BRITISH RHEUMATIC ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT, 1951-1952

The Fifth Annual Report of this organization, which has just appeared, records steady progress and much important achievement in the direction of arousing the interest of the public in the campaign against the rheumatic diseases. There is undoubtedly a very great field for lay help in correcting popular errors, in making known the importance of early

treatment, and in providing aid for the handicapped chronic sufferers, home treatment under medical supervision, and rehabilitation. The Report furnishes much useful information of the work of the Association and deserves a wide circulation. Fuller information can be obtained from the Secretary at 5 Tite Street, London, S.W.3.

DANISH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AGAINST THE RHEUMATIC DISEASES

ANNUAL REPORT, 1951-1952

News of the further progress of the Association is contained in this report. Much of its activity consisted in paying for the treatment of impecunious patients at a number of establishments and 11,867 sick-days were financed. An Operative Committee has been formed for the building of curative establishments. A nursing and recreation home under construction at Middelfart will be the second such institution, so that the Association will have financed 50 beds from its funds. A physiotherapist is employed at Aalborg in co-operation with the Danish Association against Poliomyelitis and there are plans for the extension of this scheme to two other districts. There are now 160,000 members of the Association and the dissemination of information on the rheumatic diseases has been pushed forward by the circulation of printed matter and by lectures.

Research funds are controlled by a Committee, which during the last years has considered 253 applications for grants and has co-ordinated work done on the subject. Certain special laboratories covering various aspects of the basic scientific study of this group of diseases receive financial support from the Association. The work is collated by the Research Committee, and a large number of original papers have been published. In the hospital departments the main line of research has been in the study of cortisone and ACTH and many valuable observations have been made.

The report ends with an appeal for financial support for this excellent work which has now been gaining in momentum for some 13 years.

OSWALD SAVAGE.

CANADIAN ARTHRITIS AND RHEUMATISM SOCIETY

Since its foundation in 1948, the Society has made remarkable progress. There are now thirty fully organized out-patient arthritis clinics, and 44 mobile physiotherapy units. Twelve university scientific departments are participating in arthritis research, and 24 young physicians have been enabled to undertake specialist post-graduate studies mainly in the U.S.A. and Great Britain. Most of these fellowship holders have now returned to teaching and other appointments at leading general hospitals. During 1953 a

series of intensive propaganda campaigns has been planned in the eight provincial divisions. It is hoped to bring in not only more contributions but also more voluntary workers to enable the society to carry out the wide scheme of remedial treatment and rehabilitation which has been so successfully inaugurated. The chairman of the National Board of Directors has recently stated that the number of mobile units should be at least doubled, and the available beds for arthritis cases substantially increased.