Dr. Alton Meister, biochemist in the National Cancer Institute, will receive the 1954 Paul-Lewis Laboratories Award in enzyme chemistry, the American Chemical Society has announced. Presentation will be made at the Society's 124th national meeting in Kansas City next spring.

Selection of Dr. Meister is especially notable, as he is the fourth consecutive NIH scientist to receive the national honor. Dr. Arthur Kornberg received it in 1951, Dr. Bernard Horecker in 1952, and Dr. Earl Stadtman in 1953. The award consists of a gold medal and $1,000.

Dr. Meister won the award chiefly for his outstanding investigations in enzymatic transamination, studies on keto acids, discovery of the participation of glutamine and asparagine in the transamination reaction, and isolation of the respective alpha keto omega acid amides.

He is at present Head of the Clinical Biochemical Research Section of NCI's Laboratory of Biochemistry.

The Montgomery County Softball League Championship trophy was presented to the NIH team on September 2. Left to right are Mr. Britton Smith, R & W Softball Manager; Mr. Forest V. Gustafson, Director of the Montgomery County Recreation Department; Dr. W. H. Sebrell, Jr.; and Mr. Daniel O'Keefe, Vice President of R & W.

**FINAL VOL. I ON HUMAN RELATIONS STUDY ISSUED**

Strengths and weaknesses of NIH are revealed in Volume I on the survey conducted here by the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan. Dr. W. H. Sebrell, Jr., at the Surgeon General's Staff Meeting of September 11, indicated that the study so far has been very informative and will be continued.

Though still preliminary, the data are fairly conclusive on certain points. NIH rates high as a place to work, and there is much satisfaction with supervision and scientific leadership. The staff's strongest ties are to the section and lab, rather than to NIH or PHS as a whole.

But NIH is more interested in where problems may lie, said Dr. Sebrell, than in the findings indicating satisfaction. He outlined some of the apparent problem areas.

(See Study, Page 3)

**DR. CARL F. CORI WILL GIVE FIRST NIH LECTURE**

Dr. Carl F. Cori, well-known authority on enzyme chemistry and carbohydrate metabolism, will deliver the NIH Lecture in the Clinical Center auditorium at 8:00 p.m. on September 24. Dr. Cori will discuss "Enzymatic Analysis of the Structure of Starch and Glycogen."

All NIH scientists are invited to the lecture, the sixth in the first NIH lecture series.

Dr. Cori has been Professor of Biological Chemistry at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Mo., since 1931. He and his wife, Dr. Gerty T. Cori, were awarded the Nobel Prize for their work in medicine and physiology in 1948. Among his other honors are the Sugar Research Foundation Award, 1947; the Squibb Award, 1947; and the Lasker Award, 1946.
Studies on Caffeine

No. 103 in a Series

Using fractionating equipment, Julius Axelrod of NHI is isolating the transformation products of drugs and biological materials.

Although caffeine is consumed in large quantities in beverages, and often used as a therapeutic drug, little is known concerning its fate in the body.

A simple and sensitive method to study the fate of the drug in the human body was recently developed by Julius Axelrod and Jules Reichen-thal of Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology, NHI. This method has enabled the investigators to undertake studies of the absorption, excretion, distribution, and rate of biotransformation of caffeine.

In view of the widespread consumption of coffee, it was considered to be of interest to determine whether caffeine accumulates in the body after repeated coffee drinking. Caffeine content of the blood was studied in coffee drinkers who consumed eight cups of coffee over a period of seven hours. It was found that a considerable amount of caffeine accumulated in the body during the course of a day—the equivalent of a therapeutic dose of 3 grains. But there is no day-to-day accumulation, as shown by the virtual disappearance of caffeine by the following morning.

They also found that caffeine has a short half-life; within 31/2 hours, one-half of the drug has disappeared from the body. This amounts to about 15-percent disappearance per hour.

Only 1 percent is excreted in the urine, indicating that the drug is almost entirely transformed. Experiments with oral and intravenous administration of caffeine have shown that it is completely and rapidly absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract.

The drug also passes quickly through the blood-brain barrier and into the cerebrospinal fluid and the brain, suggesting that there is little hindrance to its entrance into the central nervous system. Other experiments showed that caffeine is distributed in the tissues in approximate proportion to their water content.

Another study was made of the fate in man of theophylline, a drug related to caffeine. It was found that man transforms this compound to uric acid derivatives. The utilization of microanalytical techniques, countercurrent extraction, and chromatography have made these studies possible.

Here and There

Appointments

Mr. John E. Fitzgerald took over the duties of Administrative Officer for NIDR on September 1, filling the vacancy left by Mort S. Cox. Mr. Fitzgerald has had four years of experience with PHS in the Bureau of Medical Services.

Medical Society Meeting

All NIH scientists who hold membership in the D. C. Medical Society are invited to attend its meeting which will be held in the Clinical Center auditorium on September 23, from 8:00 to 10:30 p.m. Dr. W. H. Sebrell, Jr., will speak briefly on the research activities at NIH, and the group will tour the Clinical Center.

Bond Drive

A Department-wide Payroll Savings Plan Drive is now under way at NIH for the week of September 21-26. You are urged to participate in the Plan, whereby a designated amount may be deducted from your paycheck for a U. S. Savings Bond. You will be contacted by a keyman in your section.

Credit Union Moves

The Credit Union office has moved from Room 101, Building 1, to Room B1-A-24 in the Clinical Center. The hours of business will remain the same: 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday; 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on payday; and 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the day after payday.

Good News

Mrs. Betty Morar, Buildings Management Branch, was recently notified that her husband, Air Force Sgt. George Morar, has been released by the Chinese Communists and is in fair health. Sgt. Morar had been in a POW camp since September 1951.
To date, approximately 100 people have signed up for the R & W ballroom and Latin American dance classes. The classes, which are scheduled to begin this week, will consist of one advanced and two beginning courses. The services of Mr. Martin Chudy, last year's popular instructor, have again been enlisted. Membership in the group is still available. Just contact Erv Lillegren, Ext. 2767.

Late returns in the 1953 Association membership drive exceed last year's record by 273 members. Jane Sundelof, retiring Membership Chairman, reports that 1,102 employees have joined the Association.

The first two Cinema Series programs, featuring Steinbeck's "Forgotten Village," were received by enthusiastic audiences. The Tuesday programs for November and December must be given in another location, because of alterations in the Clinical Center auditorium. The new location will be announced in a later issue of the Record.

GILBERT J. FREY
WINS CASH AWARD

Gilbert J. Frey, Assistant Operations Officer in the Division of Research Grants, recently received a cash award for an employee suggestion. Ernest M. Allen, Chief of the Division, made the presentation. Mr. Frey devised a time-saving method whereby the history card on each application received in the Division could be processed at the time the application was reproduced.

SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY
WILL BE HELD HERE

All interested NIH scientific personnel are invited to attend the 24th Annual Scientific Assembly of the D. C. Medical Society, which will be held October 5, 6, and 7, at the Hotel Statler.

Two NIH scientists will participate. Dr. Dorland J. Davis of NMI will discuss "Vaccination Against Influenza" at 9:30 a.m., October 5; and Dr. Pearce Bailey, Director of NINDB, will discuss "Rehabilitation in Neurologic Disorders" at 3:10 p.m., October 7.

A psychiatric nurse needs to have more than the usual supply of patience and understanding, according to Gwen Tudor Will. Gwen, who is chief of the Psychiatric Nursing Service for the Clinical Center, believes that the psychiatric nurse can facilitate the patient's communication and social participation by handling her interpersonal relations with the patient in a therapeutically useful manner.

In her present job, Gwen is responsible for a wide variety of administrative and supervisory tasks, which are increasing daily as the arrival time for psychiatric patients draws near. As supervisor of the care of patients with varying emotional difficulties, she cooperates with NIMH clinical investigation teams in planning a program that will explore the pattern of reciprocal reactions between patients and personnel. The study will then seek to alter these patterns so that they may have a positive beneficial effect on patients and bring increased satisfaction to the staff.

She is also responsible for formulating psychiatric nursing policies, program plans and objectives. She handles the details of organization, staffing, and supervision of her Service, which will eventually include six nursing units. Gwen derives much satisfaction from her work because of the challenge of dealing constantly with personalities, a field in which there are no set rules.

Petite, blonde Gwen brings a wealth of experience to her present job. She was born and grew up in Olin, Iowa, a town outside Iowa City. She graduated from the University of Iowa in 1941 and obtained her R. N. the same year. From 1941 to 1950, she was associated with the Iowa Psychopathic Hospital, where she moved up from staff nurse to Director of Nursing and Assistant Professor of Psychiatric Nursing.

In 1950 she came East to attend Teachers College, Columbia University. She obtained her Masters degree in nursing education there in 1951. After spending a year at Chestnut Lodge in Rockville as a research student, Gwen came to NIH in January 1952.

She was recently married to a staff physician from Chestnut Lodge, and finds that her new domestic responsibilities keep her busy outside of working hours. She also enjoys reading, dancing, and admits to playing the flute, strictly for her own amusement.

Gwen Tudor Will
CENTRAL SERVICES MEET EXPANDING NEEDS AT NIH

Medical Arts Section in Building 1.

Animal Section at the Rockville Farm.

Media Preparation Section in Building 5.

Instrument Section in Building 13.

Cabinet Shop in Building 13.

Photographic Laboratory in Building T-6.