bacilli. It is now well known that tubercle bacilli in India are much less virulent than tubercle bacilli in Great Britain.

Leprosy is a fascinating disease. It presents several unsolved problems and therefore offers a great challenge to the medical scientist.

Dr. Binford. Thank you very much, Dr. Job, for this brief but compact story of the pathology of leprosy. We have to apologize for giving you such a large assignment for 20 minutes, but you accomplished it well and I am sure that those of the audience who have not had the privilege of studying this disease gained much by it.

Cultivation of M. leprae
(Cont'd)

Chairman: R. J. W. Rees

Dr. Binford. Dr. Rees will now take the chair. You do not need any introduction to him. He has been with us at our previous meetings and is well known to all of you who are working with mycobacterial diseases. He comes from the National Institute for Medical Research at Mill Hill in London.

Dr. Rees. We are beginning another section on the cultivation problems with M. leprae, and are now getting deeper into the subject. It is a particularly great honor for me to introduce the first speaker, Dr. Charles C. Shepard. He truly has contributed more significantly than anyone else to advancement in the scientific field of leprosy, since Hansen first recognized the leprosy bacillus, by demonstrating to the world that M. leprae can be cultivated in the foot pad of mice. Many of us now are following in Dr. Shepard's footsteps.

Dr. Shepard is Chief of the Special Projects Unit, Virology Section, Communicable Disease Center, United States Public Health Service, Atlanta, Georgia. His subject is "Stability of Mycobacterium leprae and temperature optimum for growth."

Stability of Mycobacterium leprae and Temperature Optimum for Growth

Charles C. Shepard, M.D.

Two general areas will be discussed that need to be considered in attempts to cultivate Mycobacterium leprae: first, the stability of M. leprae at different temperatures, and second the temperature optimum of its growth.

The stability of the organism is a matter of special concern in leprosy research. Many of the research laboratories are located far from the sources of supply in the important leprosy endemic areas, so that clinical material must be shipped long distances at considerable trouble.

In the results to be described, viability was tested by the ability of M. leprae to multiply in mice. Such multiplication is,