

## REVIEWS.

### **Leprosy in India.** Vol. XVI, No. 1, January, 1944.

*Wallace Crawford* reports the results of an inquiry through correspondence with medical missionaries regarding the incidence of leprosy in West China. He concluded that all tribes are equally affected irrespective of altitude or climate and he agrees with Maxwell that the disease is a rural one, for most of the cases seen in towns originated in the country.

*D. N. Bose* writes on the treatment of leprosy complicated by syphilis in the Asansol Mining Settlement, where 16 per cent. to 20 per cent. of the leprosy cases are complicated by that disease. Arsenical preparations are too expensive for use there and Avenyl (B.W. & Co.), was not effective, so he advises 3 per cent. suspensions in 4 per cent. creosoted hydnocarpus oil of bismuth salicylate, or bismuth oxysalicylate, mixed in a mortar and sterilised on an oil bath at 130° C. for half an hour. Doses of  $\frac{1}{2}$  c.c., increased by  $\frac{1}{2}$  c.c. at a time up to a maximum of 4 c.c., are injected intramuscularly. Twelve cases with positive

Khan tests are reported, in ten of these the reaction became negative and in the other two it was reduced in degree.

*V. P. Alexander* gives the following advice on the treatment of neural leprosy. The administration orally of 1 to 2 oz. daily of wheatgerm flour, or Bemax, and of 1 to 3 oz. of ground nuts. For pains he injects 1 to 2 c.c. of a 25 per cent. solution of magnesium sulphate solution into the nerve sheath, or 2 to 5 c.c. or more around a nerve. For neuritis due to leprosy reactions he injects intravenously 60 grains of sodium bicarbonate dissolved in 500 c.c. of sterile saline.

**Leprosy in India.** Vol. XVI, No. 2. April, 1944.

Dharmendra and I. Santra write on the use of iodised hydnocarpus oil in place of the creosoted oil, the antiseptic of which is now difficult to obtain in India. The former is prepared by mixing "a small amount" of powdered iodine with hydnocarpus oil and heating the mixture on an oil bath gradually to 120° C. and then to 140° C. for thirty minutes. The method is based on that of Cole in the Philippine Islands, who added 7½ grammes of iodine to fifteen litres of purified esters. It has been given in doses of 2 to 5, or even 10 c.c. by subcutaneous, intramuscular and intradermal injection without trouble.

Dharmendra reports a trial of Berny and Mauze's intradermal reaction in leprosy with alcoholic extracts of the urines of cases, but was unable to confirm their positive results.