BCG, by mouth weekly, most of them (35) receiving 5 doses of 100 mgm. each, the others 4 doses. Five or six weeks after the last dose they were all tested with lepromin. Of the 47 recorded after 48 hours, only 9 were positive, and in only 3 of them did the early reaction reach 10 mm. in diameter. After 25 days, 47 (96%) were Mitsuda positive, 1 being 2 and 1 negative; of the positives, 20 were 2+ and of them 9 had ulcers. These very high positive results cannot be ascribed to re inoculation of the antigen, as Tissuartwould have it, for only the one test was made.

The other table shows the results obtained in 27 children of leprous parents in a preventorium here in Goiania, of whom 22 were tested with lepromin for from 4 to 8 times (average 5.2 times), within periods ranging from 11 to 54 months (average 20.8 months), without becoming reactive to that antigen. Each was then given 3 doses of BCG, but in unusual sequence and dosage. The first dose, 200 mgm., was given in November or December 1952; the second dose, also 200 mgm., was given in March 1953; the third dose, this one of 400 or 500 mgm., was given 40 days later. The lepromin tests were made after another month. This group showed very little early reactivity—only in 2 cases, their reactions measuring 5 and 8 mm. The late reaction was now positive in 24 cases (89%), 3 remaining negative; of the positives, 7 were 2+ and of them 3 with ulceration.

EARLY EXPERIENCE WITH BCG

To The Editor:

This is in reply to your inquiry about what I have seen in the contact children whom I vaccinated with BCG.

I started this experiment in 1940 with a small group of about 20 cases, which I followed up for several years. Later, some of them moved from Rosario but the others are still under observation.

While under observation none of those children developed lepromatous leprosy. One developed typical tuberculoid lesions, and another had achromic macules of the indeterminate type. Both recovered spontaneously, without treatment.

All of these children were living with open cases. All were vaccinated once, with 0.15 cc. of BCG given intradermally at birth.

ROSAARIO, ARGENTINA

SKIN TESTING WITH LEPROSY BACILLUS SUSPENSIONS

To The Editor:

As requested, I am supplying a free translation of the summary of a report which I made at the April 1918 session of the Japanese Bacteriological Association on attempts which I had made to cultivate the leprosy bacillus, and of the results of skin tests made on leprosy patients with the supposed cultures which