

TRUMAN TO LAY C. C. CORNERSTONE AT NIH

TRAUTMAN HEADS CLINICAL CENTER

Appointment of Dr. John A. Trautman, Medical Officer in Charge of the Staten Island (N. Y.) Marine Hospital, as Director of NIH's Clinical Center, has been announced by Surgeon General Leonard A. Scheele. He succeeds Dr. Jack Masur, who became Chief of the Bureau of Medical Services, PHS, earlier this year.

Dr. Trautman will assume his new duties on July 1. The Clinical Center which he will head is now about 60 percent completed and will be finished late next year.

A career officer with 22 years of service in PHS, Dr. Trautman brings to his new post the benefit of wide experience as an administrator and as a clinical investigator of numerous diseases.

The Staten Island facility, which he has directed for the past year, is a 985-bed general hospital with a staff of 103 M.D.'s. From 1946 to 1948, he was Chief of the same hospital's Department of Dermatology and Syphilology.

Dr. Trautman entered the Public Health Service in 1929, serving his internship at the Chicago Marine Hospital. From 1930 to 1934, he was assigned to PHS facilities at Portland, Maine, and Staten Island. At the latter, he conducted studies in the use of various agents for treatment of poisoning from cyanide gas, a chemical used in fumigation of ships. For the next several years--1934 to 1941--he served at the New Orleans Marine Hospital as Chief of the Departments of Urology, Dermatology and Syphilology, and Fever Therapy.

(See Dr. Trautman, Page 3)



Dr. Trautman

CAL TECH GENETICIST TO GIVE DYER LECTURE

Dr. George W. Beadle, nationally known geneticist and Chairman of the Biology Division, California Institute of Technology, has been awarded the first R. E. Dyer Lectureship, it was announced by Dr. William H. Sebrell, Jr., Director of NIH.

The lecture, scheduled for June 21, will be delivered in the main auditorium of the National Naval Medical Center. It will open a 2-day program planned in conjunction with the Clinical Center cornerstone ceremonies.

Dr. Beadle has been widely recognized for his work in biochemical genetics, particularly for his demonstration of the influence of genes on specific chemical reactions.

The Dyer Lectureship was established last year in honor of the former Director of NIH. Proceeds of the fund subscribed by Dr. Dyer's friends and colleagues are being used for this lectureship, to be awarded annually to an outstanding scientist.

WILL GIVE MAJOR SPEECH AT RITES

President Harry S. Truman will lay the cornerstone of NIH's Clinical Center on Friday afternoon, June 22, it was announced by the White House.

Using the same trowel employed in 1932 for a similar occasion in connection with the Public Health Service Building at 19th and Constitution Ave. NW., the President will apply the mortar to the Clinical Center's cornerstone in a ceremony that will be witnessed by many prominent scientists and Government officials, as well as several thousand Washington area residents. Before the cornerstone ceremony itself, the President will deliver a major speech.

The first part of the program will begin at 3:15 with an official welcome by Dr. Sebrell, Director of NIH, who will introduce the guests of honor. Speakers will include Dr. Detlev Bronk, President of the National Academy of Science and of Johns Hopkins University, and Surgeon General Leonard A. Scheele. Mr. Truman will be introduced by FSA Administrator Oscar R. Ewing.

NIH buildings and laboratories will be open to visitors from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., with the exception of one hour during the cornerstone ceremonies. Nearly 100 exhibits and demonstrations, covering a wide range of research, will be included in the Open House program.

In the lobby of Bldg. 1, visitors may view a showcase display of Clinical Center items of historical interest, as well as a model of the 14-story structure. Another showcase will exhibit historical papers relating to NIH.

Studies in Mental Health

No. 48 of a Series



Dr. Ross interviews child brought by mother to clinic.

How can a mental health program be made part of an over-all community health program? How can a community attack the problems contributing to emotional disturbances and mental illness? How can mental health be integrated into the community's way of life?

To search out the answers to these questions, the Prince Georges County Mental Health Clinic in College Park, Md., was established as a demonstration project in 1948 by NIMH, in cooperation with the State and local health departments. Clinic director is Dr. Mabel Ross, a psychiatrist. Her staff includes a second psychiatrist, two psychiatric social workers, a clinical psychologist, a mental health nurse, and three clerical assistants.

Early treatment of existing disorders, particularly when others are affected by the emotional disturbance, is the first step in a preventive program. While the demonstration clinic provides treatment for individual cases, each patient seen is regarded as more than just an individual: he is part of a family and community group. His problem is viewed as a by-product of the stresses and strains within his group.

Since physical and mental health are so closely related, the clinic maintains close working relations with local health department personnel. Case conferences are conducted with public health nurses on referrals made to the clinic.

How the clinic has helped the schools may be demonstrated through its work with the remedial reading program. A school princi-

pal came to the clinic for help with a 12-year-old boy who couldn't read. The clinic investigated and found that there were a number of other pupils in the school system with the same problem. Rather than give remedial reading services to each child, the clinic recommended that the Department of Education set up remedial reading classes. The clinical psychologist tested and selected those children who could benefit from such a program. Since 1948, the remedial reading class has been a basic part of the school program.

Ideally, a mental health program should be so integrated into the total community program that it is no longer recognizable as an entity in itself. To this end, the clinic works closely with the local welfare board, charity organizations, Social Service League, Vocational Rehabilitation Service, and employment service. When one of their representatives consults with the clinic staff on a treatment or guidance problem, he has an opportunity to learn about the mental health measures that can be taken. He can then apply this knowledge in his subsequent dealings with people.

There is a growing acceptance today of the fact that a community can plan a preventive mental health program as part of its over-all program. As proof of increasing interest in such a program, 71 visitors from 19 States and 9 foreign countries came to the clinic last year to observe the program and to assist in a mutual exchange of information.

Here and There

Trips and Talks

The "Transparent Window Technique," a research tool developed by Dr. Glenn H. Algire of NCI, with the aid of Miss Frances Legallais, was demonstrated on television over Washington Station WMA L, May 14. Dr. J. R. Heller, Director of NCI, and Mrs. Belle F. Anderson, biologist in Dr. Algire's laboratory, took part in the program.

Dr. H. Trendley Dean, Director of NIDR, delivered the presentation address at a dinner in Cleveland on May 24 in honor of science writer Don Dunham of the Cleveland Press, cited by the Junior Chamber of Commerce for his prize-winning series of articles on water fluoridation.

Executive Post

Election of Dr. William H. Sebrell, Jr., Director of NIH, to the Board of Directors of the National Society for Medical Research has been announced by the Society's offices in Chicago.

Chicago Meeting

Fourteen representatives from NMI are attending the May 27-31 meeting of the Society of American Bacteriologists in Chicago. Those presenting papers include Drs. Harry Eagle, Sara Branham, Margaret Pittman, Arthur K. Saz, and Harry Steinman. At the same meeting, Dr. Robert J. Fitzgerald and Mr. Morrison Rogosa of NIDR are participating in the first symposium on oral bacteriology.

Farewell Dinner

A dinner attended by 39 of his associates was given in honor of Mr. Gerald Graze, Assistant Executive Officer of NIH, who resigned this month to enter private business.

British Scientist

The influence of vitamin B-12 on certain forms of anemia was discussed by Dr. C. C. Ungley, British scientist, in a recent lecture delivered in Wilson Hall and sponsored by NIAMD. Dr. Ungley carried out the clinical research that aided Dr. Lester Smith of Britain's Glaxo Laboratories in the discovery, two years ago, of vitamin B-12.

IDEAS ON CORNERSTONE ITEMS ARE SOUGHT

A chance to fashion a footnote in NIH history and to leave a lasting imprint on the Clinical Center is open to all staff members who turn in suggestions on items for the Clinical Center cornerstone.

Employee participation is urged by Mr. Charles Kidd, chairman of the cornerstone ceremony committee. Items selected for the cornerstone, he said, will be placed on exhibit in a showcase in Bldg. 1 some time in June.

The box which will hold the items when the cornerstone is laid on June 22 is being constructed by the NIH Carpenter Shop. Its dimensions--3 1/2 inches by 8 1/2 inches by 12 inches--will serve as a guide to those who wish to add their voice in the selection of contents.

Official letters and documents, historical papers, research publications, photographs--these are examples of typical items placed in the cornerstone of Building 1 in 1938. They are by no means inclusive. Any suggestion that is interesting, pertinent, and suitable to the occasion will be welcomed by the committee. Suggestions should be routed to Mr. Irving Ladimer, Room 138, Bldg. 1.

FIRST AID CLASSES WILL BE HELD HERE IN JUNE

A first aid instructor's training course, sponsored by the Red Cross, will be held in Wilson Hall during the first half of June.

Dr. John M. Lynch of the NIH Employees' Health Service said that all employees who hold a current Advanced ARC First Aid Certificate are eligible to take the course. Class hours will be from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., and have been scheduled for the following days: June 4, 6, 8, 12, 14. The Red Cross will provide instructors.

Those interested in enrolling should file their applications as soon as possible with the Bldg. 1 Health Unit or with the Montgomery County Red Cross Chapter, 4711 Highland Ave., Bethesda.

According to Dr. Lynch, the standard first aid course will be offered to NIH employees as soon as enough qualified instructors become available.

NIH Spotlight



Staying abreast of NIH's steady plant expansion, with its demands for alterations in structure, lab furniture, cabinets, and specialized equipment, is the job of the NIH Carpenter Shop, Buildings Management Branch. The shop is located in Building 12 and is directed by N. J. Van Houten, who has been with NIH for more than 16 years.

The shop's output is more specialized than it used to be, "Van" says. Now we turn out fitted cases, small desks to order, exhibit frames for the Medical Arts Section, and even devise trigger mechanisms for spray guns used by scientists in getting samples of nasal fluid.

While most of the work on the Clinical Center and other new buildings is done by private firms, Van and his team of 18 carpenters are still responsible for partitions, flooring, special lab furniture, and similar recurring needs.

Van explains that research is often a job for the Carpenter Shop, too. "If a scientist wants some unusual piece of lab furniture, we've got to put our heads together and do some research work of our own."

The carpenters have had many unusual requests for service. They have produced hot and cold chambers, sound suppressors, and even an "explosion" building whose tilt roof will rise with the force of blast produced in studies of the effects of explosives on animals.

Married and the father of two children, Van is a veteran of 33 months World War II service with the Seabees, in which he served as a warrant officer. We built bridges and roads and did demolition work for the 1st Marine Division in the South Pacific, he recalls. Today, a

DR. TRAUTMAN HEADS CLINICAL CENTER Cont'd

During this period he spent a year as a Fellow at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.

While stationed at New Orleans, Dr. Trautman conducted extensive studies in the use of artificial fever therapy in the treatment of venereal diseases, leprosy, and various arthritic and inflammatory eye conditions. He also studied methods for speeding up treatment using arsenic compounds for syphilis, and sulfonamide drugs for venereal infections of several types.

From 1941 to 1943, Dr. Trautman was assigned to the San Francisco Marine Hospital and as District Medical Officer for the U. S. Coast Guard at Long Beach. In the latter year he became Assistant Chief of the Division of Commissioned Officers, in Washington, D. C., a post he held until 1946, when he joined the staff of the Staten Island Marine Hospital. Before becoming Chief Medical Officer of the latter, he was in charge from 1948 to 1950 of the Marine Hospital in Cleveland.

Born at Lake Benton, Minn., in 1902, Dr. Trautman received his undergraduate degree in 1925 from Creighton College, Omaha, and his M.D. degree from Creighton's School of Medicine in 1929. He was married in 1925 and has four children, including two sons who have entered medicine.

Dr. Trautman is a nominee of The American College of Hospital Administrators and a member of numerous professional organizations, including the Richmond County (N. Y.) Medical Society and the Association of Military Surgeons. He is an associate examiner of the National Board of Medical Examiners.

sailor son has already seen Korea twice.

Above Van's desk are framed the words that best explain his life philosophy: "Be lenient with the mistakes of others because often they would be yours if you had the opportunity."

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MOLE HUNTERS UNCOVER TNT BURIED AT NIH

Two NIH employees, tracing mole tunnels out of idle curiosity, recently uncovered something more impressive than rodent life--a small box of dynamite buried in the woods in front of NIH.

The lunch hour episode involved Murray Eden and Alvin G. McNish of the Biophysics Section, NCI. While walking through the wooded area between Road "A" and the main NIH road on May 10, they noticed several mole tunnels and decided to follow them up. The tunnels led to a board, the board led to a box, and the box led to cardboard containers loaded with a couple of dozen sticks of badly deteriorated dynamite and some caps.

Clarence May, Chief of the Buildings Management Branch, and Safety Engineer James Black were notified of the discovery, and the area was promptly closed off by erecting a barrier around the locker-type box.

Upon investigation, the box and its contents turned out to belong to a contracting firm which installed storm sewers at NIH a few years ago. The dynamite was probably used to blast through rock in the area. Mr. May pointed out that dynamite is much less dangerous to handle when wet and deteriorated, as this material proved to be.

The construction firm was notified, and, after its representative examined the box, it was removed from the premises by a work crew dispatched by the firm.

The two mole-hunting employees were praised for their safety awareness and their judgment in promptly notifying management officials of their discovery.

NCI Nurse Seeks A W O L Cat, Name of Bobbie

Bobbie, a yellow bobtailed cat, has gone A W O L.

Her mistress, Mrs. Helen P. Olmstead of the NCI nursing staff, reports she was last seen near the front of Building T-6. At the time she went over the hill, she was sporting a green harness.

Just in case you spot the errant tabby, call Ext. 587.

LANDSCAPING BIG JOB FOR BUSY NIH CREWS



Shown above is the box of dynamite accidentally discovered by two NCI staff members. The dynamite was found buried in the woods in front of NIH.

It takes a heap of work to keep NIH looking nice.

There is no mystery of nature to the well-kept lawns and neat shrubbery that grace the NIH landscape. The better part of six tons of fertilizer and over 800 pounds of seed, dumped since last fall, are helping to give NIH that neat green look this spring.

To keep NIH neat--and green--a task force of 28 men, working under the direction of Harlow A. Rice, Head of the Landscaping Grounds Section, fans out every day from Bldg. 12 to tend the fast growing lawns, and the many varieties of shrubs and trees. The men also grade slopes, lay sod, and generally take care of all official residential quarters on the station.

A wide assortment of equipment--gang and power mowers, tillers, scoop loaders, disc harrows, a fertilizer spreader, and a chain saw--is saving hundreds of back-breaking man-hours. For example, a tiller used by one man pulverizes in a half-hour a tract of ground that otherwise would take two men a whole day.

"We do most of our seeding in the fall," explained Mr. Rice. "We also do a little in early spring. Any later, the sun gets too hot for the tender shoots, and then we have to sod."

In winter, snow plows, sanders, and other snow-clearing equipment are brought in or improvised. Last winter, Mr. Rice said, we used

THESE IDEAS HAVE WON AWARDS WITHIN F S A

Wanted: Ideas!

Suggestions on how to improve present working conditions are being encouraged in an Agency-wide work improvement program. All employees of NIH are urged to look about them and to send in their ideas on how to best improve use of manpower, equipment, material, and space. The awards include cash benefits, salary increases, and honor citations.

Under the FSA Incentive Awards Program, every supervisor is obligated to forward a suggestion of an employee to his division level. There it is evaluated for its practicality. Any suggestion submitted to the NIH Board automatically receives consideration for an award. An employee will be notified within 45 days of what action has been taken on his suggestion. Favorable consideration entitles him to have a record of the award action filed with his other personnel papers.

Among suggestions in other units of the Agency which have won awards in the past are:

1. A line of investigation that led to the development of a field test to distinguish between oleomargarine and butter. (Food and Drug Administration)

2. An economy suggestion involving use of previously discarded carbons from "snap-out" forms. (St. Elizabeths Hospital)

3. A suggested change in tabulating operations, combining two operations in the processing of "Pay This Period" punch cards. (Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance)

4. Designing and constructing a portable pump for use in filling jugs from carboys containing acid, making it unnecessary to lift the carboy. The pump removes dangers of acid splashing on employees. (Bureau of Medical Services, PHS)

5. Construction of a steel adjustable table to hold movie projection machine. The table saves considerable time of operator since it eliminates the need to adjust movie screen and move other equipment. (Bureau of Medical Services, PHS)

over 100 tons of sand and 15 loads of cinders to keep the roads open and the parking lots clear.