FEDERAL SUPPORT OF RESEARCH

The National Science Foundation has recently completed a study of funds administered by Federal agencies for research and development at non-profit institutions during the two fiscal years 1951 and 1952. According to the study, the agencies paid out 338 million dollars for this purpose in the latter period. Of these funds, 98 percent was distributed by the "Big Four"—the Department of Defense, 53 percent; the Atomic Energy Commission, 36 percent; the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (mainly NIH's research grants program), 5 percent; and the Department of Agriculture, 4 percent.

The total sum for 1951-52 was distributed to 427 institutions. Of these, 403 were located in the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. Twenty-four foreign institutions received Federal funds.

In distribution by institutional types, the study showed that the educational institutions dominate, receiving 87 percent of the total funds. Ranking second were the independent research organizations, while hospitals and miscellaneous organizations received the third and fourth largest amounts.

NCI DIRECTOR APPEARS ON CBS DOCUMENTARY

Dr. John R. Heller, Jr., Director of NCI, was one of the participants in "The Quacks," a CBS documentary expose of medical quackery in the United States.

The one-hour show, broadcast to the CBS network August 7 and heard locally August 8, included transcribed interviews with such persons as Colonel Dinsha Ghadiali of "spectrochrome" fame, and Mrs. Ruth Drown, promoter of the Drown diagnostic and treatment device.

SENATE APPROVES TWO DEPARTMENT NOMINEES

Before adjourning, the Senate confirmed two nominations made by the President for important Department posts. The first was that of Russell R. Larmon to be an Assistant Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, one of the two provided for under Reorganization Plan 1. He has been a professor at Dartmouth College in the field of administration since 1934, and has served as a consultant to several business organizations on top management policy.

The second nomination confirmed by the Senate was that of Dr. Chester Scott Keefer as Special Assistant on health and medical affairs to the Secretary. He is physician-in-chief of Massachusetts Memorial Hospital and professor of medicine at Boston University School of Medicine. Dr. Keefer, an expert on antibiotics, supervised penicillin and streptomycin distribution for the U. S. and allies in World War II.

NIH DOCTORS QUERIED ON RECENT DEATHS

The sudden death of Senator Robert Taft has caused some speculation whether the conflict and tension of political life promote cancer and heart disease.

In a timely article in the August 14 issue, entitled "Does the Washington Pace Kill?," U. S. News and World Report features an interview with Dr. John R. Heller, Director of NCI, and Dr. R. C. Arnold, Acting Director of NIH.

Dr. Heller said that the cancer death rate among Senators in the last two years was higher than among men of that age group in the general population. Cancer research, however, shows little relation between stress and the development of cancer.

Dr. Arnold, on the other hand, felt that the heart death rate among Congressmen in the last couple of

(See Deaths, Page 3)
In recent years, penicillin has become the standard treatment for all streptococcal infections, and its use may help to reduce their sequelae including rheumatic fever and acute glomerulonephritis.

Because of the disabling and sometimes fatal results of these sequelae, scientists are seeking the cause, believed to be a streptococcal antigen, of the hypersensitivity that develops during a 10-21 day lapse after infection before the onset of rheumatic fever or nephritis.

Dr. Roger M. Cole and his assistants in the Rheumatic Fever and Streptococcal Diseases Unit of NMI's Laboratory of Infectious Diseases are attacking this problem by seeking a more complete knowledge of the antigenic composition of streptococci, and of their immunological and serological reactions. Streptococci from various sources are identified, and the large NMI collection is being added to constantly.

There are 13 groups of streptococci, with more than 40 types in Group A alone (commonest in humans). Scientists have recently shown a relation between Type 12 streptococcal infections and nephritis. Though no such association of a specific type with rheumatic fever has been shown, NMI workers and other investigators are interested in properties of streptococci—antigenic or other variability—that might help explain why only three percent of streptococcal infections result in rheumatic fever.

During the past year, Dr. Cole's unit has been working chiefly on the agglutination of streptococci. Unpublished results indicate that agglutination of autoclaved streptococci is group-specific and is probably due to the group-specific "C" polysaccharide. Agglutination of living streptococci by the same sera, prepared from autoclaved vaccines, was frequently but not invariably type-specific.

The occasional discrepancies observed and the relative lack of knowledge of the number and nature of intracellular streptococcal antigens have forced inquiry, by methods other than agglutination and agglutinin absorption, into the antigen situation. The Unit has recently started using quantitative serological techniques, as well as the Oudin technique of precipitation in serum-agar, for antigen analysis.

Some of the objectives of this program may be attained in a field study, and one is contemplated. It is hoped that the Unit's studies may lead to new diagnostic methods, which may eventually be extended to patients.

Dr. Cole is also interested in the epidemiology of streptococcal infections in this country. He would like to see a center set up, where reports of typings from all laboratories could be consolidated and the information made available.
CAN YOU SPARE SOME RECORDS FOR PATIENTS?

Do you have some records that you would like to donate to the Clinical Center patients? They have a record player they enjoy using, but their supply of records is very limited. You know, too, how quickly you can tire of the same music heard over and over.

The patients will be grateful for any records you can spare—classics or jazz, vocals or instrumentals, hillbilly or dance tunes.

Miss Joan Doniger, occupational therapist on the Clinical Center staff, will be glad to receive your contributions in Room 5D43, Building 10, or you may call her on Extension 3430.

DEATHS Cont’d

years was not an unusual number among that many men and would approximate the rate for that age group in the general population. He does not believe that emotional strains cause hypertensive heart disease, but they do aggravate it.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ON LEAVE ANSWERED

The NIH Record continues in this issue the question-and-answer summary of the new amendment to the Federal Employees Leave Act.

Q. What change has been made in the provisions relating to transfer of leave?

A. If an employee transfers to a job under a different leave system, he will transfer his annual leave instead of being paid for it as here-tofore. There are three exceptions to this provision, which involve transfer to the jobs of (1) part-time employees without a regular tour of duty, (2) temporary construction workers paid at hourly rates, and (3) officers and employees of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Q. Why are these exceptions made?

A. They are made because the part-time and temporary employees do not earn leave and the Congressional employees are under an informal leave system.

Q. Has any change been made that affects employees changing jobs when both jobs are under the same leave system?

A. No. When both jobs are under the same leave system, the employee transfers his leave as before.

NIH Spotlight

Science, photography, and music have long been dominant interests in the life of R. Donald Reed of the Scientific Reports Branch. When Don was working for his degree in bacteriology at the University of Maryland, he earned most of his tuition with photography, music, and cabinetmaking.

After graduation in 1934, Don came to NIH to work as a bacteriologist with Dr. Ida Bengston, who was doing research on the rickettsial diseases. In those days good pictures of rickettsiae were nonexistent. At the request of Drs. Bengston and R. E. Dyer, NIH bought photomicrographic apparatus and Don devised the necessary staining method and took the needed pictures. When other NIH scientists saw them, they wanted to have pictures made of their animals, gross specimens, etc.

In 1937, Dr. Dyer assigned Don to do photography on a full-time basis, thus inaugurating NIH’s photograph laboratory. A year later, Dr. L. R. Thompson sent Don out to Bethesda to design and equip the photo lab in Building 1, and he was one of the first to move into the new building.

He recalls an amusing incident while NIH was still located at 25th and E Streets. One morning around 5:00 a.m., a guard discovered almost all the monkeys free from their cages, and having a wonderful time. They literally invaded the Lincoln Memorial area and were having a field day, while NIH workers joined police and firemen in trying to catch them. They had quite a time until the last of the monkeys were rounded up, because no one could tell which ones were infected and which were controls and stock.

During World War II, Don took leave from NIH to become Commanding Officer of the 2d Medical Detachment of the Museum and Medical Arts Service. He covered the European theatre for 30 months. His men went from general hospitals to battalion aid stations taking movies and stills and doing medical art. It wasn’t all work for Don in Europe. He had an opportunity to play in the orchestra at a performance of England’s Sadlers Wells Ballet, when they unexpectedly needed a cellist. He met his future wife at the 203d General Hospital, where she was a Red Cross worker.

When Don returned to NIH, he was put in charge of the Color Reproduction Section in SRB, specializing in the problems of color illustration. In May 1952, Don was made an audiovisual specialist in the Office of the Chief, SRB. Here he organizes the NIH collection of slides, and assists in planning movie scripts and radio and TV programs. He is also an advisor on NIH displays and exhibits, and is the NIH representative on film matters to PHS, DHEW, and other agencies. He is now photographing a special slide series on installations and operations in the Clinical Center.

A native of this area, Don was born in Mt. Rainier, Md. He lives in Bethesda, where he indulges his hobby of cabinetmaking and music. He likes to repair and refinish antiques, but limits his work mostly to end tables, footstools, and the like. Don also enjoys tennis and chess, but finds little time for them.

Music is still prominent in his life. Since 1952, he has been first cellist in the Montgomery County Symphony Orchestra. He is also cellist in a string quartet, which gives a few concerts, he says, but plays mostly for fun.

LOST AND FOUND

The following items have been found on the NIH reservation:

Gold tie chain Eyeglasses
Cigarette holder Keys and case
Tobacco pouch Wallet

If any of these belong to you, come to the Guard Office in Bldg. 1. All articles not claimed by September 24 will be returned to the finder.
R & W NOTES

The R & W Tuesday night Cinema Series is oversubscribed by 76 seats. In the interest of these people and those who apparently failed to receive the first announcement of the series, an effort will be made to alter existing distribution contracts, etc., so that the same program can be presented on the following Wednesday nights. A detailed announcement will be distributed soon.

The NIH Softball Team remains in the lead in both leagues. Playoffs for the District League championship begin August 25.

Plans are being formulated to offer again this fall the series of ballroom and Latin American dance classes that proved so popular last year. The same instructor is available if enough NIH employees want to enroll. Notices will be sent to all employees in the near future.

In response to several requests, the Garden Committee has purchased a large scythe to be added to the supply of tools available for loan to R & W members.

Got a hobby? Want to tell about it? There are rumors afloat that the R&W Association will sponsor a hobby show in November. It will involve quite a bit of work, so if you're willing to help, send your name to Betty O'Toole, Room 205, Bldg. 16.

TIPPING THE SCALES

Aw, rats! There goes my waistline. No more candy for me.

NIH CREDIT UNION AUDIT COMPLETED

The NIH Federal Credit Union was audited during the week of July 27 by Mr. G. E. McNamara, Credit Union Examiner from the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions. Although such audits are customarily scheduled on an annual basis, this is the first audit here since 1951, due to a heavy workload in the Bureau.

According to Mr. McNamara, the operation appears in good order. Following the audit, he made certain suggestions to the Board of Directors for future operation. As a result, on paydays (alternate Tuesdays) it will be the policy not to accept applications for loans, or accept new members. This is due to the rush of business on these days. In addition, the Credit Union can no longer cash any checks, unless a payment to the Credit Union is involved.

As an incentive to build up savings, which is one of the primary functions of a credit union, applications for loans to accounts containing low share balances will be subject to the addition of ten percent to the amount of the application, effective September 1. This sum will be credited to the member's share savings. The plan has been effective elsewhere in raising minimum share holdings, and has proved helpful to the individuals involved.

One of Mr. McNamara's major recommendations was the installation of modern accounting and posting machines. With the number of transactions currently handled, and with new members being added regularly, this installation is rapidly becoming a necessity.

ELECTRICAL HAZARDS

This illustration demonstrates how one NIH employee suffered a terrific jolt as he attempted to adjust the heater coil after making certain that the control knob was turned to the "off" position. He inadvertently completed a circuit, energized by the full-line voltage, through the area of his chest and heart. He would have been safe from shock if he had, by chance, reversed the plug into the power receptacle.

Turning the dial to "off" was not enough to insure safety. The plug must be pulled out when using this particular model because it is not equipped with a switch. It is recommended that the Electric Shop be asked to install a double pole switch on auto transformers not now possessing them, and to replace the plug with the polarized type (capable of being inserted in one direction only).

So that you will not be lulled into a false sense of security around electrical equipment, here is another example of its treachery. A refrigerated centrifuge began to rotate with no warning whatsoever. The timer and the rheostat were in "off" position although the centrifuge switch was "on." Oil had dripped on the commutator causing a complete circuit to energize the motor.

It is common practice to shut down the machine in this fashion, but as demonstrated above, it is not safe unless the centrifuge switch is "off."