

TO THE EDITOR:

In the abstract section of the fourth issue of *THE JOURNAL* last year (Vol. 28, p. 493) appeared the title: "De Souza-Araujo, H. C. The morphology of *Mycobacterium leprae*. *Leprosy Review* **30** (1959) 80-84." The abstract begins, "This article is a repetition, with extension in the form of numerous good electron micrographs of bacilli, of one on findings in phase and electron microscopy published twice after the Madrid (1953) congress." Please correct this statement.

1) This article was not a repetition. The paper that I presented at the Madrid Congress (see *Memoria*, pp. 843-47) is completely different by title (Morfologia do *Mycobacterium leprae hominis* e do *M. leprae muris*. Estudo baseado na microscopia electronica e de contraste de fases), by the literature reviewed, by the origin of the materials studied, and by the illustrations. In the introduction of the paper referred to above I said, "This paper is a confirmation of that presented to the VI International Congress of Leprology in October, 1953" . . . confirmation of the findings, but the paper is quite new, in the kind of human material used (ENL juice), the method, the literature quoted, and out of 31 illustrations 28 are completely new.

2) "*Published twice.*" The paper presented in Madrid was reprinted in the *Memorias Inst. Oswaldo Cruz* **53** (1955) 389-96, with an abstract in English, in order to get reprints for distribution because the paper brought to light many new features of interest.

In conclusion, the abstracted paper is not a *repetition* and was not published *twice*. It is quite original.

Instituto Oswaldo Cruz
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

H. C. DE SOUZA-ARAÚJO