AWARDS GIVEN TO DR. HORECKER

Dr. Bernard L. Horecker, NIAMD, was recently named recipient of two Washington area awards in recognition of his research in carbohydrate metabolism.

The Washington Section of the American Chemical Society announced the award of the Hillebrand prize to Dr. Horecker on January 14. The award is conferred annually upon a member of the Washington Section who has made the most notable contribution to chemistry during the three preceding years.

On January 16 the Washington Academy of Sciences announced that Dr. Horecker had been chosen to receive its annual Biological Award. The award was presented at the Academy's annual dinner meeting, January 21. Both awards cite Dr. Horecker for his discovery of two enzymes active in sugar transformations.

Dr. Horecker was the 1952 recipient of the ACS's Paul-Lewis Laboratories Award in enzyme chemistry. In 1952 and 1953, he was presented with Superior Accomplishment Awards at NIH. He is Chief of the Section on Enzymes and Cellular Biochemistry, LBN.

FELLOWSHIP NAMED IN HONOR OF DR. WILDER

The National Vitamin Foundation recently announced the establishment of the Russell M. Wilder Fellowship for post-doctoral training in nutrition. The three-year, $15,000 fellowship, named in honor of the retired NIAMD Director, will be awarded to a candidate holding a doctorate in medicine or one of the biological sciences, as a part of the Foundation's program of promoting the training of qualified investigators in the nutrition field.

Dr. Wilder, an internationally known nutritionist and authority on diabetes, served as Director of NIAMD from January 1951 to July 1953. He is residing at present in Rochester, Minnesota.

Established in 1946, the National Vitamin Foundation functions primarily through distribution of research and training grants to qualified institutions and individuals.
A deficiency of folic acid, one of the B vitamins, can now be detected in rats by means of a test developed by Drs. Floyd S. Daft, Milton Silverman, Herbert Tabor, Alan H. Mehler, and Hugo Bauer of NIAMD.

The investigators have been studying the relation between amino acids and protein metabolism for many years. Not only does protein deficiency cause a folic acid deficiency, but also protein or amino acids have been shown to be of value in the prevention and treatment of various blood disorders.

In a study of the relation between protein utilization and folic acid, the investigators induced a folic acid deficiency in rats by two of the known methods—a low protein diet and administration of a sulfa drug (sulfasuxidine). It was found that these rats excreted a hitherto unknown substance. This substance was analyzed and found to be a glutamic acid derivative.

Next, it was found that large amounts of the substance appeared in the urine when the folic-acid-deficient rats were fed an amino acid, histidine. The derivation of this substance from histidine was demonstrated by a tracer study using histidine labeled with an isotope of nitrogen, N15. Fifty-five percent of the isotope was recovered in the urinary glutamic acid derivative. The urinary compound has been shown to contain equal proportions of glutamic acid, formic acid, and ammonia.

The test, then, consists simply in feeding histidine to the animals and measuring the glutamic acid derivative in the urine. Clinical investigation will establish whether the test can be applied to humans. It is expected to be useful in research on sprue, pernicious anemia, and other blood diseases.

The researchers are now working on new studies of the chemistry of the glutamic acid derivative. The project was a cooperative effort between the Laboratory of Biochemistry and Nutrition and the Laboratory of Pharmacology and Toxicology. Assistants for the study were Howard A. Bakerman, Mary A. Gray, Mary L. Kunde, Marjorie J. Romine, and Rita C. Gardiner.

Concession Stand
A small concession stand was recently opened in the lobby of the Post Office, Building 10. The stand, which is operated by the Maryland Workshop for the Blind, sells candy, cigarettes, and magazines. It is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Letter of Thanks
In a recent note to Mr. Clarence May, Mrs. Betty Franklin expressed her gratitude for the generous contributions by NIH employees in memory of her husband, Bill Franklin of BMB, who died November 24.

Honors
Dr. Harry Eagle, NMI, recently received the annual Gold Medal Award of the Phi Lambda Kappa Medical Fraternity. The award was presented at the fraternity's 46th annual convention in Baltimore.

Dr. Joseph J. Bunin, Chief, Clinical Investigations, NIAMD, was appointed to the Committee on Research of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation.

Cafeteria Hours
The Clinical Center Cafeteria is now open from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Reminder
Those who elected to make their contributions to the Community Chest by the pledge system should make their payments to Miss Mary D. Bertha, Rm. 1-S-231B, Bldg. 10.

Storeroom Move
The storeroom in Building 1 will be consolidated with the one in Building 13 on February 8. Requisitions for supplies should be sent to Building 13 after that date.

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CREDIT UNION VOTES FOUR PERCENT DIVIDEND

The NIH Credit Union held its annual meeting on January 13. At the meeting, members voted a four percent dividend on 1953 savings.

New members were also elected to the three committees that guide the Credit Union. Members elected to the Board of Directors are Neil K. Wood, Robert E. Learmouth, Clarence A. Lowe, Dr. Gordon Seger, and Bernice Storrer. New members of the Credit Committee are Irene Dixson, Dorothy Wipf, and Kenneth Painter. On the Supervisory Committee are Gilbert Frey, Robert Michelitch, and Hazel Rea.

A new service of the Credit Union is the auto finance plan, accepting the car as collateral. You may borrow three fourths of the purchase price plus the cost of insurance. Interest rate on new cars is one half, and on used cars, three fourths of one percent per month on the unpaid balance.

PLANS UNDER WAY FOR 4TH EQUIPMENT EXHIBIT

The Supply Management Branch, formerly known as Purchase and Supply Branch, has already begun planning for the Fourth Annual Research Equipment Exhibit held each spring at NIH. The exhibit will be held May 24-27 in Building 22, where 92 booth spaces will be available for exhibitors.

Members of the NIH staff are invited to make suggestions about companies or items they would like to see included in the exhibit. You may phone them to Mrs. Tomasello, extension 2315.

ARE TAX FORMS GETTING YOU DOWN? HERE'S HELP

If you need help in filling out your Federal or State income tax returns, contact the person in your Institute who is listed below: CC, Milton Hefferman and Hazel Melroy; NCI, Mary Federline, Herman Michelitch, Phillip Webb, and Laurine Alexander; NIH, Patricia Caulfield and Betty Thompson; NIAMD, George Leonard; NINDS, Linden Neff; NIMH, Thelma Bowhay; NMI, Mary Lou York; DRG, Robert Michelitch and James Pace; NINDB, Joseph McLoughlin; BMB, Frances Kennedy and Thelma Pace; SMB, Thomas Fagan and Earl Silliman; FM, Mary V. Geisbert and Robert Learmouth; PB, Barbara White.

NIH SPOTLIGHT

Renetta Hamilton

A variety of papers representing the inner workings of NIMH pass across the desk of Mrs. Renetta Hamilton in her capacity as secretary to the Messrs. Lyman Moore and Hector Ragas, Executive and Administrative Officers respectively of the Institute. Her daily tasks call for assisting them with many administrative problems, and with arranging for the regular staff meetings. She worked in NIMH's Community Services Branch when she first came to NIH in May 1951.

Born and raised in Michigan City, Indiana, Renetta remained there until World War II, when her husband entered the service. She traveled with him to Alabama, Georgia, Arizona, and California. During the war, his family moved from their home in Tipton, Indiana, to Washington, D. C. In 1946, the young couple came for a visit and decided to make their home here. They have never regretted their choice.

Renetta and her husband share an intense enthusiasm for the same hobbies. In their Bethesda home, they have a Hammond organ which both are learning to play. If you want to find them on weekends, you'd better go out to Erco Field in Riverdale. There they keep their shiny new Beech Bonanza—the speedy, four-passenger plane that was their mutual Christmas present. It is their fifth plane, and Renetta hopes to earn her pilot's license this summer. Her husband holds a private license and has been flying for about 15 years.

Mr. Hamilton is president of the Washington Air Derby Association, a group of private pilots and plane owners. The club has about 115 members, and organizes flights every Sunday to east coast beaches and points of interest. Renetta has enjoyed seeing the plays at Roanoke Island, N. C., and the rose and tulip festivals at Hershey, Pa. In 1950, they flew their plane to Havana, Cuba.

Sometimes as many as 30 planes take off for a club flight to Atlantic City. Members meet there for breakfast, have a swim, and return in the late afternoon. Renetta says it's a joy to hop in the plane in a wet swimsuit at Rehoboth Beach or Ocean City, skim over the long lines of cars homeward bound, and land at the field in less than an hour.

Renetta and her husband again plan to take their vacation in March so they can join the club's annual flight to Florida. Last year they stayed an additional week and enjoyed a boat trip to Nassau and Jamaica.

R & W NOTES

The next feature of the Cinema Series will be "Monsieur Beaucaire," starring Rudolph Valentino. The French version of Disney's "Three Little Pigs" is also on the program. The series will return to the Clinical Center Auditorium with showings at 8 p.m. on February 16 and 17.

Notices have been distributed to the ladies of NIH inviting them to enroll in a "slimmastics" course, which will combine ballet and modern dance techniques with exercise. For additional information, call Barbara Forman, extension 2886.

Three more division representatives have been elected for 1954: Mrs. Catherine Cantrell, DRG; Dr. Walter L. Newton, NMI; and Dr. Arnold W. Pratt, NCI. Dr. Pratt will also serve as building representative for Bldg. 6, and has asked the following to serve in other NCI locations: Mrs. Margaret Monday, Bldg. T-6; Frank G. Miner, Bldg. 8; and Mrs. Olga S. Collier, Bldg. 10.

The Hamsters are now offering associate memberships to NIH employees, their families and friends, who may be interested in participating occasionally in Hamster activities. These members are welcome to attend social meetings and take part in Hamster productions. They may not vote or attend business meetings. For information, contact Julia Rowady, ext. 657.
PICTURES RECALL GROWTH OF NIH DURING 1953

Aerial view of NIH taken during Clinical Center dedication. Courtesy of the Washington Star.

Technicians at work in one of the Clinical Center laboratory modules.

Patients attend services in the Clinical Center chapel.

Dr. Donald Bloch, psychiatrist, views children through one-way mirror on a mental health ward in the Clinical Center.

Patients sit beside one of the pools at entrance to Center.