

EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES ON TROPICAL MEDICINE AND MALARIA IN TEHERAN

The Eighth International Congresses on Tropical Medicine and Malaria were held from 7 to 15 September 1968 in Teheran, presided by Prof. J. S. Saleh (Teheran), with Prof. G. B. MacGraith (Liverpool) and Prof. A. Gabbaldon (Caracas) as vice-presidents of tropical medicine and malaria divisions respectively. Its other members were Prof. D. J. Davis (Bethesda) and in memoriam the deceased Prof. J. R. da Silva (Brazil), the president of the Seventh Congresses. Apart from these the International Interim Committee included 25 members, of whom 9 represented Europe (Czechoslovakia was represented by Academician D. Blaškovič). The Iranian National Organizing Committee consisted of 22 members, with Prof. Ch. M. H. Mofidi of the Teheran University acting as its Secretary General.

The intercongressional programme was concerned with: 1) inter-action between diseases and socio-economic factors, 2) health planning and its evaluation, 3) health problems in pre-school children, 4) dynamics, surveillance and control of infections, 5) health problems and epidemiology of human population isolates and migratory groups, 6) progress and prospect of global malaria eradication, and 7) new trends in quantitative epidemiology.

The congress dealing with tropical medicine was divided into 10 sections. Helminthic Infections (A 1) included schistosomiasis, other trematode infections, Bancroftian and Malayan filariases, onchocerciasis and loiasis and intestinal helminthiases. Protozoal Infections (A 2) comprised amoebiasis, leishmaniasis, African and American trypanosomiases. Mycotic Infections (A 3) included dermatomycoses, histoplasmosis and coccidioidomycosis, other systemic mycoses and recent advances in diagnosis and treatment of mycotic infections. Bacterial Infections (A 4) covered gastrointestinal infections, cholera, plague, tuberculosis and streptococcal infections. Among viral and rickettsial infections (A 5) discussed were arbovirus infections, trachoma and related chlamidia infections, rabies, measles, viral hepatitis, hemorrhagic fevers and recent developments in ecology and epidemiology of rickettsial infections. Other infective and para-

sitic infections (A 6) included spirochetal tick-borne relapsing fevers, leptospiroses, toxoplasmosis, pneumocystosis, dracunculosis and miscellaneous group of infections. Nutrition problems with clinical and epidemiological aspects of nutritional diseases (A 7) comprised xerophthalmia, kwashiorkor, nutritional marasmus and anaemias, changing food habits, and a chapter on nutrition and infection. The section Tropical Hygiene and Sanitation (A 8) covered housing, water supply, waste disposal, pollution control, tropical physiology, vector control and food technology. Medical Education Problems (A 9) dealt with undergraduate and postgraduate medical education, training of research workers, training and utilization of auxiliary personnel. The section 10 included venoms and poisons, importation of diseases by travellers and immigrants, recent developments in immunology of communicable diseases, in diagnosis and treatment of parasitic diseases excluding malaria.

The simultaneous congress dealing with malaria was divided into 7 sections. The section Parasitology and Biology in Malaria (B 1) covered speciation, structure and life cycles of malaria parasites, cultivation of plasmodia and life cycles of malaria parasites, cultivation of plasmodia and maintenance of strains, and malaria of non-human primates. The section Entomology of Malaria (B 2) included new systematics and genetics, physiology and ecology, use of insecticides and insecticide resistance. The section Host-Parasite Relationship (B 3) comprised Malaria and human genetics, biochemistry, immunology, clinical and pathological aspects. The section B 4 dealt with chemotherapy in malaria, i.e. pharmacology and drug development, clinical and field trials of drugs, and drug resistance. The section B 5 was devoted to epidemiology and B 6 to eradication and control of malaria. The section B 7 consisted of free communications.

The congresses were attended by about 1,500 active participants. The congresses were carefully organized and despite their comprehensive programmes they fulfilled all expectations.

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