

3. Dr. A. S. Garrett, Area Superintendent, Onitsha Area, Oji River, Nigeria, writes referring to the article by J. Dreisbach and R. G. Cochrane in *Leprosy Review* of July, 1958, on the subject of Streptohydrazid in lepromatous leprosy as follows:

“By additions and subtractions I find that at the end of 2½ years 62% of patients were not improved with Streptohydrazid alone. When Sulphetrone was added, 48.2% of cases were not improved. With Dapsone (DDS) alone this figure would be in the region of 2%, and with DPT to cover the gaps, much less than 1%. Streptohydrazid is very expensive. I presume that this article is to show that it is of no value in the treatment of leprosy. Perhaps it would be better to state it clearly.”

(As Dr. Cochrane was available in London he was asked to comment on the letter of Dr. Garrett.)

Dr. R. G. Cochrane comments as follows:

“The only fair conclusion from our study of streptohydrazid was not that it was entirely useless in anti-leprosy chemotherapy but, in combination with sulphone therapy in the shape of a 50% solution of sulphetrone by injection, was of definite value in clearing nasal and mucosal lesions and of value in cases which had shown intolerance

to DDS. Such information should not be despised, even though since the article was written there has been news of drugs which promise to be superior to DDS. The superiority of DDS to streptohydrazid alone or to the combination of streptohydrazid with DDS was clear enough from the article and hardly needs to be underlined.”