B663 Historical Correction

TO THE EDITOR:

In the article entitled "A Century of Progress in the Therapy of Leprosy," by Drs. A. B. A. Karat and K. Ramanujam (this JOURNAL 41 [1973] 364), I read that, "the initial reports of Browne were confined to the efficacy of clofazimine in suppressing ENL reaction in lepromatous leprosy," and they refer to an article published in 1965. This statement is incorrect.

I am wondering how these authors could have overlooked the reports published three years previously by Browne and Hogerzeil entitled: a) "B663" in the treatment of leprosy. Preliminary report of a pilot trial. Lepr. Rev. 33 (1962) 6; and b) "B663" in the treatment of leprosy—supplementary report of the pilot trial. Lepr. Rev. 33 (1962) 182.

-Stanley G. Browne

The Leprosy Study Centre 57a Wimpole Street London, W1M 7DF Reply: Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter to the editor of the Journal regarding the review article that we wrote on the progress in therapy of leprosy. I am myself amazed at my failure to have spotted the earlier report from you and Hogerzeil in 1962. I would like to thank you for providing the correction. I am sure that the editor would publish this to put the records straight. With kind regards.

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[Comment: To further clarify the issue we note that we too erred in a priority statement regarding this matter in a footnote (IJL 41 [1973] 385) and also under the year 1963 in the chronology printed on page 231 of the same issue. For additional comments on the earlier history of this matter the reader is referred to correspondence by Y. T. Chang in IJL 35 (1967) 78-80.—EDITOR]