

TO THE EDITOR:

In the first issue of THE JOURNAL for last year [**26** (1958) 92] there appeared an abstract of a paper by Mason and Bergel based on a summary which appeared in the *Federation Proceedings*, which a correspondent had supplied you. The abstract as published was not a verbatim copy of the one on which it was based, for the latter contained a reference to my first article on the subject, which appeared in the *Revista médica de Rosario* **41** (1951) 191-205. That reference, which was eliminated, is important to me, because that was the first paper of my study of the relationship between leprosy and vitamin E. That paper bore the following title: El síndrome de carencia de tocoferoles y las dietas pro-oxidantes considerados desde el punto de vista de la

infección lepromatosa. [The avitaminosis E syndrome and oxidizing diets considered from the point of view of the lepromatous infection.] It will be appreciated if you will publish the following abstract, which appeared in *Excerpta Médica* (Dermatology) 6 (1952) 528:

A review of the literature concerning the part played by the tocopherols in organic processes. The shortage of this vitamin produces a characteristic picture, like that of lepra lepromatosa; besides, certain anti-oxygens, such as nordihydroguaiaretic acid, which counteracts the symptoms of shortage of tocopherols, have an evident anti-leprous action. Some conclusions concerning the treatment of Hansen's infection may be deduced from these considerations.

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