white. The speculation lacks support, but certainly the disease was a painful blow to Miriam. The punishment is reduced to a seven day isolation after Moses' intercession.

What should be done in disciplining a similar offender in this age? It would seem to depend on how far the poison has spread. If the insurrection has been discovered in its beginning stages it should be dealt with within the circle of those affected in the spirit of Matthew 18. If it has been an inter-team matter, it could be dealt with at a team meeting. The offenders should be confronted and dealt with according to the attitude they evidence. If repentent, a rebuke may be sufficient punishment. The unrepentent should be suspended from duties and isolated from other team members. Dismissal from the position may be necessary for those who persist.

In Num. 12:11 Aaron interceded for his fellow worker before Moses, "Please, my Lord, do not hold against us the sin we have so foolishly committed." Aaron's words give evidence of the repentent spirit of the two. Aaron does not defend Miriam's action or his own compliance, but rather owns up to their sin and confesses what a senseless deed it was.

Here again, can be seen the importance of an open discussion of the matter. The parties involved talked it over freely and thereby clarified the situation.

Too often, this is not the picture in team work today. One of the chief causes of deepening conflict seen in our survey is the lack of adequate meaningful communication. Small problems are allowed

199