

Dried milk makes it possible to use the summer surplus in winter, when supplies are short. A UNICEF pasteurization plant practically wiped out undulant fever in Malta.

UNICEF's second problem is infantile mortality. In Sweden 979 babies out of a thousand survive; in parts of rural Asia and Africa only 700 out of a thousand survive—nearly a third of the babies born are dead within a year. One of the reasons for this appalling death rate is a low standard of midwifery. UNICEF has started maternity and child welfare centres in undeveloped countries, supplied midwifery kits and disinfectants and helped to provide a simple practical training for village midwives.

The third problem is that of disease. Malaria, which is a major evil in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and is especially apt to attack small children, can be wiped out by spraying both the houses and the mosquito breeding grounds with DDT annually. In Guatemala, thanks to UNICEF supplies of DDT, the Government hopes to protect the whole malaria-ridden area by 1955, at the cost of about a shilling a head. DDT is equally effective against the lice which carry typhus, and the children of Peru refer to the UNICEF dusting teams as "the white powder men."

Tuberculosis is still a problem in civilized countries, but in the underdeveloped areas four or five times as many children die of it. It is, however, possible to inoculate them with BGG (Bacillus Calmette-Guerin) vaccine, and UNICEF is doing this on an enormous scale.

Yaws is a serious tropical disease, akin to syphilis, which usually starts in childhood and produces painful sores all over the body. These can be crippling—sores on the hands make it impossible to work, sores on the feet are lamming. This disease can be completely cured by a single injection of penicillin, costing less than a shilling per child.

UNICEF, the World Health Organization and the Indonesian Government, working together, hope to wipe out the disease in five years, although ten million people are affected. All UNICEF's work in the distribution of drugs is carried out in co-operation with the World Health Organization.

It is often asked whether, as there is a danger that the population of the world will outrun its food supply, these children are merely being saved to starve. Many diseases, such as yaws and malaria, however, weaken far more people than they kill, and the productivity of an area has been known to rise by nearly a third when its farmers were no longer feeble and apathetic from disease, or disabled during seed time or harvest by a bout of malaria. This means that for every two loaves of bread or bowls of rice they can now produce three. Moreover, as the standard of living rises the birth-rate is likely to decline, as in most European countries.

In 1953 the United Nations, looking around for means of cutting down its expenditure, threatened to wind UNICEF up. The name

Children's Emergency Fund had been fatal. Such angry protests flooded in from all sides, however, and particularly from the women's organizations in America, the majority of whom are members of A.C.W.W., that the United Nations changed its mind. UNICEF, which was helping twenty million children a year, was not to be sacrificed. The United Nations Children's Fund is still caring for children in sixty-eight countries of the world.

—From The Countrywoman

Royalty at Sandringham Institute

The Queen Mother, Princess Margaret and the Princess Royal attended the annual meeting of Sandringham Women's Institute. At tea the Queen Mother sat at a card table with three fellow members from the Royal estate and poured tea from one of her own silver teapots. There was a parade of costumes as part of the program and the Queen Mother went into the dressing-rooms later to say how much she had enjoyed it. The members were delighted to hear that the Queen Mother had told the Queen by telephone of the forthcoming show. "She asked me to give you all her best wishes," the Queen Mother said.

Hearing Aids Provided

Mr. Edward B. Lally, Managing Director of the National Society of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, has sent a thank-you note to Mrs. MacPhatter for ten hearing aids provided in response to the appeal going out from F.W.I.O. More aids have been received but not indicated as coming from Institute members.

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LUCINDA MATLOCK

By Edgar Lee Masters

I went to the dances at Chandlerville,
And played snap-out at Winchester.
One time we changed partners,
Driving home in the moonlight of middle
June,
And then I found Davis.
We were married and lived together for
seventy years,
Enjoying, working, raising the twelve
children,
Eight of whom we lost
Ere I had reached the age of sixty.
I spun, I wove, I kept the house, I nursed
the sick,
I made the garden, and for holiday
Rambled over the fields where sang the
larks,
And by Spoon River gathering many a shell,
And many a flower and medicinal weed—
Shouting to the wooded hills, singing to the
green valleys.
At ninety-six I had lived long enough, that
is all,
And passed to a sweet repose.
What is this I hear of sorrow and weariness,
Anger, discontent and drooping hopes?
Degenerate sons and daughters,
Life is too strong for you—
It takes life to love Life.