

1967, JULY - CDC - San Louise

I needn't tell you what a pleasure it is for me to return to the city & institution which the Hendersons call home. I feel as tho I had been away for a very long time indeed and yet it is only 9 months, one gestation period - I am pleased to report, however, that there are no additional Swiss Henderson children and only one additional Swiss cat plus a small pug program in its birth gangs.

One's vantage point on the world necessarily changes as an international civil servant, altho the same <sup>I am aware myself</sup> Purkinian laws apply. One <sup>receives</sup> <sup>somewhat</sup> more frank accounts, I suppose, from <sup>colleagues</sup> visiting this area for the first time - 2 things are mentioned frequently: <sup>the result of a + tech. visit</sup> 1. The magnitude of life in the setting.

2. The inexcusable administration with its open and closed compartments - which I haven't even got where one is allowed to say, on leaving a store. Arboviro, mori, most modern - there is the contrast) A sometimes incomprehensible accent punctuated by the yell hurray - - -

① The inexplicably non-alcoholic desert across the street - for which we were prepared.

The contrast between ~~the present~~ responsibilities and interests is necessarily an acute contrast with my past contrasting work where economic & broader interest is secondary.

The similarities:

Int'l. at  
The culture.

To those of you who have not visited W.Ho., I might dilate a moment to say a word or two about it. We do not the expensed housed in a magnificent & nearly white (and already too small) 8 story building set on a rise of land. From our offices we directly overlook the city.

Canada, I might note, we have found very much to our liking. Clearly it is one of the most beautiful cities, I know, bedecked with flowers, situated on Lake Ontario, the largest inland lake in Europe.

It stands <sup>surprisingly</sup> between the Alps and the Great Mountains. Our first winter, we found to be milder than in Atlanta.

and the <sup>a vast variety of other</sup> ~~is~~ a bit cooler. For a city of only 300,000, it <sup>is complete with</sup> a large variety of museums, opera throughout the winter, and ~~other~~ events - unfortunately, no professional football. I am happy to note that ~~the~~ that the family is doing very well in French with the exception of the father whose French consists of ~~more~~ <sup>little</sup> more than a 100 nouns and perhaps two verbs, present tense. The problem is, of course, need and, in the

Smallpox Unit, English is clearly our best common denominator. Our professional staff consists of one other American, a Japanese, a Russian, a Hebrew, a Pole <sup>(Vit.)</sup>, 3 English secretaries and 1 Scottish secretary.

Smallpox eradication had its <sup>nascent</sup> beginning in the Americas - PASTO, 1950. By 1958, all countries free except Brazil / Colombia <sup>including</sup> the continuing problem of smallpox to all the countries and the mid east masses achieved led the Soviet Union <sup>in 1958</sup> to propose a global scheme for SE. Unanimously passed by Assembly - financing, voluntary.

The disease remains a problem for all countries @ question.

Map shows problem today.

3 major geographic areas. - rates higher in Africa.

Turn to the Development of the Program to date

### Response to date to my questions

What have we done? What are we doing? Where are the problems?

Given  $\$ 2.5 \times 10^6$  for the world - ~~USA~~ doesn't go too far.

U.S. came thru with virtually total assistance to 19 W + C. African countries.

~~U.S.~~ - glycoated + freeze-dried - est. finely no use of glycoated vaccine

need for 200,000,000 doses per yr. - @ 1<sup>st</sup>/dose, this would be our budget.

Therefore - policy of as you can. Effort to build up labs. and to obtain donations.

a) Soviet Union 100,000,000/l.yr. to India +  $\$ \times 10^6$  are 3 yrs to Avg.

b) Other countries - Netherlands, Yugoslavia, Algeria, Tunisia, Hungary, Sweden, Switzerland, U.A.R. & others have come thru. For MP use, we now

c) are assured of a supply for at least the next 2 yrs.

d) Conscript & provide

e) Contract w European lab.

f) Vaccine producers conference.

g) Studies of different strains - U.S.P. -

production potential - Netherlands

very little - 5 extasis

h) Bilateral assistance beyond USA - Wyo. - expensive - now working out cheap

i) Methods to be employed.

Observation that national staff and WHO - little experience re. conduct of program, surveillance etc. - development of manual (hold up).

April convened <sup>only</sup> Regt Adv. from the 5 WHO Regional Offices to discuss this in draft form. Hoping thereby to get some sort of coherent policy and direction. New objectives for the Org. WHO - U.S.A.

Scientific group - to consider Manual and policies.

j) Necessary to get programs underway - to this end, need staff & money, countries.

Refer to map - ~~all~~ AMRO - 5 yr. program for conduct.

in Africa - except Ethiopia, Somalia, Rwanda, Uganda.

in ~~Africa~~ - except W. Pakistan + Indonesia.

in remaining countries - 1968.

Consideration in the Reg Conference - Dec in Bangkok for Asia

Not yet in Thailand for Eastern Asia.

$2.5 \times 10^6$   
like US - most the  
money during 1967

## ~~Priority~~

### ① Coordination + Reporting

Conferences - Bangkok - ~~Dec.~~ for Asia

Kisumu - next year for Eastern Africa.

Surveillance reports - 1st hopefully in mid-Sept.

### ② Non-endemic areas - San. Vaccin reserve -

Story of Oman -

Vaccine reserve in Geneva.

## ~~Problems~~

### 1. Epidemiology of smallpox [re: strategy of program]

- comparatively easy to study

Dealing with man to man transmitted disease. Subclinical cases viral load.

Question is to what level of herd immunity needed before no new cases.

Analyse problem - 2 wk. incubation period - assume most transmission during 1st week - requires one new case q 3 wks. - Thus one chain of infection in country is minimum of 17 days. Perhaps, therefore, methodology needs to be a specifically two pronged attack.

1) Raise immunity level to point where transmission is markedly suppressed.

2) Intensive, prompt vaccination and containment in areas where disease

This requires immunification and active field investigation - a real scarcity in most countries.  
~~Perhaps that is why we think a basic immune level already established~~

Can this be developed, and what are the problems - must find out.

As far as they go

### 2. Jet injectors

One developed - good, expensive (\$1100)

Dermajet being approximately pushed - 1 hr/sq m - cost \$200. Results as yet not good.

Handicapped by vaccine availability. Jet injector vaccine standards.

### 3. Animal reservoir - Y.F., Malaya - monkeys

~~Diseases~~

Disease eradicated in many areas & monkeys and has remained absent.

~~However~~ mid 80's - Malaya decided to monkeys.

now known transmission to monkeys and from one monkey to another is possible.

~ 1958 entity monkey pox described by von Magnus. Virus similar to smallpox, cross protection provided - no way to distinguish by next ATB. In monkeys appears to be subclinical infection & carrier state

Just completed a survey of major handlers. Positive seen. No evidence here or in literature of human acquisition.

Now as the group here and in Moscow, ecological studies of monkeys to find where virus and to permit more definitive studies.

#### 4. International

(After cancer research U.S. Japan anti - Dec.)

#### 4. Research ~~with~~ International Conference

Problems are many more than the few but here are the major ones. However, a start has been made and, to everyone of us, the start has been far more aggressive than anyone had any reason to hope. However, an initial attack can move quickly. We must sustain what has been started.

Quarantine + Separation

Table 1. Evident that the program overall was not proceeding spectacularly.

(Discuss) - 1967 1<sup>st</sup> 6 month - 56,775 cases. Institute - Pakistan.

Small countries quite successful -

Asia - Malaysia, Thailand, Iran, Saudi Arabia ceased reporting cases

Africa - Sudan, Algeria, I.C., Senegal and Mauritania - similarly

America - Ecuador<sup>1st 6 months</sup>, reintroduced into Peru.

Principle areas, India, Pakistan, Indonesia - ~~over~~

India/Pakistan problems. Some success but rampant.

Indonesia - nothing too at all.

The countries of Africa responded minimally to requests for assistance. Need particularly for f.d. vaccine but except for Soviet Union, Switzerland, Netherlands - nothing was forthcoming.

U.S. provided \$1 480 funds to India but otherwise nothing.

In May of last year - ~~1967~~ considered all of this & proposed to Assembly that money be appropriated for that the annual pangs resolutions of res. SE be stopped. He suggest  $\$2.5 \times 10^6$  - The U.S. and other major contributors said  $\$1.0 \times 10^6$  would be enough but the endemic countries voted them down.

In Nov. last year, an SE was established and as of 1 Jan 67, a 10 year program of SE was initiated.

Consider

The rationale of all this - why is global concern this time -

Of all diseases known to man, more concern is evidenced re: smallpox than any other. Throughout Europe + N.A., vaccination is widely practised. In fact, as many vac. are performed for smallpox as for any other disease. A bit paradoxical, isn't it? In some of these ~~countries~~ <sup>countries</sup> of cases per year for ~~all~~ <sup>over 100 years has been</sup> ~~all~~ <sup>only</sup> not more than 50 ~~in the past 8 yrs.~~

Well to recall, however, that pre-Jennerian era, in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, smallpox was widely prevalent - 95% contracted the disease; variably between 15 and 35% died. 4500 deaths/yr. occurred in the U.K. alone; at the London Asylum for the Blind, 75% of all cases were caused by smallpox.

Vaccination changed all of this but contract unlike the situation with respect to cholera, malaria, y.f., plague in which socio-economic factors play a major role in transmission, the potential with respect to smallpox transmission remained little changed. <sup>Today</sup> we <sup>now</sup> concern ourselves, however, with the threat of substantial outbreaks of these other diseases.

Potential re: severity hasn't changed. Variola major in India causes 35-40% mortality in these areas. In the UK/Sweden in 1962-1963, 40% of unvaccinated pts. died in spite of excellent care.

Reporting + improving -  
Surveillance + help

Critical mass  
Pakistan.

Remote areas

Die out -

~~Things~~

Timetable -