



The members of the Board of Trustees of the ICDDR,B and Mr. Zagorin called on President Ziaur Rahman at Bangabhaban. From left to right: Prof. A. Q. M. Badruddoza Chowdhury, Dr. O. M. Solandt, Dr. J. Holmgren, Prof. M. A. Matin, Dr. V. Ramalingaswami, Dr. J. Sufianti Saroso, Dr. C. C. J. Carpenter, President Ziaur Rahman, Prof. L. J. Mata, Dr. M. K. Were, Dr. W. Henry Mosley, Mr. M.K. Anwar, Dr. Albert Zahra, Dr. Gavin W. Jones and Mr. Bernard Zagorin

HIGH LEVEL UNESCO EXPERT TEAM VISITS ICDDR,B

A high level UNESCO Expert Team led by Dr. E. Q. Daddario, Ex-Congressman and President of the United States Association for
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SWISS SCIENTIST VISITS ICDDR,B

Dr. N. Gyr, a famous gastroenterologist of Kantonsspital, Basel, Switzerland, visited the ICDDR,B in June 1979 on behalf of the Swiss Government. He had discussions with the scientists of the ICDDR,B and was very pleased.

Dr. N. Gyr visited the various departments of the laboratory and was particularly impressed that the ICDDR,B is pursuing some research

projects in which their own institution has much interest. There are strong possibilities of scientific collaboration between the Swiss scientists and the ICDDR,B in the near future.

COMMUNITY-BASED ORAL THERAPY IN DIARRHOEA SHOWS REDUCTION IN MORTALITY

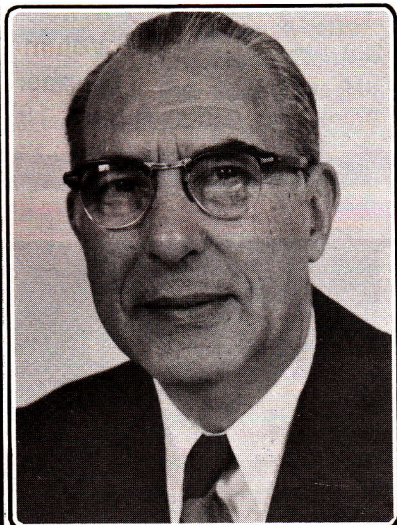
A study conducted in the Teknaf Dysentery Project of ICDDR,B indicates that the community-based oral rehydration solution brings about a reduction in mortality. To combat diarrhoeal dehydration in Shamlapur, a village of 7021 people, multiple community-based points were established by trained volunteers for the distribution of glucose-electro-

lyte oral rehydration salt (ORS) packets. The comparable adjoining village Bordil with a population of 3888, obtained its supply of ORS from Shamlapur. Surveillance carried out for a two-year period showed that while diarrhoeal attack rates were equal, in Shamlapur 80% of the population consumed ORS following diarrhoea and 38% did so in Bordil. The mortality rate was higher in Bordil than in Shamlapur. The differences were statistically highly significant. The results indicated that although it may not be possible to easily reduce diarrhoeal attack rates, easy availability of rehydration solution and its early use following village-based training may save many lives, particularly of children in the developing countries.

OBITUARY

WILLARD FOSTER VERWEY FORMER DIRECTOR OF CRL

Willard F. Verwey, Director of Cholera Research Laboratory from 1974 to 1977, died on May 17, 1979. As Director, he initiated the transition of the Laboratory into an International Centre.



He earned B.Sc. Degree in 1934 from Rutgers University and Sc.D. (1957) in Bacteriology from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene.

From 1937 to 1940 he was in the Department of Bacteriology,

New York University Medical School. From 1940 to 1956 he held the position of Director for Bacteriological Research in Medical Research Division of Sharp & Dohme Inc. In 1956 when the Institution was merged with Merck Institute for Therapeutic Research, he continued to be the Director of the Bacteriological Division in Merck Sharp & Dohme Research Laboratories. In 1957 he became Professor and Chairman of the Department of Microbiology at the University of Texas Medical Branch.

Dr. Verwey had a dynamic personality with a rare combination of professional and administrative acumen. His vision transformed the Laboratory into an International Centre. He was outstanding among scientists and proved to be an able leader. Adament to achieve his goal, he also respected other's opinions and was a patient listener. His friends and colleagues remember him as a good friend with a good sense of humour, kindness and understanding.

The staff of the ICDDR,B are saddened at the demise of Dr. Verwey. We share in bereavement with his family and friends. May God grant his soul Eternal rest in peace.

EME REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE COURSE TRAINEES VISIT ICDDR,B

The 12th group of Electro-medical Engineering (EME) Repair and Maintenance Course trainees from the Transport and Equipment Maintenance Organization (TEMO), Dacca, Bangladesh visited ICDDR,B on May 16, 1979. The aim of the visit was for them to familiarize themselves with laboratory instruments and their applications.

WHO FELLOW FROM INDIA RECEIVES TRAINING AT ICDDR,B

Dr. (Mrs.) Sarla Sharma of M.G.M. Medical College, Indore (M.P.) and a WHO Fellow from India is visiting ICDDR,B in July and August. During her stay she is receiving training in the area of microbiology of diarrhoeal diseases.

SEMINAR AT ICDDR,B

Dr. Cato Aall, former FAO/UNDP Nutrition Advisor, Dacca, Bangladesh delivered a lecture on *Effect of Feeding on Mortality* in a seminar on May 3, 1979.

Dr. Diana Riad Fahmy, Head of the Supra Regional Assay Service, Tenovas Institute for Cancer Research, Welsh National School of Medicine, U.K. presented a lecture on *Recent Developments in Hormone Assays* in a seminar on May 4, 1979.

Dr. A. R. Khan, Associate Professor of Medical Entomology, National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine, Bangladesh gave a seminar on *Disease Agents Carried by Flies in Dacca City* on May 11, 1979.

Dr. Vijoy Kochar, Senior Fellow, Department of Preventive and Social Medicine, Institute of Medical

Sciences, Indian Council for Social Sciences Research delivered a lecture on *Social Technologies for Community Based Disease Control Programmes* in a seminar on May 18, 1979.

Dr. David Nalin, Chief, Physiology Section, Center for Vaccine Development, Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A. gave a seminar on *Recent Developments in Enteric Disease Research at the Center for Vaccine Development, University of Maryland, U.S.A.* on May 28, 1979.

Dr. W. B. Greenough, III, Scientific Director, ICDDR,B presented a lecture on *Current Concepts in the Mechanism of Toxin Mediated Diarrhoea* in a seminar on June 1, 1979.

Dr. K.M.S. Aziz, Scientific Director, ICDDR,B gave a seminar on *Bio-science Research Priorities in Developing Countries* on June 8, 1979.



Dr. C. Gopalan addressing a seminar at ICDDR,B

Dr. C. Gopalan, Chairman, WHO Regional Advisory Committee on Medical Research and WHO Consultant in Public Health Nutrition, SEARO, New Delhi, India presented a lecture on *Development of an Applied Nutrition-cum-Research Programme* in a seminar on May 14, 1979.

ICDDR,B PARTICIPATION IN THE SEMINAR ON STATISTICS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. M. Shafiqul Islam of ICDDR,B presented a paper entitled *"Inter-relationships among certain socioeconomic variables in a rural population of Bangladesh"* in the Seminar on Statistics for Rural Development organized by the Institute of Statistical Research and Training, University of Dacca, June 18-20, 1979.

RECENT ICDDR,B PUBLICATIONS

1. M.R. Clients in a Village Based Family Planning Programme by *Shushum Bhatia* and *Lado T. Ruzicka*. April, 1979. (*Scientific Report No. 23*).

A study of the socio-demographic characteristics of the women opting for M.R. suggests that the introduction of M.R. services as a part of the MCH/FP programme in Matlab has not only provided women with a safe and simple solution to unwanted pregnancies, but has also been successful in educating and motivating women to prevent such pregnancies by using effective modern contraceptive methods. The M. R. clients were predominantly younger women spacing their pregnancies. They belonged to relatively better-off families. The majority did not desire any more children. Although most of them had never used contraception prior to the M. R. almost all did so following M. R., 91% were found to be continuing use of contraception at the time of the follow-up survey.

2. An areal analysis of family planning program performance in rural Bangladesh by *T. Osteria*, *S. Bhatia*, *A.S.G. Faruque*, *J. Chakraborty*. May, 1979. (*Working Paper No. 12*).

The introduction of a cadre of better educated, better trained, and better motivated field workers in the contraceptive distribution project of the Matlab field station resulted at the end of 6 months, in a higher prevalence of contraceptive use than was had with the previous cadre of workers. This paper dissects the different factors responsible for the diversity in prevalence rates among the 80 villages after the first six months and determines the extent to which these differences could be attributed to the field workers and independently, to areal characteristics. The female village workers demographic characteristics and scores in two examinations given a month apart are considered. The areal

characteristics include the percentages wanting no more children and the percentage of women who have used a contraceptive method in each of the villages. Regression analysis revealed that 33.7% of the variability in prevalence rates could be explained by the aforementioned variables jointly. The areal characteristics alone explained 30.5% of the inter-village variation in prevalence rates. The villages with large proportions wanting no more children in December 1977 exhibited high prevalence rates in March 1978.

3. The people of Teknaf: births, deaths and migrations (1976-1977) by *Mizanur Rahman*, *M. Mujibur Rahaman*, *K.M.S. Aziz*, *Yakub Patwari*, *M. H. Munshi*, *M. Shafiqul Islam*. May, 1979. (*Working Paper No. 13*).

The population composition and demographic rates in Teknaf Demographic Surveillance area along with the methodology of data collection are the subjects of this paper. The ICDDR,B has been maintaining a Demographic Surveillance System following a census of the population in December 1974 and January 1975. The paper contains i) methods and definitions used in the census and the Surveillance System ii) the results of the census and iii) analysis of mortality, fertility and migration in the calendar years of 1976 and 1977.

VISITORS DURING MAY 1979

Dr. Wayne Stinson
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Ford Foundation
New Delhi, India

ICDDR,B SCIENTIST PARTICIPATES IN PEDIATRIC GASTROENTEROLOGY CONFERENCE

Dr. Moslemuddin Khan of ICDDR,B was invited by the Secretary General of the Indonesian Pediatric Gastroenterology Association to attend the *VI Pediatric Gastroenterology Conference* as one of the four guest speakers from different parts of the world. The conference was held in Ujung Paudang City of the South Celebes Island of Indonesia on 11-12 April, 1979.

His talk on the *Epidemiology of Shigellosis, Dacca* was highly appreciated. His suggestion for introduction of a half liter plastic glass with 3 scoops and instructions for measuring contents of oral solution has been incorporated in the recommendations. A special certificate of appreciation was issued to him by the Director General of the association.



Members of the high level UNESCO expert team headed by Dr. E. Q. Daddario

HIGH LEVEL UNESCO EXPERT TEAM VISITS ICDDR,B

(contd. from page 1)

the Advancement of Science, visited ICDDR,B on June 19, 1979. The team consisted of 7 members. They had fruitful discussions with the Acting Director, Scientific Directors and Investigators of ICDDR,B. Members of the Team visited the different Branches of the laboratory and they were impressed with the activities of the Centre.

DUTCH SCIENTIST VISITS ICDDR,B

Dr. R. Slooff of the Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam and Co-ordinator of the joint project of Machakos, Kenya visited ICDDR,B the first week of June. He met with various scientific and administrative groups of ICDDR,B and visited the Matlab field station. He also gave a seminar: "*Population-based Studies in Machakos, Kenya*" on June 6, 1979 discussing the social and anthropological aspects of the people of Machakos. We look forward to more contacts with scientists from the Netherlands and the Royal Tropical Institute of Amsterdam.

CDC EPIDEMIOLOGIST AT ICDDR,B

Dr. John D. Snyder, an epidemiologist from the Centre for Disease Control, U. S. A., is working at ICDDR,B for three months. Dr. Snyder has been working in the Matlab field area on the initiation of a village-based oral hydration programme, which will compare the effectiveness of the glucose-electrolyte and a more simple solution made from labon-gur (salt-sugar). He has also begun a survey of the prevalence of paralytic poliomyelitis in the Matlab area. This will help determine the importance of this disease and the need for an immunization programme.

ICDDR,B SCIENTIST PARTICIPATES IN THE REGIONAL PLANNING MEETING ON DIARRHOEAL DISEASES CONTROL

Dr. W.B. Greenough, III, Scientific Director (now Director) of ICDDR,B participated in the *Regional Planning Meeting on Diarrhoeal Diseases Control*, held in the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office, Manila, Philippines, June 5-7, 1979.

CHOLERA RESEARCH LABORATORY'S ANNUAL REPORT—1978. PUBLISHED

The summary of activities carried out by the former CRL (now ICDDR,B) in 1978 has been published. The report summarises both the scientific works and the process of internationalization that transformed the CRL into ICDDR,B. It lists over 60 ongoing and completed research and training activities in the field of diarrhoea and related problems of nutrition and population. Copies are available upon request.

APPROVED RESEARCH PROTOCOLS

The Research Review Committee and the Review Board on the Use of Human Subjects of the ICDDR,B have approved the following research protocols:

1. Survey to determine the prevalence of paralytic poliomyelitis. Principal Investigator: Dr. John Snyder.
2. Birth interval dynamics. Principal Investigator: Dr. Stan Becker.

ICDDR,B SCIENTIST PARTICIPATES IN NUTRITION SEMINAR

Dr. Moslemuddin Khan of ICDDR,B participated in the third *Bangladesh Nutrition Seminar* held at Dacca University, on March 22-24 1979. The seminar was inaugurated by Dr. Mrs. Amina Rahman, honourable Minister. Scientists from home and abroad participated.

Dr. Khan presented "*Infant feeding practices in rural Meheran, Comilla*"

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief : Dr. K. M. S. Aziz

Members : Dr. W.B. Greenough, III, Dr. Stan Becker, Mujibur Rahman and M. Shamsul Islam Khan.

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