

Reports, News and Notes

Retirement of Dr H Sansarricq

Dr Hubert Sansarricq retired from the World Health Organization on 31 July 1984, after more than 12 years of service as Chief Medical Officer of the Leprosy Unit.

Dr Sansarricq brought to his post in WHO a wealth of experience in leprosy control and tropical medicine, acquired in the course of his career in the French army, during which he worked primarily in Francophone Africa. After taking his medical degree in Bordeaux, France, in 1954, he served in Algeria, Mali and Upper Volta. Interspersed with his tours of duty in Africa, he attended courses in microbiology in Marseilles and the Institut Pasteur in Paris. At the time of his recruitment to fill the WHO post, he was serving as Chief of the Microbiology Laboratory of the Central Army Teaching Hospital in Algiers, and as Assistant Professor of Hygiene in the Faculty of Medicine of Algiers.

Dr Sansarricq's tenure of the WHO post coincided with a period of great progress in leprosy research, particularly that related to the control of leprosy. Just prior to his assuming the post, unlimited multiplication of *Mycobacterium leprae* in the armadillo had been announced, and the first report of the extraordinary efficacy of rifampicin therapy of lepromatous leprosy had appeared. Dr Sansarricq was an active participant in the establishment of the IMMLEP programme, and the prime mover in the organization of the THELEP programme; these WHO research programmes in leprosy had been made possible by the advent of the armadillo and rifampicin. In addition to his active support at the birth of these 2 research programmes, he continued to participate and to promote their activities, and served as liaison between IMMLEP and THELEP and several voluntary agencies. Moreover, he foresaw the importance of molecular biology to leprosy research, and played a crucial part in the recruitment into leprosy research of an outstanding microbial geneticist.

In the course of his involvement in IMMLEP and THELEP, Dr Sansarricq became convinced of the seriousness of the threat of dapsone resistance to programmes of leprosy control, and of the need to develop practical regimens of combinations of effective drugs. Perhaps his most important contribution to enhancing the effectiveness of leprosy control activities, therefore, was his convening a WHO Study Group on Chemotherapy of Leprosy for Control Programmes. Numerous regimens, all different from one another, had been recommended, and Dr Sansarricq recognized the need to create order. Then, having succeeded in stimulating recommendations for practical multi-drug regimens for the control of leprosy, he devoted all of his efforts and resources to seeing to the implementation of these regimens, mobilizing support from WHO Regional Offices, voluntary agencies, and national governments.

That we have advanced so gratifyingly in our effort to control leprosy is largely the result of Dr Sansarricq's contributions. Those who were privileged to work closely with him during his tenure as Chief Medical Officer of the WHO Leprosy Unit have been encouraged by his more recent activities to hope that he will continue to lend his broad expertise and enormous dedication to this most important cause.

Sasakawa Memorial Health Foundation: English publications**A. PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS:**

- SP-1. *The 1st International Workshop on Training of Leprosy Workers in Asia—Bangkok and Pattaya, 1976*, 228 pp.
 SP-2. *The 1st International Workshop on Chemotherapy of Leprosy In Asia—Manila, 1977*, 213 pp.
 SP-3. *The 1st International Workshop on Leprosy Control in Asia—Jakarta, 1977*, 249 pp.
 SP-4. *The 2nd International Workshop on Training of Leprosy Workers in Asia—Bangkok, 1979*, 242 pp.
 SP-5. *The 2nd International Workshop on Leprosy Control in Asia—Kathmandu, 1979*, 163 pp.
 SP-6. *The 3rd International Workshop on Leprosy Control in Asia—Taipei, 1980*, 188 pp.
 SP-7. *The 3rd International Workshop on Training of Leprosy Workers in Asia—Bangkok, 1982*, 140 pp.
 SP-8. *The 4th International Workshop on Leprosy Control in Asia—Kuala-Lumpur, 1982*, 197 pp.
 SP-9. *The 5th International Workshop on Leprosy Control in Asia—Singapore, 1983*

B. PROCEEDINGS AND TEXTS OF OTHER MEETINGS (NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL):

- SPO-1. *The 1st Seminar on Leprosy Control Cooperation in Asia—Tokyo, 1974*, 118 pp.
 SPO-2. *The 2nd Seminar on Leprosy Control Cooperation in Asia—Tokyo, 1975*, 153 pp.
 SPO-3. *International Symposium on Leprosy and Joint Chemotherapy Trial Meeting—Seoul and Anyang, 1978*, 137 pp.
 SPO-4. *The 1st National Workshop on Leprosy Control—Nepal, 1979*, 96 pp.
 SPO-5. *International Symposium on the Epidemiology of Leprosy—Geilo, Norway, 1981*, published by British Leprosy Relief Association as Supplement to Leprosy Review, Vol 52, 1 Dec. 1981, 304 pp.
 SPO-6. *The 2nd National Workshop on Leprosy Control—Nepal, 1981*, 103 pp.
 SPO-7. *Symposium on Immunotherapy and Immunoprophylaxis of Leprosy (Texts) 1982*, 55 pp.
 SPO-8. *Proceedings of the Workshop on Serological Tests for Detecting Subclinical Infection in Leprosy, 1983*, 99 pp.

C. OTHERS:

- SO-1. *Sasakawa Foundation Fellowship, 1978*, 99 pp.
 SO-2. *Sasakawa Foundation Fellowship, No. 2, 1981*, 102 pp.
 SO-3. *Sasakawa Memorial Health Foundation, 1982*, 18 pp.
 SO-4. *Leprosy in Japan* by Dr F Ohtani, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Japan, 1982, 35 pp.
 SO-5. *Health for All by the Year 2000*, by Dr H T Mahler, Director-General, WHO, 1981, 12 pp.
 SO-6. *The Way toward Eradication of Hansen's Disease*, by Prof M F Lechat, President, International Leprosy Association, 1981, 14 pp.
 SO-7. *Leprosy in China*, by Dr Stanley G Browne, Secretary, International Leprosy Association, 1982, 25 pp.
 SO-8. *An Atlas of Leprosy (Philippines)*, by Dr R Guinto *et al.*, 1981.
 SO-9. *An Atlas of Leprosy (Philippines)*, by Dr R Guinto *et al.*, 1983 (revised).
 SO-10. *A Self-Instruction Module on Self-Instruction* by Dr Charles R. Auscherman & Dr W Felton Ross, 1983, 98 pp. (Offprint of SP-7.)
 SO-11. *Basic Epidemiological Indicators for Monitoring Leprosy Control* by Prof M F Lechat & Dr M Vanderverken, 1983, 24 pp. (Offprint of SP-8.)
 SO-12. *Leprosy in Global Context* by Prof Michel F Lechat, 1983, 8 pp. (Offprint of SP-9.)

(It is our understanding that these publications are intended mainly for those working in the leprosy-endemic areas in which the Sasakawa Memorial Health Foundation is particularly active, but that certain items may be available to others on application to the Sasakawa Memorial Health Foundation, the Sasakawa Hall, 6F, 3-12-12 Mita, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108, Japan. *Editor.*)

Medical Laboratory Manual for Tropical Countries; Volume 2; Microbiology; ELBS edition

This manual, written and published by Monica Cheesbrough, Tropical Health Technology Ltd, 14 Bevills Close, Doddington, Cambridgeshire, England, PE15 0TT, is now available as an ELBS edition at a cost of only £2.95, plus approximately £1.60 for surface mailing. The laboratory examination of slit-skin smears in leprosy is dealt with in detail. Details of the ELBS system were given in this Journal on page 433 of Volume 55 (Number 4, 1984).

Slide-set: Leprosy in the light-skinned

This is a colour transparency teaching set with printed text, comprising 50 slides illustrating the main aspects of leprosy in the light-skinned patient. This valuable and long-needed material has been produced by Dr D L Leiker of the Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam, the Netherlands and the set is available on application to the Regional Officer for Communicable Diseases, the World Health Organization, 8 Scherfigsvej, DK 2100, Copenhagen ø, Denmark. The main headings are: bacteriology, distribution, diagnosis, classification (includes reactions), and chemotherapy. Especially for those working in Europe or North America, this set should be of great practical value. See also *Leprosy in the light skin* an illustrated manual by D L Leiker and E Nunzi, published by Associazione Italiana 'Amici di Raoul Follereau' Via Borselli 4, 40135 Bologna, Italy (price: USA \$30.00).

Leprosy at the basic health service level

This is a manual of 76 pp in A4 format, inexpensively produced. The text in French is by Dr Guido Groenan and Dr Kayembe Tshilumba and the line drawings by an American Peace Corps Volunteer, Maria Madison. The title is descriptive and the book has been written essentially for workers at the level of 'health promoters', 'community health agents' or health 'animateurs'. However, the introduction concludes that it should be of practical value to anyone who is responsible for the distribution of medicines to leprosy patients. Part 1 covers the ten main aspects of leprosy control. Part 2 covers basic knowledge of leprosy and

includes information for the teachers of primary health care workers. Part 3 deals mainly with health education. This is a most valuable document written for leprosy workers at a level which has so far received all too little attention. It could profitably be studied and adapted for English, Spanish and Portuguese-speaking countries and for translation into local languages. Enquiries to Les Amis du Père Damien, 16 rue Stevin, 1040, Brussels, Belgium.

Behçet's Disease; International Conference in London, September, 1985

This international, multidisciplinary conference on Behçet's Disease, to be held in London, aims to discuss recent advances in the aetiology, immunology, diagnosis and treatment of this intractable disease. As the disease affects a number of tissues and organs, the object of the meeting is to bring together physicians, ophthalmologists, dermatologists, stomatologists, rheumatologists, neurologists and gastroenterologists, who have special interest in this disease.

Apply to Miss M Mitchell, Conference Office, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AE. (We print details of this conference on a disease which may not at first sight have much to do with leprosy because of the remarkable results of thalidomide in the treatment of Behçet's disease and oro-genital ulceration, confirmed from many parts of the world. The programme will also cover virology and epidemiology, and under treatment it is to be hoped that the matter of non-teratogenic analogues will be included. *Editor.*)

Robert Cochrane Fund for Leprosy

The fund, in memory of the contribution of the great leprologist Robert Cochrane, is administered by the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. It is to be used to finance up to 2 travel fellowships each year to a maximum value of £1000 each.

The intention is to enable leprosy workers to travel for practical training in field work, or in research, or to enable experienced leprologists to travel in order to provide practical clinical training in a developing country. There is no restriction on the country of origin or destination providing the above requirements are fulfilled.

Application forms are available from the Society and must be received by the Society at least 6 months ahead of the proposed trip. All applications must be sponsored by a suitable representative of the applicant's employer or study centre, and agreed by the host organization. A 2 page report on the travel/study should be submitted to the Society within 1 month of the recipient's return. Apply: The Administrator, Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Manson House, 26 Portland Place, London W1N 4EY.

XIII International Leprosy Congress, The Hague, Netherlands, 1988

The President and Secretary of the International Leprosy Association are happy to announce that the XIIIth International Leprosy Congress will be held at the Hague, Netherlands, from 11 to 17 September 1988. The Pre-Congress Workshops will be held on 8, 9 and 10 September 1988. The Inauguration of the Congress has been tentatively fixed for the evening of 11 September 1988 and the Scientific Sessions will start on 12 September. The concluding session will be on the forenoon of 17 September 1988.

Mr H E M De Bok of the Netherlands Leprosy Association is making the arrangements for the Congress and the first Information Brochure will be sent to you by September 1985.

If you have any suggestions, please contact: Dr R H Thangaraj, Secretary—ILA, No. 5 Amrita Shergill Marg, New Delhi 110003, India.

II Congress of Hansenology of the Endemic Countries, December 1985

This congress is scheduled for 3–5 December 1985 at the Baton Rouge Hilton Hotel and the National Hansen's Disease Center in Carville, Louisiana. The College of Hansenology of the Endemic Countries is an international organization of health professionals, physicians, social and paramedical workers concerned with the microbiology, immunology, experimental animal models, pathology, clinical aspects, therapy, physical and psychosocial rehabilitation, and the epidemiology of Hansen's disease. Panels, working groups, and free communications are planned, addressing these themes. One-half day will be devoted to a visit and tour of the National Hansen's Disease Center in Carville.

For further information contact: Dr R Azulay, President, College of Hansenology of the Endemic Countries, Rua Nascimento Silva, 16/201, CEI-22.421-PANEMA, Rio de Janeiro-R.J., Brasil; or Dr R Hastings, President, II Congress of Hansenology of the Endemic Countries, National Hansen's Disease Center, Carville, LA. 70721, USA.

International Symposium on Mycobacteria of Clinical Interest

Date: 27–28th September, 1985. Themes—immunopathology of leprosy and tuberculosis; modern methods for the rapid diagnosis of tuberculosis; human mycobacteriosis; therapy of leprosy and tuberculosis; experimental chemotherapy, etc.

Apply to Secretariat, International Symposium on Mycobacteria of Clinical Interest, Department of Microbiology, School of Medicine, University of Cordoba, CORDOBA-4, Spain.

XIII World Conference on Health Education, 1985

Trinity College in Dublin will be the venue for the XIIIth World Conference on Health Education which will be held 1–6 September 1985. The theme chosen is 'Health for All—Meeting the Challenge'. Five sub-themes will focus on a particular aspect of meeting the challenge of health for all: 'Have we all a choice? What are the constraints? What progress so far? Who first? Is it the same everywhere?' For information please write to Mary D'Ardis, Conference Coordinator, Health Education Bureau, 34 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2. Tel.: 76 11 16.

University of Dundee; Centre for Medical Education

For over 8 years this teaching centre has run courses for medical teachers on a variety of topics, including assessment teaching methods and curriculum planning. Those in 1984 include 'Effective Teaching in Medical Education', 'Assessment in Medical Education' and 'Curriculum Planning in Medical Education'. The duration of each is for a few days only and accommodation

can be arranged; fees are moderate. Apply (for 1985) to The Centre for Medical Education, The University, Dundee DD1 4HN (Tel: 0382-23181).

International Conference on Biomechanics and Clinical Kinesiology of Hand and Foot, Madras, 16–18 December 1985

The aims of this conference are: 1 To acquaint anatomists, biomechanical engineers, physiotherapists and surgeons, especially those involved in the care and rehabilitation of hand and foot following leprosy and trauma, with the current developments in the field of functional morphology and biomechanics of hand and foot, so that a better understanding is obtained in the management of the deformities of these organs; and 2 To identify specific areas of further research in these problems.

For further details of themes and accommodation etc. write to Dr K Mothiram Patil, Organizing Secretary, ICBACKHAF, Biomedical Engineering Division, Department of Applied Mechanics, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras-600 036, India.

XXVIth IUAT World Conference on Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, Singapore, 4–7 November 1986

The Conference is open to members and non-members of the IUAT. The programme will cover the fields of *tuberculosis* and *non-tuberculous respiratory diseases*, including smoking-related issues, from the clinical, immunological, physiological, diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive and epidemiological points of view, as well as aspects related to *action programmes* and their assessment, training of personnel, related diseases such as those due to non-tuberculous mycobacteria and problems of *delivery of services* (such as primary health care, compliance, community mobilization).

There will be 6 morning plenary sessions, afternoon parallel sessions, poster sessions, sunrise seminars and several workshops. Official languages will be English and French. Spanish interpretation is being considered.

Abstracts for proposed presentations should be sent to: IUAT Secretariat, 3, rue Georges Ville, 75116 Paris, France. Abstract forms will be distributed by the end of March 1985 to all IUAT members. Non-members may obtain copies by writing to us in Paris. *Proposals must concern original work in progress.*

The IUAT world conferences are the only international forum for tuberculosis, and in respiratory disease the IUAT is working out a programme of research, training and action for the promotion of respiratory health.

For practical information, kindly write to: Secretariat of the XXVIth IUAT World Conference on Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, c/o SATA, 267 Cantonment Road, Singapore 0208, Republic of Singapore.

Back numbers of *Leprosy Review* required

The Honorary Editor, Dr Dharmendra of the *Indian Journal of Leprosy* would very much like to hear from anyone who has the following issues of *Leprosy Review* available. This is to enable a complete library of *Leprosy Review* to be established for the use of people in India.

The issues required are: Volume 21 (1950) all issues; Volume 28 (1957) No. 2, April; Volume 29 (1958) No. 4, October.

Should you have any of these issues available it would be greatly appreciated if you would contact Dr Dharmendra at the Editorial Office of the *Indian Journal of Leprosy*, A-2/50 Safdarjang Enclave, New Delhi 110 029, India.

Video-tape: 'Chemotherapy of Leprosy for Control Programmes', Oxford

The Department of Medical Illustration in Oxford has produced a 14-minute video-tape (VHS PAL 625 system) describing recent regimens of drug treatment for leprosy, based on the Report of a WHO Study Group entitled '*Chemotherapy of Leprosy for Control Programmes*', published by WHO in Geneva in 1982 in the Technical Report Series, Number 675.

The intended audience includes—medical students, medically qualified doctors, senior personnel in ministries of health in leprosy-endemic countries, tutors and teachers in medical and para-medical schools, programme planners, leprosy control officers and supervisors, senior staff in pharmacies, drug supply and distribution.

The subject matter covers the classification of leprosy according to both Madrid and Ridley–Jopling systems; definition of pauci and multibacillary leprosy; unit dosage and regimens of dapsone, rifampicin, clofazimine and the thioamides for the treatment of both pauci and multibacillary cases. In order to ensure the safe and effective implementation of multiple drug therapy for as many patients as possible and with the minimum of delay, repeated emphasis is given to the importance of the training, retraining and supervision of the health personnel concerned.

Cost: £12 sterling (\$16 US dollars), plus Value Added Tax (VAT), but inclusive of postage. Apply directly to: Department of Medical Illustration, the John Radcliffe Hospital, Headington, Oxford OX3 9DU, England.