This patient has a sinus draining from both the dorsal and volar aspect of the thumb. He squeezed pus out from the lesions directly onto a Lowenstein-Jensen medium, on which *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* was isolated (a smear examination for acid-fast bacilli was negative).
This patient had tuberculosis of the ankle. The bacteriologic diagnosis was made by demonstrating acid-fast bacilli from the visible secretions draining from a sinus.
The patient did not only have tuberculosis of the ankle, he also had peripheral lymphatic tuberculosis, tuberculous mastitis (exceedingly rare in men), pleural thickening from past pleural tuberculosis, multiple abscesses, and had been operated for a presumable tuberculous epididymitis. While such multi-system disease in a young man should pose little difficulties in making the diagnosis of tuberculosis, it had not been taken into consideration for a prolonged period of time.