

## REVIEWS ON LEPROSY

Anyone who visits many leprosy institutions away from the main centers—as most of them are—will be struck unavoidably by the extreme paucity of medical literature available to the workers in most of them. Their means of keeping in touch with current progress is highly unsatisfactory, which is the principal *raison d'être* of the JOURNAL. To obtain a comprehensive idea of what has been thought and done in the past is much more difficult.

There is no work in the English language which covers this field; the most recent book on leprosy, the monumental compilation of Klingmüller, is in the German language and is expensive. Under the circumstances it is hardly surprising that not a few who deal with leprosy are of limited horizon with respect to it, tend to accept uncritically the views of some one or another individual or group, and perhaps lack the background to appreciate peculiarities of the disease under their eyes.

To meet this lack it is planned to publish in the Journal a series of reviews of different phases of leprosy, to be prepared by a number of writers who have done special work in the respective fields. It is expected that each of the articles will review at least the more important and recent literature dealing with its subject, and will treat the matter more or less critically. Such a series, taken together, should not only supply a comprehensive background of information but, being written by a number of men, should afford an insight into various viewpoints and bring out many moot points, thus stimulating and to some extent guiding future studies.

It is hoped that after the publication of these reviews in the Journal they may be revised and brought up to date by their authors, and published as a separate volume—a symposium or handbook on leprosy. Such a work will require time and much labor to prepare, but it should be a permanent and valuable contribution to the literature.

Members of the General Council of the Association and others have warmly encouraged this plan. They have been consulted freely concerning the list of topics which should be treated and the men who should be invited to prepare the articles. It has been the

purpose to make the representation of writers international and not confined to any one group or school of thought. The list below gives the topics of the articles planned and the persons who have been invited to prepare them.

## TOPICS AND AUTHORS

1. *History and Distribution*—Sir Leonard Rogers (London).
2. *Bacteriology*—(A) Morphology, etc., Dr. O. E. Denney (Carville, Louisiana).  
(B) Pathogenicity, Dr. H. C. de Souza-Araujo (Rio de Janeiro).  
(C) Cultivation, etc., Dr. E. B. McKinley (Washington).
3. *Pathology*—Dr. H. W. Wade (Culion) and Paul Unna, Jr. (Hamburg).
4. *Immunology*—(Not definitely arranged).
5. *Clinical Manifestations*—(A) General, Dr. C. B. Lara (Culion).  
(B) Special Regional, authors to be determined. (Note—Because of the marked differences in leprosy as seen in different regions it is planned to request other writers, after the main article is prepared, to write brief statements of special features as seen in their regions.)
6. *Treatment*—Dr. E. Muir (Calcutta).
7. *Chemistry of Leprosy Drugs*—H. I. Cole, Ph. D. (Culion).
8. *Pharmacology*—(Not definitely arranged).
9. *Epidemiology*—Dr. J. N. Rodriguez (Cebu, P. I.).
10. *Prophylaxis*—Dr. R. G. Cochrane (London).
11. *Rat Leprosy*—Prof. E. Marchoux (Paris).

Publication of this series will be commenced as soon as the articles are available. The order in which they will appear will depend largely upon the order in which they are received. The article on the chemistry of leprosy drugs will appear in the second issue.