expressed the view that two zonal boards with seven members on each board was the need of the day and such a step would also result in a saving of rupees twenty thousand in expenditure.

An interesting feature of the Conference was the exhibition, organised by Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad, depicting drug symptoms in paintings and over ten thousand enthusiasts saw these paintings with much interest.

A purse containing three thousand rupees was also presented to the President of the Society as donation towards the construction of the indoor homœopathic hospital.

The delegates were shown six films produced by the Society and were entertained to dinner on Sunday night by the President Dr. Muhammad Masood Qureshi.

A Resolution passed by the General Council of the Society of Homœopaths-Pakistan at their Annual Meeting held at Lahore on 4th January, 1959. The Meeting was attended by 500 Homœopaths.

SMALL-POX RESOLUTION

The Society appreciates the concern which the Government has displayed in adopting certain preventive measures to combat the existing threat of small pox scourge; but has grave doubts about the utility of the ordinance which makes small-pox vaccination or inoculation obligatory on the people, in view of the following noted data :—

Edward Jenner introduced vaccination in 1798 and he received a sum of £30,000 from the British Parliament for his work. The British Government made vaccination compulsory

in 1853—but most stringently in 1867. There was a great small pox epidemic in the years 1857-58-59 resulting in 14,422 deaths, but when vaccination measures were most stringent in 1870-71-72 the small-pox epidemic took the heaviest toll of life when 44,631 persons died in England and Wales. Consequently, the British Government was so thoroughly disillusioned that the Parliament withdrew the Vaccination Act.

Sir Henry Holland, in his "Medical Notes and Reflections" wrote, "Not only in Great Britain but throughout every part of the globe, for which we have records, we find that small-pox has been gradually increasing again in frequency as an epidemic, affecting a larger proportion of the vaccinated and inflicting greater mortality in its results".

Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, M.D.F.R.S. declared that "The Life & Letters" of Jenner "comprised an analysis mortal to the scientific reputation and even to the morality of that much belauded man".

Dr. J. F. Marson, F.R.C.S., incharge of London Pox Hospital vide Reynold's System of Medicine, said, "The number of cases of small-pox after vaccination has steadily risen from about 5 per cent at the beginning of the 19th century to 44% in 1845; 63% in 1855; 78% in 1875 and about 96% in 1885 of the number admitted in the hospital".

Dr. Charles Creighton, who died in 1927, and who was referred to in the "Lancet" as England's, "most learned medical scholar of the 19th century" and who appeared before the Royal Commission on vaccination, said "Whatever their (anti-vaccinists') motive, they have scrutinised the evidence to some purpose; they have mastered nearly the whole case; they have knocked the bottom out of a grotesque superstition".

George Bernard Shaw, in his latest book "Everybody's Political What is What" levelled seathing criticism against this vaccination measure and at one place said, "Compulsion was not with-drawn until a monstrous persecution, ruthlessly enforced by deluded magistrates, provoked a rebellion against it to which Parliament had to yield". He also wrote, "Of all the legalised tyrannies none is more unbearable than those which

lay violent hands on us and our children and injected poisons into veins or thrust them down our throats”.

The international statistics of small-pox in the reports of the Health Organisation of the League of Nations show that the highest death rates for the years 1921-30 occurred in Mexico, British India, Java, Madura, Egypt, Yugoslavia, Rumania & Italy—all of the countries where vaccination is thoroughly carried out. The countries with the lowest small-pox health rates were Norway, Denmark, Austria, Germany, Bulgaria, Netherlands, Switzerland, Finland, Scotland and England & Wales. Norway has no compulsory law and only about two-fifths of its infants are vaccinated. Holland also suspended its compulsory vaccination law in 1928.

Under the National Medical Service Bill passed by the British Parliament on November 6, 1946, the English Vaccination Acts have been entirely repealed and non-vaccinations are wholly voluntary for the British Army, Navy, the RAF and the British civil servants and they have a right to refuse to be vaccinated. This latest development has taken after it was realised by the British Government and its people that their reliance on vaccination had proved wrong by the statistics and later researches in the matter.

The Society holds that prevention is certainly desirable against small-pox and many other diseases and epidemics. But as long as a truly effective and harmless measure of prevention is not available, one must not fail a prey to such doubtful and harmful measures like small-pox vaccination. Therefore, the Society urges upon the Government to reconsider this issue in the light of the above facts and not to enforce compulsory small-pox vaccination on its people. The Homœopathic profession, we may point out here, claims to give better results in the prevention of small-pox by the use of its two nosodes, Variolinum and Malandrinum given in infinitesimal doses by the mouth. The administration of medicine this way is far more cheaper and without any harmful effects whatsoever.

Moved by Dr. Muhammad Masood Qureshi,

President, Society of Homœopaths—Pakistan.
