

on Mt. Waialeale for the past six years. I am under great obligation to Mr. Hardy for many kindnesses, and I am indebted to him for the accompanying tables. The second table shows the rainfall data for Waimea, a village on the leeward coast of Kauai.

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QUOTATIONS

THE ROCKEFELLER HEALTH RESEARCHES¹

THE third annual report of the Rockefeller Foundation, the International Health Board (known previously as the International Health Commission), deals with the year 1916. The general summary, which precedes the details of different states and countries, shows that in addition to ankylostomiasis, malaria and yellow fever have been dealt with, and this would seem to indicate that the Board is prepared to tackle all tropical disease where the necessity arises. As regards the first of these scourges, ankylostomiasis, it is stated that active measures to control and prevent the disease are now in operation in Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia in the United States; in certain West Indian islands—Antigua, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and Trinidad; in British and Dutch Guiana, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Salvador, in South America; and in Ceylon and Siam in the East. Such widespread work, properly controlled as this is, and with no lack of funds to support it, is bound to do good, and, though remarkable results can not be looked for in a few years, nevertheless results will come, all in due time. To ensure this, permanency of the work is essential, as otherwise matters would quickly drift back. The sanitation of many of the small tropical towns and villages at the present day is very similar to that which existed in England a hundred years ago, and only time and much labor will bring them into line with modern sanitary ideas. As many tropical maladies

are insect-borne, study of the habits of the insects concerned is essential, and engineering works, large and small, may be required to abolish their different breeding grounds. The importance of collective investigation and organized campaigns in such a task is manifest, and it is here that the great value of the efforts of the International Health Board lies. The report describes fully the means adopted in the fight against ankylostomiasis. Of great interest also is the work of the commission appointed by the board to inquire into the problem of yellow fever centers in South America. The report states that the only endemic center of the disease in South America at present is Guayaquil, Ecuador, though certain sections of Colombia, Venezuela, and the adjacent West Indian Islands are also under suspicion and require close observation. The eradication of the disease, with this knowledge as a guide, is feasible. The report suggests that Mexico and West Africa should similarly be examined. Experiments upon the control of malaria have also been commenced, and these will be extended in due course. Further, a new school of hygiene and public health has been established in Baltimore by the Rockefeller Foundation in connection with the Johns Hopkins University, and is to be opened this month with Dr. William H. Welch as director. Three main purposes will be served by the new school: first, to furnish trained men on whom the board may draw; secondly, to serve as a training center to which students from other countries may be sent for instruction; and, thirdly, to provide a laboratory for solving scientific problems which arise. This Rockefeller Foundation is a splendid conception. Untrammelled by questions of expense, its activities are unlimited, and the benefits it can and will bestow upon mankind in the tropics are inestimable. It is a dream the original workers in tropical medicine often dreamed, and it has come true. Finally, a word of congratulation is due to Dr. Wickliffe Rose, its able director-general, for the work he has already accomplished. Long may he continue to direct its energies.—*British Medical Journal*.

¹ N. Goormaghtigh, *Arch. méd. Belges*, Paris, 1917. Tome LXX., p. 697.