

The last paragraph of the preceding note, with its suggestion that the subject of lepra reaction—at least the nomenclature of the various forms

³ DAVISON, A. R. Clinical evaluation of isonicotinic acid hydrazide as an adjuvant in the treatment of lepromatous leprosy; with a note on the detrimental effect of erythema nodosum leprosum reactions. *Internat. J. Leprosy* **24** (1956) 393-401.

⁴ DAVISON, A. R. and KOOLJ, R. Is erythema nodosum leprosum a favorable occurrence? *Internat. J. Leprosy* **25** (1957) 91-98.

⁵ WADE, H. W. A tuberculoid-like reaction in lepromatous leprosy; a reactional reversal phenomenon. *Internat. J. Leprosy* **23** (1955) 443-446 (editorial). This is the condition which, as has been noted, Tajiri and other Japanese—somewhat confusingly—call the “acute infiltration” reaction, and which Lauro de Souza Lima has called a “pseudo-exacerbation.”

of reactions—might be a proper subject for special consideration at the New Delhi Congress, has been submitted to several of our correspondents and contributors for comment. The first answer received, from Dr. C. B. Lara whose office is but a few steps from ours, reads as follows:

The variety of ideas concerning benefits or absence of benefits from reactions in lepromatous leprosy is not surprising. Personally, I think that the situation arises mainly from the very imperfect state of knowledge regarding not only their causation and mechanism but even observational details as regards the associated clinical, immunologic and histologic features.

It seems to me, therefore, that it should be profitable and productive of fruitful discussion to suggest to interested workers that they might review and reappraise their experiences, preferably to reverify their ideas or put them to test; consider especially the influence of the possible simultaneous existence of different histologic features in certain cases undergoing reactional episodes; in short, to include in such studies a more adequate consideration not only of the clinical and bacteriologic aspects but also of the histologic and immunologic characteristics of the cases.

At the time of writing it is so late that no special plans can be made for the consideration at New Delhi of the subject of reactions in leprosy, nomenclature or nature. However, it can be said with some degree of confidence that the Congress authorities will give thought to how any proffered papers on the subject can best be utilized to initiate a serious discussion of the matter. It may well be that no decisions could be arrived at there, but at least emphasis would be given to the subject for thorough consideration at the next congress, to be held in 1963.

—H. W. W.