

## SESSION 8—14 MAY 1965

**Chairman: J. H. Hanks**

**Dr. Hanks.** It is a great pleasure and honor to introduce to you a man who needs no introduction—one of our most famous workers in the field of leprosy. He has played a key role in certain parts of the leprosy problem for many years. Dr. Dharmendra began his work in leprosy with Dr. John Lowe at the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine in 1933. In 1942 he became head of the leprosy section in the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine, and, when the Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute was established, he was called to this post, at Chingleput in the State of Madras.

Dr. Dharmendra, I believe, was the first man to realize that work was necessary to

prepare purified reagents for performance of skin tests. He made the first effort to obtain antigen preparations that could be dealt with on a weight basis. If any of you wish to know where you can look for basic knowledge on the lepromin test itself, and its manifold aspects, you should read "The lepromin test" by Dr. Dharmendra, published under the auspices of BELRA in 1948.

Another notable landmark has been entitled "Notes on Leprosy." I am happy to inform you that this is now in the course of preparation as a second edition.

All of us know Dr. Dharmendra so well that I merely need to say, here he is, and we are delighted to hear from him.