

world.” Henderson said that after three decades of neglect, the surveillance network must be urgently developed or “there will be hell to pay.” He said that “we should focus on the Third World,” which “is home to 75% of the world’s population.” This network of centers in developing countries, he said, could develop the medical cadre to move quickly to deal with these outbreaks of disease. He said the situation is so serious that this surveillance system should have the “same priority as the Defense Department.”

Henderson stated, “While mobilization of existing resources will heighten surveillance sensitivity, I believe we would be deluding ourselves to believe that the world will be adequately served by this alone. A more definitive and dedicated core structure will be required to provide an effective framework as well as the needed leadership and direction: 1) a network of clinically based centers in developing countries which can detect unusual diseases or syndromes and are equipped to undertake basic laboratory and epidemiological studies as well as training; 2) a cadre of epidemiologists and research staff with specialty expertise who can be called upon by governments for emergency assistance; and 3) a secretariat of sufficient size and skill to analyze and orchestrate the diverse and changing global array of initiatives which are required to meet the challenges.”

In an interview on Oct. 27, Henderson told *EIR* that one of his greatest concerns is the emergence of deadly food-borne pathogens. “I think one of the things that I worry very much about is *E. coli* 0157,” he said, which can contaminate raw hamburger meat, for example. “That is a nasty organism. We’re not really on top of it. We have a real problem of foodstuffs, which is a growing problem. Specifically, that we are now transporting larger and larger bodies of food over greater distances, and the prospects of having a contamination occur at a major food-processing center, and then that food stuff distributed very widely, we are augmenting the probability of that happening. I worry about *E. coli* 0157 being a very serious organism.”

The point made by Henderson is especially relevant in view of the ongoing rapid collapse of the so-called food “cold chain.” As a result of the fraudulent ozone depletion scare, the use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) has been banned worldwide. CFCs are the essential refrigerant used in most refrigerated transports and refrigeration systems. Their ban has already had a severe effect on the cold chain in Africa, and is leading to a collapse of the cold chain even in the United States, where hundreds of thousands of food stores, refrigerated transports, and restaurants are being forced to scrap their refrigeration equipment and replace it with much more expensive and more unreliable systems. The book *The Hole in the Ozone Scare: The Scientific Evidence that the Sky Is Not Falling* (by Rogelio A. Maduro and Ralf Schauerhammer, Washington, D.C.: 21st Century Science Associates, 1992), documents the fact that the ozone

LaRouche forecast the rise of pandemics

Alone among policymakers, Lyndon LaRouche predicted the current scourge of pandemics, back in the early 1970s. Prompted by the collapse of the economies of the Sahel countries, to the point of annihilation of their populations, LaRouche organized a biological task force to examine the long-term consequences on health of the conditionalities policies of the International Monetary Fund. In a May 7, 1985 article in EIR, “The Role of Economic Science in Projecting Pandemics,” LaRouche outlined the methodology which had led him to uniquely hypothesize the unleashing of new pandemics by the end of the 1970s:

Any society whose economy approximates an ideal model of economic growth, is negentropic in the same sense as a living organism. The ideal model, is a society undergoing an approximately constant rate of technological progress under conditions of relative increase of energy-intensity and capital-intensity.

Sustainable economic (and population) growth, is measured as an (ideally) constant rate of increase of the potential relative population-density of that society. This is the measure of the average potential for growth of the society as a whole, and is also the absolute measure of

depletion theory is a scientific fraud and that its authors, including F. Sherwood Rowland, who just won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry, knew full well that millions would die of food poisoning from the ban on CFCs. At the time the book was written, international refrigeration experts expected that 20 to 40 million people would die every year by the turn of the century as a result of the ban on CFCs. Given the rise of *E. coli* 0157, this death rate may be significantly higher than previously estimated.

‘We must re-arm the nation’

On Oct. 18, the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee held hearings, titled “A Threat to the Health of the Nation,” on the problem of emerging infections. Committee Chairman Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kan.) opened the hearings by reminding the public of the deadly nature of infectious diseases. She cited the Middle Ages, when “the Black Death killed nearly one-quarter of the population of western Europe,” and the “more recent example of such devastation

per-capita productivity of labor in that society. . . .

Only technological progress can sustain negentropy, can permit the durable survival of an economy, a society. . . . Entropy signifies a fall in the potential relative population-density. The "ideal" case, at which economies are to be examined for economically determined eruption of pandemics, is the case for which the potential relative population-density falls below the level of the existing population.

The conditions for economically determined pandemics, may be either the instance in which the average consumption is determined by a fall of potential relative population-density, below the level of requirements for the existing population, and the special case, that the differential rates of distribution of the households' goods "market-basket" falls below the level of "energy of the system" for a large part of the population. We are most concerned with the effects on health, as the nutritional throughput per-capita falls below some relative biological minimum, and also the effect of collapse of sanitation and other relevant aspects of basic economic infrastructure upon the conditions of an undernourished population.

The first assumption, that the death-rates would be increased by malnutrition, requires no special inquiry in the language of economic science as such. It is the second, alternative, that the undernourished population might become a breeding-culture for eruption of epidemic and pandemic disease, which requires special attention. . . .

Society is an integral part of the biosphere, both the biosphere as a whole, and regionally. . . . Rather than

viewing a deep fall of the potential relative population-density, as merely a fall in the relative value for society as such; let us examine this as a fall in the relative level of the biosphere including that society. . . .

A collapse of society obviously requires the affected portion of the biosphere to function at a reduced level of relative negentropy. This must tend to be adjusted, by increasing the role of relatively lower forms of life. . . . Lower forms of life "consume" human and other higher-level forms of life as "fuel" for their own proliferation.

In that variant, human and animal pandemics, and sylvatics, must tend to resurge, and evolve, under certain kinds of "shock" to the biosphere caused by extreme concentration of fall of population-potential. Instead of simply dying of malnutrition, the population generates a pandemic which becomes the biosphere's adaptation to its own reduced state, and this pandemic then attacks the concentration of fall of potential which caused the lowering of the potential for the biosphere generally. . . .

The levels at which falls in the essential components of the "market-basket" of nutrition correspond to preconditions for eruptions of pandemics in widespread concentrations of population, are broadly supplied by medical specialists. It was merely necessary to estimate the rate of fall of population potential toward such threshold-levels, and to take into account the duration of such conditions historically indicated as consistent with brewing of a new upsurge of pandemics, to foresee when, how, and where a continuation of 1974 trends in monetary and economic policy would probably generate such eruptions.

[which] occurred early in this century when the influenza pandemic swept the world, killing more than 20 million people in less than a year's time." Kassebaum warned that "the world now finds itself threatened by both new and old infectious diseases." She called for a mobilization to fight the rise of these diseases and new strategies to fight them, saying that "we must re-arm the nation and the world to vanquish enemies that we thought we had already conquered."

Kassebaum gathered an impressive list of witnesses whose testimony encompassed both the rise of the global threats as well as threats directly affecting the United States, such as hantavirus, food-borne illnesses, and the resurgence of tuberculosis. Witnesses included Dr. David Satcher, director of the CDC; WHO's David Heymann; and Margaret Hamburg, the commissioner of the New York City Department of Health.

Perhaps the most shocking testimony, however, was given by Michael Osterholm, the State Epidemiologist from the Minnesota Department of Health. Osterholm warned, "I am

here to bring you the sobering and unfortunate news that our ability to detect and monitor infectious diseases' threats to our health in this country is in serious jeopardy." Osterholm detailed the woeful condition of disease surveillance in the United States and the lack of funding to carry out this very important mission. Osterholm noted that the total amount of funding for infectious disease surveillance is a meager \$42 million per year. The bulk of these funds are used for surveillance programs for AIDS-HIV, tuberculosis, and sexually transmitted diseases, with less than \$4 million to monitor all other diseases.

Epidemics in Ibero-America

Ibero-America is today facing an epidemic of dengue and dengue hemorrhagic fever, various strains of the deadly equine encephalitis, as well as an unusual form of a bacterial disease known as leptospirosis that has ravaged Nicaragua since October.

The present epidemic of dengue fever and hemorrhagic