(4) Suppositories containing different mixtures of chloramphenicol plus sulphonamides, tetracycline, and aminopyrine, as well as other components, were sold in 4 other cases, the suggested duration of treatment ranging from one and a half to three days. In one of these cases oral ampicillin, 750 mg. per day, was also prescribed for three and a half days.

(5) In 1 of the remaining 3 cases oral ampicillin was dis-

pensed (750 mg, per day for three and a half days) and in the other 2 tetracycline phosphate complex was given to be taken orally at a dose of 375 mg. daily for two days.

The results of these experiments hardly need any comment. However, we cannot refrain from specifically mentioning the irrationality of the mixtures dispensed, and the presence in them of potentially dangerous drugs, such as chloramphenicol, aminopyrine, and phenylbutazone, to mention only a few. Moreover, the insufficiency of the doses and the short duration of the treatment, as well as the inadequacy of the route of administration, could bring only little therapeutic benefit, while the danger of serious side-effects remained. Finally, the fact that all these remedies were unrestrictedly sold, while almost two-thirds of them carried a "dispensed by prescription" sign, deserves consideration.

Facultad de Medicina, Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona, Avda San Antonio Mª Claret 167, Barcelona 13, Spain.

S. ERILL P. Du Souich

J. A. GARCIA-SEVILLA.