

## News and Notes

### INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF LEPROLOGISTS SEMINAR ON LEPROSY 1974

Dr R. Ganapati, Organizing Secretary of the 1974 Seminar organized by the Indian Association of Leprologists has kindly sent the following report on the Seminar.

A two day Seminar was held in Bombay under the joint auspices of the Indian Association of Leprologists and Acworth Leprosy Hospital Society for Research, Rehabilitation and Education in Leprosy on 29th and 30th November 1974. The Seminar was inaugurated by Mr B. K. Boman Behram, Mayor of Bombay, who observed that the magnitude of the problem of leprosy warrants measures to be taken on a war footing.

The first day's proceedings centred round the main theme of the Seminar, namely, "Urban Leprosy Control". It was unique that leading experts in the field assembled for the first time to discuss leprosy as a problem affecting the cities, and that the venue for their deliberations was the "*Urbs prima in India*", where the disease is rampant.

Several interesting papers relating to case detection, case-holding, health education, social aspects and rehabilitation with special reference to urban conditions were presented. It was felt that (i) the high prevalence revealed through surveys of slums and school population; (ii) the alarming drop out rate especially of infectious cases; (iii) increasing debilitation of patients working in industries; (iv) the problem posed by beggars and (v) the ignorance prevailing in urban society about the facts of leprosy etc. all called for specific guidelines giving priority to urban leprosy work. A panel of experts was formed at the Seminar to recommend such guidelines after studying the problem in detail.

On the second day, the clinical, therapeutic and laboratory aspects of the disease were discussed. There was a guest lecture on "Modern Concepts on Classification of Leprosy" by Dr D. S. Ridley, Pathologist, Hospital for Tropical Diseases, London. The Seminar concluded after a panel discussion by experts in the field for the benefit of general practitioners and medical students. Dr C. K. Job was the moderator for the panel discussion.

One hundred and sixty seven delegates from all over India, including a few from abroad attended the Seminar. A Souvenir and a brochure consisting of several articles of interest have been published in commemoration of the Seminar. The brochure also contains abstracts of the papers presented and an account of the proceedings of the Symposium held on 28th February 1973 by the Acworth Leprosy Hospital Society for Research, Rehabilitation and Education in Leprosy to mark the centenary of the discovery of *Mycobacterium leprae*.

### LEPRA FILM WINS AWARD

The new LEPRO film "LEPROSY" has won a Silver Award in the Film Competition of 1974 organized by the British Medical Association. Many medical films of high quality were presented at this Competition, and we offer our congratulations to all concerned for this splendid result.

### ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY EXHIBITION; 1974/75 MICROGRAPH COMPETITION

Mr Colin Surman of the Photographic Section in the Department of Human Anatomy in Oxford was recently awarded a prize by the RMS for his colour micrograph of crystals of B663 (Lamprene; clofazimine). These were photographed against dark field illumination on a Leitz Orthoplan, using Kodak 2483 film, 35 mm, as a preliminary to studies on the remarkable accumulation of this drug in the cytoplasm of macrophages in the living animal. Professor A. G. M. Weddell and his associates wish to record their gratitude to LEPRO for continuing support in these and other studies in leprosy.

### SPARE COPIES OF *LEPROSY REVIEW*

An inquiry has been received from Agents for a University library regarding *Leprosy Review* Vol. 24 Nos. 3 and 4, and Title pages and Indexes to Vols 22, 23, 25, 28, 29. These are all out of print with Academic Press Inc. (London) Ltd., who hold all stocks of earlier Numbers of the Review. If any subscriber would be willing to dispose of spare copies of the above, it would be appreciated if he would communicate with Antiquariat Periodicals Ltd., 403, Croydon Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 3PR.

### ERRATUM

It is regretted that in the Original Article entitled "The Pharmacology of Sulphetrone and its Implications in Sulphone Resistance", by R. H. Gelber, H. C. Goori, M. F. R. Waters and R. J. W. Rees, *Leprosy Review* Vol. 45 No 4, 308-312, an important error occurs in the published version. The abbreviation mg/ml wherever it occurs on pages 309, 310 and 311 is incorrect and should be read as ng/ml. Apologies are offered to the authors.

Readers unfamiliar with the abbreviation ng may like to know that it stands for a nanogram, which is equal to one thousandth of a microgram ( $\mu\text{g}$ ), or one millionth of a milligram (mg).