MENNONITE COLLEGE STUDENTS VOLUNTEER FOR STUDIES HERE

Sixteen students from Mennonite colleges in various parts of the country entered the Clinical Center recently to serve during their summer vacations as normal controls for several medical research projects.

Desiring to spend the summer performing constructive work, the students applied to the Volunteer Service Board of the Mennonite Central Committee in Akron, Pa. Interests in medical research prompted them to volunteer for CC projects. They are participating as normal control patients in heart, mental health, arthritis, and metabolic diseases studies, and will remain here until Sept. 1.

Included in the group are two foreign exchange students who are studying under Fulbright scholarships at Messiah College, Granham, Pa. They are Miss Baerbel Kittler, whose home is in Germany, and Mr. Munir Fatalek, from Jordan. Other students came from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Kansas, and California.

Miss Marion Keeney, of Akron, was appointed unit leader of the group by the Mennonite Central Committee. She is responsible for organizing the students and planning activities. One of these is a daily singing program for CC patients. The students also meet for devotions every evening and conduct discussion groups once a week.

Other students serving here are: Evelyn Dyck, Connie Swogger, Harold Klassen, Herman Friesen, Howard Heise, Myrtella Lehman, Edith Yoder, Evelyn Middau, Dorothy Wetherell, Clinton Denson, Robert Fast, Edna Thiessen, and Margaret Birkey.

NIH WOMEN EMPLOYEES TO HEAR CANCER TEST RESULTS ON JULY 14

The results of the uterine cancer test, applied to approximately 1,000 NIH women employees since the program began March 28, will be reported at a general meeting for women in the CC Auditorium at 3 p.m. Thursday, July 14.

Nurse Officers Mary M. Bouser, NCI's Cancer Nursing Section, and Frances S. Wolford, Employee Health Service, will explain the tabulation of reports on the NIH slides received from the NCI cytology laboratory in Memphis, Tenn.

Because more than a third of the women here have not yet had the test,
The Cardio-Roentgen Actuator
No. 143 in a Series

Operator can trigger X-ray at a precise time in the patient's heartbeat by means of the cardio-roentgen actuator, instrument at right, which marks the exact time of exposure on the electrocardiograph at left.

It is now possible to obtain a precise X-ray film exposure of any desired phase of the heart cycle, by means of the newly developed Cardio-Roentgen Actuator.

This instrument was designed and recently completed in NHI's Laboratory of Technical Development by Frank W. Noble, and Drs. Bert R. Boone, Harold T. Dodge, and Armand E. Brodeur.

Up to now, X-rays of the heart and blood vessels have been taken without reference to the phases of the heart cycle. Under certain circumstances, however, X-rays taken at phases of the heart cycle are particularly useful to the clinical investigator. He can observe changing heart size during treatment and can study physiological differences at the several phases.

The Cardio-Roentgen Actuator is simply a complex trigger for X-ray machines. It operates in conjunction with an electrocardiograph that continuously traces the heart's electrical activity. This activity is correlated with the expansion and contraction of the heart. The electrocardiographic signal is utilized by a special control box to activate the X-ray exposure at any selected time in the heart cycle. A monitoring photo cell on the X-ray table detects the X-ray exposure and feeds a pulse back into the electrocardiographic curve, marking the exact instant of exposure.

Since the duration of the heart cycle varies with the heart rate, a series of appropriate time delays corresponding to heart rate are incorporated in the apparatus. A multiple-tapped switch is provided, each tap selecting a different delay circuit, with the switch knob calibrated in terms of heart rate.

Additional features of the actuator are a neon indicator panel light that signals the beginning and end of film exposure, and a panel pushbutton to be pressed when the operator completes instructions and arrangements with the patient. There is also a provision whereby the actuator will inactivate itself, thus avoiding double exposures.
Mrs. Geneva Lundberg

A sympathetic ear, and a broad knowledge of human problems and the ways in which they may be worked out, are the assets which Mrs. Geneva Lundberg brings to her job. Mrs. Lundberg, a social worker with almost twenty years’ experience, is presently serving as the NIH employee counselor for a unique pilot study sponsored by the Recreation and Welfare Association. This study is being conducted on a six-month trial basis, and is designed to outline the needs for employee counseling on the personal and family problems that do not fall within the scope of the Employee Relations Section or the Employee Health Service.

Since March 1, Mrs. Lundberg has come to NIH one day a week. (Currently her workday is Thursday.) Her office, located on the second floor of the Caretaker Cottage, Building 16A, affords a beautiful sense of privacy which she feels is important in the interview situation. Her appointment schedule is set up according to telephone requests worked out, are the assets which

just talking out a problem can help to shed new light on it," she adds. In some cases she may make a referral to a community social agency--such as a child care center or day camp, family agency, or a home for the aged. In such cases, she also gives helpful information about the community resource and how it may be used most effectively.

Mrs. Lundberg’s social work career started in Indiana, where she worked in a family welfare agency and later took an assignment with the State Division of Mental Hygiene. She first came to Washington as a medical social work consultant for the FSA Bureau of Public Assistance. In 1949 she joined the PHS in a consultant position to the Chronic Disease Division of the Bureau of State Services. She accepted another consultant job with the Commission on Chronic Illness after moving to her present home in Baltimore.

Her educational background includes an R. N. degree from St. Luke’s Training School for Nurses, and undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Chicago. She received her M.A. from the School of Social Service Administration there. She is a fellow of the American Public Health Association.

Slender and deeply tanned, Mrs. Lundberg is an avid sports lover. Her favorite is golf, and she modestly admits to breaking 90 "fairly regularly." Cooking and housekeeping also rank high on her list of enjoyable activities.
CENSUS SURVEY HELPS CANCER STUDIES HERE

Approximately 38 million Americans use cigarettes regularly, with men smokers outnumbering women by almost 2-1, according to preliminary results of a Census Bureau survey conducted recently at the request of NCI. Scientists here plan to use the data in this report as a tool in making health studies, particularly in determining whether there is a relation between smoking and lung cancer.

Estimates based on a study of about 40,000 persons revealed that two out of three men 25 to 64 years old smoke regularly in one form or another. About four million male cigarette smokers consume less than half a pack a day; one-half million smoke more than two packs daily; the majority smoke 10 to 20 cigarettes a day. Another two million smoke cigarettes occasionally.

BARNEY NAMED NIDR INFORMATION OFFICER

Robert O. Barney was appointed July 3 to a new position in NIDR--Information Officer. He had been a publications writer in NCI's Cancer Reports Section since coming to NIH in January 1950.

CANCER TEST Cont’d

the program has been extended through August. All women who file applications by Aug. 31 will be given appointments to have the test done in the Employee Health Unit. Application forms will be available at the July 14 meeting, and those who wish to do so may fill them out and receive appointments before leaving the auditorium. Applications filled out later may be sent to Room 2206, Bldg. T-6, until Aug. 31.

The NCI motion picture, "Breast Self-Examination," will also be shown at the July 14 meeting, in response to many requests.

Vacation Information

Still undecided about your vacation plans? Then be sure to consult the colorful collection of tour and vacation literature in the Personnel Branch's display rack, Room 21, Building 1.

NIH FIREMEN KEEP 24-HOUR VIGIL

Fire protection for NIH is a round-the-clock job for the BMB Fire Department. To maintain a constant vigilance, each of the two Fire Department platoons, consisting of four men on each shift, works on a 24-hours-on, 24-hours-off schedule.

Before the opening of the Clinical Center, the Fire Protection Unit consisted of two men, an emergency truck, driven by guards, and firefighting equipment located in all buildings. In November 1953, a 1000-gallon pumper fire engine was acquired, and the Fire Department was expanded and reorganized.

At present the Department is staffed with ten men, including Fire Marshal Kenneth Gettings, Assistant Fire Marshal James Welch, four driver-operators, and four fire fighters. The Fire Station, located in Building 12, provides garage and storage space for fire-fighting equipment, and an office, kitchen, and bunk room for the staff. In addition to the fire engine, the equipment now on hand includes a total of 2300 feet of fire hose equipped with fog nozzles, and a variety of emergency supplies such as resuscitators, gas masks, wirecutters, floodlights, and a 35-foot extension ladder.

The NIH Fire Department. Left to right: Fire Marshal Kenneth Gettings, Charles Poole, Stuart Northup, John Debnam, Raymond Kullison, Charles Barrett, Samuel Carter, Vincent Napoli, and Assistant Fire Marshal James Welch.

car, and the Montgomery County Mutual Aid Fire Board. On general alarms, the Department calls for aid from the Bethesda Fire Department.

The internal alarm system is set up so that it alerts building occupants and gives firemen and emergency crews the location of the fire by zone, building, and floor numbers. The Clinical Center is also equipped with heat-sensitive fire alarm actuators in the laboratory areas. In addition to the alarm systems, each building is equipped with emergency equipment such as fire extinguishers, hoses, and gas masks, which are regularly inspected and cared for by the Department.

An intensive program of on-the-job training and employee education is another major responsibility of the Fire Department. In addition to the fireman's training he has received before coming to NIH, each fireman attends weekly training classes conducted by the Fire Marshal. These classes review the basic principles of fire fighting and first aid, and give up-to-date information on the use of new equipment. The NIH Guards attend the instruction sessions periodically to enable them to supplement the fire-fighting force in event of an emergency. During orientation, all new employees attend special classes in fire prevention and fire-fighting techniques given jointly by the Fire Marshal and the Safety Officer.