

TREATMENT OF LEPRA REACTION; CORRECTION

TO THE EDITOR:

Having been asked to review Dr. R. C. Germond's paper on "Treatment of lepra reaction and lepomatous ulcers by antimony and the arsphenamides," which appeared in the first issue of THE

JOURNAL for 1940, pp. 29-39, I was struck by the absence of any reference to the arsphenamides in the article itself. Aside from tartar emetic, the author reports having used both "prontosil" and "soluseptasine," which are derivatives of sulfanilamide. The latter is, according to information obtainable, benzyl-amino-benzene-sulfanilamide. Neither of the substances particularly mentioned contains any arsenic, and hence they are not arsphenamides.

It may be that the author intended to publish in a later report his experiences with such drugs, but there is no indication to this effect. Before reviewing the article and pointing out the obvious discrepancy between its title and its actual subject matter, I would inquire whether the misleading title was chosen by mistake or another report is to follow dealing with the use of the arsphenamides proper.

Manila, Philippines

C. M. HASSELMANN

*This communication was referred to Dr. Germond, who replied directly to the inquirer, providing a copy of his letter for publication.*

Dear Sir:

I am extremely thankful to you for drawing my attention to the discrepancy between the title of my recent paper and its contents. This is purely and simply an error, and a most unfortunate one, as it is not one that will inspire confidence in the value of the observations. What I meant to write was not arsphenamides but sulphonamides or sulfanilamide. I am glad of this opportunity to correct the error, and shall be most grateful if you can make the necessary correction in your review of the paper.

Mokhotlong, Basutoland

R. G. GERMOND