DR. SEBRELL IS HONORED AT RETIREMENT CEREMONIES

Goodbye to Dr. and Mrs. Sebrell. Right, Secretary Hobby greets Dr. Shannon, while Dr. Scheele and Dr. Sebrell look on.

DR. von SALLMANN
APPOINTED TO NINDB

On August 1, Dr. Ludwig von Sallmann, nationally noted investigator of the eye and disorders of the eye, came to NIH to serve as Chief of the NINDB Ophthalmology Branch.

Before his appointment, Dr. von Sallmann was Professor of Ophthalmology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, and Attending Ophthalmologist at the New York Presbyterian Hospital. He is a native of Vienna. He is particularly noted for his work in ocular physiology and ocular pharmacology, especially in relationship to the causation of cataract and glaucoma.

Dr. von Sallmann is the author of more than 160 papers on the eye and its diseases. He has been the recipient of many honors, including the Procter Medal, one of the high symbols of recognition in his field.

ATOMIC MEDICINE TOUR
SCIENTISTS MEET HERE

Twenty-five foreign scientists making the Atomic Medicine Tour of atomic installations throughout the United States visited NIH July 25. The tour, sponsored by the Atomic Energy Commission, the State Department, and the American Council on Education, began June 20 and ended July 26, and included scientists from 11 countries.

Shortly after their arrival here, the scientists attended a program in the Clinical Center Auditorium, where they were greeted by Dr. Sebrell. Dr. J. Robert Andrews, NCI, presided over the program, and introduced the following NCI speakers who presented papers: Drs. Lloyd W. Law, Falconer Smith, Richmond T. Prehn, Margaret K. Deringer, Ruth Merwin, Kirkland C. Brace, and Howard L. Andrews.

A capacity audience of HEW officials, and PHS and NIH personnel paid tribute to Dr. William H. Sebrell, Jr., at retirement ceremonies held July 29 in the Clinical Center Auditorium.

Talks were given by Secretary Oveta Culp Hobby, Surgeon General Leonard A. Scheele, and Dr. Floyd S. Daft, NIAMD Director. Mr. Bradshaw Mintener, HEW Assistant Secretary, and Dr. James A. Shannon, new NIH Director, were also present. Dr. C. J. Van Slyke, NIH Associate Director, was chairman of the program.

In wishing Dr. Sebrell success in his future work as research consultant for the American Cancer Society, Secretary Hobby remarked that "it is good to know that medical science and the people are not going to lose his active service in the cause of health." Regarding her own resignation effective August 1, Mrs. Hobby stated that she is "proud to have been a member of this Department, and I
In a search for substances which might provide raw material for anti-arthritis drugs, the NIAMD Laboratory of Chemistry has been studying stevioside, the principle of the Paraguayan plant Stevia Rebaudiana Bertoni. Although no anti-arthritis properties have been found, this unusual plant has other remarkable qualities. The leaves of the small shrub possess such remarkable sweetness that they are used by the natives to sweeten bitter drinks. Known locally in the Guaraní dialect as "ca-á jhē" or "ca a yupe," the plant is often called the "Sweet Herb of Paraguay."

Though the sweetening powers of the plant have been known for years, it was not until 1931 that the first chemical studies were undertaken. Two French chemists, M. Bridel and R. Lavieille, found that a white crystalline compound, which they named stevioside, could be extracted from the leaves in six percent yield. Further investigations revealed that stevioside was some three hundred times as sweet as table sugar and had no apparent toxic effects in various experimental animals. It is composed only of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, and contains, as part of a large molecule, three units of glucose. Stevioside, therefore, is not only the sweetest natural product yet found but the only substance of high sweetening power which is non-nitrogenous and contains glucose.

In 1952 the chemical investigations were renewed by two groups of NIAMD scientists who sought to unravel the structure of the large molecule. One group, which includes Drs. Hewitt G. Fletcher, Harry B. Wood, Roy Allerton, and Mr. Harry Diehl, investigated the structure of the sugar residues and found these to be as unusual as the sweetness of the substance. Of the three glucose units in stevioside, two were found to be joined together with an unusual C2 linkage and then to the aglucen. The remaining glucose molecule is attached at C1 to a sterically hindered carboxyl of the aglucen. In further studies, this ester linkage was found to be readily cleaved by alkali, converting stevioside to levoglucosan and steviolbioside. The structure of the noncarbohydrate group of the substance was delineated in a study undertaken by Drs. Erich Mosettig and William R. Nes.

Thus far, no specific use has been found for stevioside. Though it may present some advantages as a non-caloric sweetening agent, the substance could not presently compete economically with such is sweet, safe, and well-established synthetic sweetener as saccharin. Cultivation of the Stevia Rebaudiana is difficult, since the seeds of the plant are usually sterile and reproduction must be made by subdivision. Except for some contiguous areas in Brazil and Argentina, Paraguay is the only country where the plant has been successfully cultivated to date. Further studies by the NIAMD investigators will be directed toward exhaustive biological testing and a closer chemical characterization of this remarkable substance.

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Studies of Stevioside

No. 145 in a Series

Left: Dried specimen of the Stevia Rebaudiana Bertoni. Right: The structure of the stevioside.
Mental Health Drive Ends

Over $221 was collected here recently in the Maryland Mental Health Fund Drive, conducted under the auspices of the Mental Hygiene Society of Maryland. As chairman of the campaign, Charles E. Mills, NIMH Executive Officer, wishes to thank all NIH contributors.

RETIREMENT Cont’d

I am proud to have some part in the victories that have been won at the National Institutes of Health under the leadership of such men as Dr. Henry Sebrell.

Dr. Scheele, in recalling the five years during which Dr. Sebrell served as NIH Director, pointed out that "this has been a challenging period of tremendous growth and change. The growth has been in the right direction and the change has been constructive, in large measure because of the leadership of Henry Sebrell."

Dr. Sebrell spoke briefly of his 30 years with the Public Health Service, and stated that the era of growth and expansion at NIH is virtually over. "Now emphasis will have to be on quality." He concluded, "Mrs. Sebrell and I would like to express our warm and friendly best wishes to the entire NIH staff."

A reception on the CC terrace followed the ceremonies.

SAVINGS BOND DRIVE ENDS HERE AUGUST 21

Employees will have until August 21 to sign up for the Special Savings Bond Campaign now under way in the Department. Application cards authorizing deductions through the Payroll Savings Plan have been distributed by keymen. Everyone is urged to enroll now, or increase purchases if you are already participating.

Howard E. Kettl, FMB, has been appointed acting NIH chairman of the drive, and he is being assisted by the following Institute and Division chairmen: Margaret A. Badger, CC; Phillip J. Webb, NCI; Hector B. Ragas, NIMH; L. J. Neff, NIAMD; John B. Beadle, NMI; Ursula B. Myers, NIH; Ann E. McHugh, NIDR; Joseph H. Mcloughlin, NINDS; Joseph L. Murphy, OD; Donald R. Cushing, OD-BMB; and Kenneth Painter, DBS.

LEARMOUTH NAMED NCI EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Robert E. Learmouth, NIH Financial Management Officer since January 1952, was appointed Executive Officer of NCI on July 11. He succeeds Dr. Gordon H. Seger, who became Chief of Extramural Programs for NINDS last April.

Mr. Learmouth came to NIH from the Office of the Surgeon General, and he joined the PHS in 1946.

Former Patient Donates Paintings to Library

Mr. Syed Ahsan, former Clinical Center patient, recently donated to the Patients’ Library three paintings done by his wife. In one painting, Mrs. Ahsan depicts a scene in her native Pakistan of a group of women buying spangles from an itinerant merchant. Another is a miniature portrait of a man in native costume, while the third is a still life of a vase of tulips. All are executed in a colorful, detailed, and ornamental style.

Mr. Ahsan, who is now residing in the Pakistan Embassy, also donated three books on his native country to the Library’s collection.

A few weeks ago Bill passed a most crucial test, for which he was awarded a license to operate a motor vehicle. Being unable to drive presented no problems to him until the transit strike, which helped him decide to learn.

William L. Poole

Retaining a fondness for animals is almost inevitable after spending a number of years on a farm, according to NIDR’s William L. Poole. In addition to working with animals, he has chosen some as hobbies. A Montgomery County resident all his life, Bill was born in Clarksburg, attended school there and in Poolesville, and has lived in Barnesville, Rockville, and now in Bethesda.

Bill is a research technician in the Laboratory of Oral Bacteriology. He works with Dr. Robert J. Fitzgerald on experiments with antibiotics for the prevention of dental caries in rats. Bill sets up animal experiments and diets, and prepares culture media and bacterial stains. He also helps maintain and identify bacterial cultures.

Bill joined NIH in April 1942 as a Scientific Helper in NMI’s Laboratory of Infectious Diseases. Here he assisted Dr. Byron J. Olson in work on tubercle bacilli. In 1945 he transferred to the Dental Institute as a Laboratory Technician.

Before coming to NIH he did maintenance and surveying work for the State Roads Commission.

Hunting and fishing are his favorite outdoor sports, with his favorite spot at Seneca. He keeps a parakeet at home, and, until recently, had four cocker spaniels, and raised tropical fish. "I’ve kept a menagerie," he reflects.

Color photography is another hobby he enjoys; for this he has acquired a great deal of equipment. Most of his pictures are of parades, which are usually very colorful.
ROCKEFELLER AWARD
PROGRAM NOW OPEN

Applications for the Fourth Rockefeller Public Service Awards must be submitted to the Personnel Branch, Room 21, Bldg. 1, by August 12. The program is open to Federal career employees whose performance has been distinguished by intellectual maturity, leadership, character and competence, and who evidence a sincere interest in public service as a career.

Established at Princeton University under a grant from John D. Rockefeller III, the awards are designed to give special recognition to outstanding public service by civilians in the executive branch of the Federal Government, and to establish incentives for the continuance and advancement of those in the service. Preference will be given to candidates 35 to 50 years old who have a minimum of five years' service with the Government.

The awards will be sufficient to enable each recipient, at no financial sacrifice to himself, to spend not less than six nor more than twelve months in residence at an institution of his choice, or in some comparable educational activity.

Applications are available in the Personnel Branch, ext. 2673.

LOST AND FOUND

The following articles have been found on the NIH reservation:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rings</td>
<td>Ballpoint pen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earring</td>
<td>Cuff link</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pen</td>
<td>Umbrellas</td>
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<td>Glasses</td>
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The above articles may be seen in the Guard Office, Room 119, Building 1, and those listed below in the Guard Office, Room 1A-06, Building 10.

- Black purse
- Lady's gloves
- Pipes
- Key case
- Tickets
- Laundry ticket
- Glasses case
- Rings

The following may be seen in the Guard Office, Building T-6.

- Wristwatch
- Gold bracelet
- Sunglasses and case

TOUR Cont'd

Following lunch, the scientists were assigned to tours covering individual interests in radiation, surgery, general medicine, endocrinology, and radiation laboratory research.

Maximal rehabilitation of the patient is the ultimate objective of physical therapy. General treatment, functional training, and self-care activities aid the patient in becoming physically independent and socially adjusted.

The Physical Therapy Service of the CC Rehabilitation Department treats approximately 40 to 50 patients daily. Headed by Miss Jo Niebuhr, the staff includes seven physical therapists, one physical therapy aid, and one secretary.

Patients are referred for treatment by Institute physicians. They are given tests by physical therapists to evaluate their capabilities and to aid the physician in determining the type and extent of treatment necessary. These tests include manual and electrical muscle evaluation, range of motion measurements, self-care and posture evaluations, vital capacity and osimetric readings. Tests are repeated periodically to help serve as a measurement of progress.

Pre- and post-operative, and non-operative patients receive physical therapy here. For example, patients scheduled for thoracic surgery involving heart or lungs receive pre- and post-operative segmental breathing or general chest expansion exercises. In the non-operative group including poliomyelitis, muscular dystrophy, rheumatoid arthritis, and many others, emphasis is on muscle re-education. Intensive treatment regimens are provided for the patient during his stay here, and prior to discharge, he is instructed in a home exercise program.

Space and equipment in the PT wing adequately provide for application of a wide variety of treatment or test measures. In the main clinic there are 10 curtained cubicles where patients may receive hot packs, electrical muscle stimulation, tests and measurements. Another section is devoted to therapeutic exercise, and contains such apparatus as the tilt or standing table, the Elgin exercise table with pulleys and weights for progressive resistive exercise, the parallel bars for walking re-education, and the practice steps. The hydrotherapy rooms contain the moist air cabinet, whirlpool bath for treatment of an extremity, and the Hubbard tank for full body immersion in water.

Another area was equipped recently with items or furniture normally found in the home, for testing and training of patients in activities of daily living. Self-care activities involving hygiene, communication, dressing, household tasks, and locomotion are practiced here. Patients learn how to get into a chair, bed, or bathtub from a wheelchair; use a telephone; open and close doors, drawers, and windows; and other similar activities.

All treatment measures in the Physical Therapy Service are designed to maintain, restore, or increase the patients' abilities.