FAMOUS NEUROANATOMIST TO JOIN NIH STAFF

Dr. Rafael Lorente de No, world-famous neuroanatomist, has been appointed Chief of the Laboratory of Neuroanatomical Sciences at NIH. Dr. Lorente de No's appointment will be effective as of February 2, 1953.

The Laboratory of Neuroanatomical Sciences is one of eight laboratories which comprise the joint basic research program of NINDS and NIMH.

Dr. Lorente de No, who leaves his present post as member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, has made contributions to knowledge on such problems as the architecture of the cerebral cortex, the mechanisms underlying reflex activity, and the properties of nerve fibers—radically altering previously existing opinions and texts on these matters.

Born in Zaragoza, Spain, in 1902, Dr. Lorente de No entered the University of Zaragoza's Medical

In ceremonies held recently, members of the NIH Softball Team received trophies for winning first place in the District Athletic League. Dr. Norman Topping is shown as he presented a trophy to the team's pitcher, Elwood Lyles. Britton Smith, chairman of the R & W Sports Committee, is on the right.

INFLUENZA VACCINE STUDIES CONTINUE

Investigations on influenza carried on last year in Norfolk, Va., by members of the Epidemiology Section, in NIMI's Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, were sufficiently encouraging to continue this study not only in Norfolk but also to extend it to schools in nearby Arlington County, Va., and possibly Montgomery County, Md. In addition to Dr. Joseph A. Bell, Chief of the Section, other NIH investigators taking part in the study are Dr. Dorland J. Davis, Dr. Paul Beigelman, Dr. Marc O. Beem, PHS Nurse Officers Ruth Anderson and Patricia B. Geiser, and bacteriologist Barbara Ottinger.

School authorities, county medical societies, and county and State health departments are actively cooperating in the new studies.

Vaccinations by NMI personnel will begin in Norfolk in late November, and in Arlington early in December. All members of the children's families will be vaccinated, with about 1,500 people expected to participate in Arlington County. The number in Montgomery County will be smaller.

The people cooperating in these studies will be closely followed for the occurrence of respiratory disease. If they do become ill, throat washings and blood samples will be taken for laboratory study to determine if influenza is the cause.

Last year's study in Norfolk and a smaller trial here at NIH with the vaccine were very promising from the standpoint of the lack of immediate reactions and from the apparent effect of the vaccine in protecting individuals from disease caused by the influenza virus. Dr. Bell and his fellow investigators feel that the current studies should extend their knowledge of the epidemiology of influenza and furnish evidence of the effectiveness of this newly developed vaccine.
Enzyme Studies in Cancer Chemotherapy

No. 83 in a Series

The Biochemistry Section in the Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology, NCI, had in past years screened chemical agents for ability to produce damage in animal tumors. A major objective of this earlier program was to develop chemical tools for investigation of the mechanism of action of drugs capable of producing extensive selective damage in tumors. This approach is expected to provide a better understanding of the differences between normal and malignant cells, thus enabling investigators to select more effective drugs on a more rational basis.

Four years ago, Dr. Vaman S. Waravdekar of India came as a Postdoctorate Fellow to the Biochemistry Section. In Bombay, at the Tata Memorial Hospital, he had been carrying out investigations on the effects of dyes on respiratory enzymes. In Bethesda, Dr. Waravdekar began investigating the effects of some of the tumor-damaging compounds on enzymatic activity, in collaboration with Dr. Joseph Letter and Miss Anita Domingue.

They found that injection of tumor-damaging compounds, such as podophyllotoxin, colchicine, arsenicals, quaternary ammonium compounds, etc., produced a rapid and marked fall in the cytochrome oxidase activity of tumor tissue. Only 20 to 30 percent of this important respiratory enzyme activity remained in the tumors 24 hours after injection of these chemical agents.

In the normal tissues, such as kidney and liver, only relatively small reductions in enzyme activity were produced following even supra-lethal doses of these compounds. It was also found that these changes occurred in the tumors only when the drugs were given to the intact animal. Exposure of the tumor tissue to the chemicals in vitro was without significant effect.

Since the cytochrome system is poor in most tumor tissues, they respire at almost the limit of the capacity of their cytochrome system. Whether the marked reduction of the cytochrome oxidase activity, and possibly of other components in the cytochrome system, produced by these chemicals brings them to the level insufficient for carrying out the necessary respiratory functions of the tumor cell is an interesting problem for investigation. This over-all effect is of considerable interest, but since the cytochrome system reflects changes in a number of more specific enzymic reactions, Dr. Waravdekar is investigating them to see if the metabolic responses can be pin-pointed.

Training Courses

PHS' Communicable Disease Center has announced their schedule of Laboratory Training Courses to be given in calendar year 1953. A copy of the schedule will be posted on the bulletin board in the first floor lobby of Building 1. Additional information and application forms may be obtained by writing to the Laboratory Training Services, Communicable Disease Center, USPHS, P. O. Box 185, Chamblee, Georgia.

NIMH Reporting System

NIMH plans to initiate an annual statistical reporting system of mental health clinics on a national basis. The program is planned to help determine which communities require additional mental health services and to provide basic information to State, local, and voluntary groups interested in mental health clinic services. Plans call for distribution of the forms and instructions early in 1953.

Employee Awards

John T. Manuel and Earl R. Hottinger of the Mechanical Engineering Section recently received checks for $25 each from C. W. May, Chief of the Buildings Management Branch. The awards were presented in a ceremony in Wilson Hall on behalf of the Employee Awards Committee.

The two men devised and built a rack for handling 300-500 pound refrigeration compressor units which must be installed in or removed from packaged air conditioning units. The job can now be done safely with half the amount of time and manpower.

James H. Belcher of NMI's Laboratory of Infectious Diseases has received a letter of commendation from Dr. Sebrell for designing an apparatus for handling wild squirrels safely.
The Recreation and Welfare Association invites you to attend their Thanksgiving Dance on Friday, November 21, at 9:00 P.M. Wilson Hall will be suitably decorated for the affair. Music will be recorded and the entertainment will feature hula dancers. Tickets will be 75 cents per person and R&W representatives have them on sale in each building. Be sure to get yours today.

The R&W Association will also sponsor a program of chamber music on Friday, December 5, at 8:30 P.M. in Wilson Hall. This musical program is being made possible through the cooperation of Dr. Charles P. Huttrer of DRG, a graduate of the Vienna Conservatory of Music, who is associated with a group of local musicians. The program will consist of compositions by Bartok, Dvorak, Haydn, Mozart, Sammartini, and Schumann.

The event is open without charge to all NIH employees and their families. There has been an enthusiastic response to the musical and no additional tickets are available.

NIH REACHES 77 PERCENT OF RED FEATHER GOAL

As this issue of the Record goes to press, NIH has reached 77 percent of its Community Chest goal. Employee participation in the campaign is also approximately 77 percent. The fund already exceeds by 27 percent the total contribution of NIH in any previous campaign.

Gil Baylis, NIH Community Chest chairman, reports that interest among the Institutes is quite keen and that many are anxious to reach their goal. NIDR, NIAMD, and the Clinical Center have already exceeded their goals.

Mr. Baylis also mentioned that there is now a trend toward fuller utilization of the pledge system by which employees may donate over an extended period of time without making an immediate cash outlay. Many supplemental pledges are being received from NIH employees.

150 Keymen, including 35 scientists, are voluntarily participating in the campaign.

NEED MONEY FOR XMAS?

It's not too early to start thinking about Christmas and the financial demands that go with it. If you would like to borrow some money, the NIH Credit Union is the place to go.

Mr. Neil Wood, Treasurer, says that the Credit Union is always happy to help out Santa Claus. Interest rates on loans are low, and you may borrow up to $400 without a co-signer.

APPOINTMENT Cont'd

School, by special dispensation of the king, when he was only fourteen years old. Two years later, in 1918, he went to the Institute Cajal as research assistant to Professor S. Ramon y Cajal, known as the "father of modern neuroanatomy."

He acted in this capacity until 1929, but during the same period was a research fellow at the University of Upsala in Sweden (1924-1926) and at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Brain Research (1926). From 1929-1931, he was Head of the Department of Otolaryngology, Hospital of the Province of Santander, Spain.

In 1931, Dr. Lorente de No came to the United States to occupy the post of Neuroanatomist at the Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis, a position which he held until 1936, when he joined the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

Lena Morris

It wasn't until after the first atomic bomb was dropped during World War II that Mrs. Lena Morris found out that the secret work she had been doing for two years at NIH had anything to do with it.

Lena came to NIH in 1942 quite by chance. She was visiting her old high school friends Jack and Margaret Jarrels, and mentioned she was looking for a job. Jack was employed at NIH, and he suggested that Lena might be interested in working here. Lena had no previous laboratory experience, but she did have a strong interest in medicine. Her ambition had been to be a nurse, and she felt that by working in a research lab she might in a sense fulfill her ambition.

Shortly thereafter Lena went to work in the Metallurgical Laboratory (now the Argonne National Laboratory). At that time this group in NCI was working cooperatively with the University of Chicago, studying the effects of radiation on the blood and tissues of the body. The group of course knew what they were doing, but they didn't know why until 1945.

In 1944, Lena transferred to NCI's Pathological Technology Section, where she was trained as a histopathological technician.

Lena stayed with the lab until 1947, when she was detailed to the Baltimore Marine Hospital. For a year and a half she worked in the tissue laboratory there.

In 1948, Lena was called back to Bethesda and the Pathological Technology Section. This Section prepares and stains tissue for microscopic examination by NCI researchers. Lena now supervises all routine work, trains new people, and checks finished work.

Lena is a native of Grottoes, Virginia, and has an 18-year-old son, Waylan. After working hours Lena is a busy housekeeper, but she does find time occasionally for her favorite pastimes--reading and canasta.

L O S T A N D F O U N D

During the month of October the following articles were found on the NIH campus. If any of them belong to you, come to Mr. May's office, Room 18, Building 1.

Lady's ring
2 fountain pens
Hair brush
Notebook
Another new program, which is purchased. About six months ago, through these programs, making equipment was made available needed by an Institute. During terly sales of equipment no longer provides instruments for short-term use only, when deliveries on new equipment are slow, and when regular equipment is being repaired. Another new program, which is meeting with success, is the quarterly sales of equipment no longer needed by an Institute. During 1952, $60,000 worth of existing equipment was made available through these programs, making expenditures for new equipment unnecessary.

The Property Unit screens purchase orders for office equipment that could be borrowed rather than purchased. About six months ago, the Unit started a rehabilitation program for office furniture and machines.

The Property Unit's function was to keep a record of nonexpendable items on the station. However, a new concept of economy of operation is being fostered at NIH so that existing property will be used before new items are purchased. This is no small task in a place as large and diversified as NIH. Joseph A. Woodworth, Head of the Property Unit, has introduced several new programs to improve property utilization.

One of these is the laboratory equipment loan service which provides instruments for short-term use only, when deliveries on new equipment are slow, and when regular equipment is being repaired. Another new program, which is meeting with success, is the quarterly sales of equipment no longer needed by an Institute. During 1952, $60,000 worth of existing equipment was made available through these programs, making expenditures for new equipment unnecessary.

The Property Unit screens purchase orders for office equipment that could be borrowed rather than purchased. About six months ago, the Unit started a rehabilitation program for office furniture and machines.

The Central Storeroom carries its shelves about 5,000 different items that are in common use at NIH. These include such varied things as stationery, office supplies and equipment, housekeeping items, scientific apparatus, laboratory clothing, and chemicals. It is a point of pride with the storekeepers that almost anyone who reports for work at NIH will be able to obtain everything he needs to work with as soon as he arrives.

George O. Jarrels, Chief Storekeeper, claims his men have a much wider technical knowledge than the average stock clerk. They need to know how to store such varied items as organic chemicals, which have a limited shelf life, and gases and solvents which have their own special storage area in Building 25.

The Storeroom operates on a system of delivery the day following receipt of requisitions. During 1952, Mr. Jarrel's staff filled 11,774 requisitions valued at more than $430,000.

The Storeroom has 50,000 sq. ft. of storage space tied up with materials already on hand for the Clinical Center.

The Shipping and Receiving Unit headed by Jordan Bryan receives all bulk materials delivered to NIH. During fiscal year 1952, 63,185 packages were received and 4,321 were shipped from NIH. A tremendous increase was noted over 1951 with 7,500 more packages received.

Despite the extra workload, they maintained the regular schedule of two daily deliveries, as well as the special deliveries for perishables and animals.

The Shipping Unit also has the time-consuming task of clearing items through customs. NIH buys some scientific apparatus in foreign markets, and some large shipments were made to NIH projects abroad.

Edward J. LeBrun, NCI glassblower, recently received an award of $80.00 for devising a technique for low cost production of a tissue culture flask with extraordinarily fine dimensional tolerances and optical properties. Flasks of this quality are not available commercially. Shown at the award ceremony are (left to right) Dr. J. R. Heller, Mr. LeBrun, Dr. J. White, and Dr. G. B. Mider.

NMI Mourns Loss of Mrs. Marie Burklin

The death of Mrs. Marie S. Burklin on October 23 was a sad blow to her fellow employees at NIH. Mrs. Burklin died of cancer in Suburban Hospital, Bethesda, Md., after a brief illness. Her funeral was attended by many co-workers and friends at NIH.

In a ceremony in Wilson Hall on December 13, 1951, Mrs. Burklin was honored with an award for 30 years of Government service. She first came to NIH in 1933 to work with Dr. L. L. Williams. From 1933, Mrs. Burklin was a statistician in the office of Dr. James P. Leake, chief of the Section on Epidemiology of NMI's Laboratory of Infectious Diseases. When he retired in 1945, Mrs. Burklin remained on the staff of Dr. Leake's successor, Dr. Joseph A. Bell.

A native Washingtonian, Mrs. Burklin is survived by her husband, Robert M. Burklin; a son, Terence J. McCarthy; and her mother, Mrs. Lavinia Sweeney.

Mr. Bryan is proud of his staff's record that only one package was temporarily misplaced out of all the thousands received by the unit.