PREVENTION OF SEPSIS IN HANDS AFFECTED BY LEPROSY

A. S. GARRETT

Area Superintendent, Onitsha Province, East Nigeria

The majority of serious septic troubles in the hands and feet in leprosy usually start as trival injuries.

As a method of combatting these in their earliest stages, I thought of issuing to those with trophic changes something in the nature of an "Iodine pencil," but using a more modern antiseptic.

Messrs. Ciba kindly let me have a sample of their plastic nose-sprays together with some "Bradosol" as the antiseptic. I have issued about 40 to patients with a tendency to trophic lesions at a time of year (the beginning of the farming season) when injuries are most common. All patients had recent evidence of injuries which would benefit by prompt attention.

There has been a noticeable absence of sepsis in all these patients and they unitedly say that small injuries heal quicker than they did previously.