

BOOK REVIEW

Memoria de la Tercera Conferencia panamericana de Leprologia. Realizada en Buenos Aires entre el 9 y el 15 de Diciembre 1951, con los Auspicios del Superior Gobierno de la Nación, República Argentina, 1953, 420 pp., paper.

After a considerable period of doubt as to whether the transactions of the Third Panamerican Conference on Leprology, held in Buenos Aires in December 1951, would be published or not, this first volume has been produced, printed in December 1953. News of the plans for this meeting appeared in *THE JOURNAL* in due course [19 (1951) 232 and 356], and a report of it appeared subsequently [20 (1952) 260-269], with the reports of the committee given in full.

The first 60 pages of this volume contains the information customarily given about such a gathering. The rest of the book contains 50 papers on the first four of the five official topics of the agenda. These are the ones which were made available; they are arranged by "sessions," each session devoted to a theme, and within these groups the papers are for the most part arranged in the alphabetical order of the author (or senior author). Some which were not actually read are marked "Read by title." It is said that the papers not made available to the conference secretariat or the editors were "very exceptional."

The discussions are grouped at the ends of the groups. The longest deals at some length with a paper which is not in the book; none appears after the third group, and very little after the fourth, so that the conclusion seems indicated that most of the discussions were not written up by the participants.

The published papers are distributed as follows:

Subject	Papers Read	Read by Title
Classification of subtypes	7	2
Leprosy reaction	11	2
Reversibility of the clinical forms and of the reactions to lepromin	11	2
Social assistance for the patient and his family.....	4	11

The papers on the fifth and last topic, "The present state of the antileprosy campaigns," are to be in the second volume.

Undoubtedly there is in this volume a great deal of information that would still be of much interest if it could be made readily accessible. For many there is, of course, a language difficulty. A cursory search has revealed no information as to how anyone interested may obtain a copy, but a letter to the director of the antileprosy service in Buenos Aires would presumably elicit that information. —H. W. W.

Sorai (Murine Leprosy). Department of Dermatology, University of Osaka Medical School. Edited by PROF. TADAYASU TANIMURA, 1953. It two parts: (1) Japanese text, with many illustrations, pp. 1-137; and (2) English text, without illustrations, pp. 1-58.

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Department of Dermatology of the University of Osaka Medical School—and dedicated to the late Prof. Konoshin Sakurane, who founded it in 1903, and to Prof. Yukicki Satani, the second head of the department and now the director of the Osaka National Hospital—Dr. Tanimura, the present department head, has published this monograph summarizing the studies on murine leprosy carried on in the department over a period of years. Among the Japanese leprologists Tanimura is the one who especially has been immersed, in cooperation with Dr. Nishimura, a veterinary surgeon, in studies on this infection. Tanimura has been especially interested in the histopathological aspect of the condition, and lays stress on the differences existing between the human and the murine leprosy. While he recognizes in murine leprosy in general an analogy with human leprosy,

he denies for example the affinity of murine leprosy for nervous tissue. The difference between murine leprosy and the human leprosy is, according to Tanimura, much greater than that between bovine tuberculosis and human tuberculosis. In this book is included the opinion of Nishimura that, besides the true murine leprosy there are two more kinds of infections found in rats: a pseudomurine leprosy and the mixed type. The former, i.e., the pseudomurine leprosy, is due to tubercle and other acid-fast bacilli and involves mainly the lymph nodes. The latter, i.e., the mixed type, is caused by Stefansky's bacillus together with other acid-fast bacilli, and in this type lesions can be found in the skin and/or in the lymph nodes. —K. KITAMURA

ADDENDUM. The heading of this item is based, up to an obvious point, on a translation of the title page of the book supplied by an associate of the editor. The table of contents is given in English in one of the front pages, as follows:

- I. Studies on the pathology of murine leprosy, by Tadayasu Tanimura and Shinji Nishimura.
- II. On the vole bacillus, by Tadayasu Tanimura, Shinji Nishimura and Takeo Nakamura.
- III. Our recent works on animal inoculation of leprosy, by Tadayasu Tanimura and Shinji Nishimura.
- IV. Experimental study on the chemotherapy of leprosy. Part I. Efficacy of the drugs upon murine leprosy by Tadayasu Tanimura and Shinji Nishimura.
- V. Idem. Part 2. Study on chemical agents and the conditions which may influence their efficacy, by Tadayasu Tanimura, Shinji Nishimura and Michiyuki Kono.

First and last, numerous photographs and photomicrographs are reproduced in this section. The legends are all in Japanese, but the significance of many of the pictures is evident. At the end there is an extensive list of references, 310 in number, of which about 90 are to non-Japanese literature, and following that is another list of 71 references to publications from the Department of Dermatology.

The second, English section of this book, the pages numbered anew (1-58), obviously summarizes what is in the main part section. The titles of the five chapters are identical with those given above. The first and third of these chapters were published in *THE JOURNAL* [20 (1952) 83-94 and 21 (1953) 335-346]. The second, fourth and fifth have appeared in the *Med. J. Osaka Univ.* [3 (1952) 373-381; (1953) 675-684, and 685-694].

This little book obviously represents a great deal of experimental work done over a long period of time. —H. W. W.