

“Infectious disease is one of the few genuine adventures left in the world. The dragons are all dead and the lance grows rusty in the chimney corner... About the only sporting proposition that remains unimpaired by the relentless domestication of a once free-living human species is the war against those ferocious little fellow creatures, which lurk in dark corners and stalk us in the bodies of rats, mice and all kinds of domestic animals; which fly and crawl with the insects, and way lay us in our food and drink and even in our love.”



-Hans Zinsser

“Rats, Lice and History – 1935

## Framing BSE Issues

- 40% of WTO questions pertaining to agricultural trade pertain to BSE
- Approximately 1/3 of the world's global protein is currently restricted due to avian influenza, BSE and emerging diseases
- Incentives vs. disincentives for reporting: a public health animal health cultural difference
- Interconnectiveness of global food supply chain and markets is unprecedented

- The great confluence of 21 billion food animals, 6 billion people and trillions of pounds of animal products
- 38,000 animals enter the U.S. everyday as food animals and exotic trade
- Livestock 2020 – the agricultural revolution of demand for animal protein – 50% increase in demand for animal protein in developing countries

## Multihost pathogens

- 60% - humans
- 80% - animals

Emerging zoonoses- a new era of epidemiological transition

## Contemporary challenges:

- antimicrobial resistance
- linkage of food and health
- BT
- acute infectious episodes and chronic disease
- global food safety and security
- emerging zoonoses
- prion disease