Donovanosis: a spectral disease, V. R. Krishnamurthy, R.V.K. Murali and S. Radhakrishnan (Dept STD and Pathol, Thanjavur Med Col, Thanjavur) Indian J Sex Transm Dis, 1980; 1:37-38.

A cytological study conducted on 35 patients having different clinical varieties of Donovanosis showed interesting features peculiar to each clinical variety. It is hypothesized that Donovanosis is a spectral disease like Leprosy.

Role of Male Pattern Alopecia and Diffuse Alopecia on the Strength of Human Scalp Hair: A.B. Gupta, K.G. Ghosh and B. Haldar (Physics Unit, Indian Statistical Inst, Calcutta) Indian J Dermatol 1980; 25:5-9.

This paper presents the results of a study undertaken to examine if male pattern alopecia and diffuse alopecia in females have any influence on the ultimate tensile strength of human scalp hair. The normal strength of male hair of individuals of mean age 29.90 + 6.80 years has been found to be 16.42 + 1.28 kg/mm² as against 16.36 + 1.81 kg/mm² for subjects suffering from male type alopecia and having a mean age 28.80 +8.67 years. The normal strength of female hair of individu- $\overline{\text{als}}$ of mean age 23.41+5.89 years is found to be 16.83+0.72 as against 12.13 + 1.15 kg/mm² for female subjects with diffuse alopecia and with a mean age 23.91+5.43 years. The t-test shows that the strength of scalp hair in male pattern alopecia is not significantly different (p > 0.05) from that of the normal. The value corresponding to female diffuse alopecia however is very significantly (p < 0.01) lower. From the tensile strength data it appears that while diffuse alopecia is conditioned by the pathology of hair or the body, the male pattern alopecia is not conditioned by androgens, the latter is genetically predisposed.

Disseminated Zoster: Pranesh Nigam, S.G. Dayal and A.L. Dubey, V.D. and Lepr Sect, M.L.B. Med Col, Jhansi, India, J Dermatol (Tokyo), 1980; 7:443-447.

Chicken pox and herpes zoster are different manifestations of infection by the same viral agent, but the simultaneous occurrence of both in the same patient is uncommon. In this communication we present seven cases of concurrent herpes zoster and chicken pox. Adults were frequently involved, with a male to female ratio of 2.5:1. Varicelliform eruptions followed unilateral herpetic attacks within a 5-8 day interval. Miliary tuberculosis was associated in two cases and cervical tuberculous lymphadenitis in one case. Fever and pain (localised to affected areas) appeared 5-7 days before (5 cases) or

(Contd...250)