Three employees recently shared cash awards totaling $350 for suggestions and work performance.

Theodore D. Perrine, chemist in NIAMD’s Laboratory of Chemistry, received $175 in a ceremony held August 24. The award, presented by Dr. James M. Hundley, Acting Director, NIAMD, was for the invention of a stopcock with needle-valve control, which permits precise and reproducible metering of the rate of flow of liquids. Anyone interested in adapting this invention to work in other Institutes is urged to contact Mr. Perrine.

NCI employees Mary Catherine Vessels and Franklin Reed received awards for superior work performance from Dr. John R. Heller, NCI Director, in a ceremony held August 17. A grants assistant in the Research Grants and Fellowships Branch, Miss Vessels was awarded $150. Mr. Reed, a medical biology technician in the Radiation Branch, received $25.

The NIH Employee Awards Board has completed its reorganization for this fiscal year. Scott Adams, NIH Librarian, has been named Chairman, replacing Dr. Bert R. Boone, NHI, who completed his term and now reverts to a board member. Dr. Evelyn Anderson, NIAMD, was appointed to a three-year term on the board, replacing Dr. Margaret Pittman, NMI, whose term expired. Other board members are Dr. Kenneth M. Endicott, NCI, and Philip P. Simon, CC.
Clefts of the Lip and Palate
No. 147 in a Series

Handicaps involving structures of the head, otherwise known as orofacial defects, offer a challenge to dental research. Treatment must be prescribed on an individual basis, depending upon the patient's structural and functional deficits.

Of the various congenital abnormalities under investigation at NIDR, one of the most common is the cleft lip and palate, occurring in one out of every 700 births. A continuing longitudinal growth study of infants born with a split in the upper lip or roof of the mouth was instituted six years ago at the Cleft Palate Center of the Chicago Professional Colleges of the University of Illinois. This investigation was begun on an NIDR Special Research Fellowship by Dr. Samuel Pruzansky, now Acting Chief of NIDR's Clinical Investigations Branch.

The data collected at the Cleft Palate Center is being processed at NIH, then made available to other institutions and scientists. So far, the investigating group has found that adequate surgical repair can be achieved for cleft lip. Not all clefts of the palate, however, are susceptible to functional correction by surgery, and instead require speech appliances. The adequacy of structures and their functional capacity at the time surgery is undertaken is one of the main determinants in the success or failure of cleft palate surgery.

Also working on this study is Dr. Jacob D. Subtelny, whose particular interest is the growth of the nasopharynx and adenoid and the physiology of speech. He and Dr. Pruzansky have also been investigating the effects of early orthodontic treatment.

Both men have been collaborating here with Dr. Ralph S. Lloyd, CC Dental Department Chief, on the design and analysis of speech appliances for the correction of inoperable cleft palates.

N. I. H. RECORD

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At ten weeks of age, this infant with a cleft lip underwent surgery. The operation was successful, as shown in the picture at the right taken three months later.
Buildings Inspection
An intensive health and safety evaluation of all buildings on the reservation has recently been undertaken by the NIH Environmental Health Committee, composed of the Employee Health Service, Radiation Safety, Sanitary Engineering, and Safety activities. The team is currently completing a thorough inspection of Building 6.

CUTTER REPORT
Copies of the report on NIH investigations of poliomyelitis vaccine produced by the Cutter Laboratories, released August 25, may be seen in the NIH Library or in the information office of each Institute.

ETHER IGNITES IN LAB
An NIH chemist recently suffered second-degree burns when ether vapor ignited on an electric hotplate. The investigator had been agitating a small flask of ether in a hot water bath over a Lindberg electric hotplate, when the solvent burst into flames. His arm involuntarily recoiled, dousing his upper body with the burning solvent.

It is always risky to use a hotplate for heating flammable solvents, because their ignition temperatures are usually below the maximum temperature of the hotplate surface. In this case, the hotplate was at approximately 500° C, and the ignition temperature of ether is 180° C. The thermostatic control adds an additional hazard, as it produces a make-and-break spark.

To keep on the safe side, use an electric mantle or a steam or hot water bath (not in combination with a hotplate) to heat low-boiling solvents.

McLOUGHLIN ACCEPTS POST IN COLOMBIA
Joseph H. McLoughlin will end his duties as NINDB Administrative Officer on Sept. 14, in order to accept a position in Bogota, Colombia, with the International Cooperation Administration. He has been appointed Business Manager for Health and Housing.

Mr. McLoughlin came to NIH in February 1949 as Budget Officer, from a similar position with the United States Employment Service, Washington. He became NINDB Administrative Officer in October 1951. Born in Brooklyn, N. Y., Mr. McLoughlin lives in Rockville with his wife, Anne. They plan to leave for Colombia early next month.

Blood Donors
During the recent visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile, 84 NIH employees donated blood.

Hanford is a member of the American Legion and is currently serving a term on the Board of Directors of the Lions Club. He took an active part in planning the Lions' carnival, held in Mount Airy last month. Any leftover spare time is put into his home workshop, where he has turned out several handy household items, including a utility trailer.
R & W NOTES

Watch for notices of the Hamsters’ casting dates for the October 27 and 28 production, "Ladies of the Corridor," a full-length drama by Dorothy Parker, has been selected for the presentation. Also on the Hamster agenda is the September 27 social meeting, to be held in Wilson Hall at 8 o’clock. Feature of the evening will be a workshop production of "Hands Across the Sea," a zany one-act comedy by Noel Coward.

At its last meeting, the executive council voted to make application to the Post Office Department to obtain a contract post office for NIH. Full details will be forthcoming when arrangements have been completed.

R & W members may now obtain film at a discount in the film service booth in the CC Cloak Room, 11:30 to 1 each workday. A 20-percent discount is offered on black and white, and 10 percent on color film.

BEAUTY FOR SALE

A new hairdo can be a potent tonic to ladies suffering from "end-of-the-summer doldrums." What’s more, milady can be renovated without pointing one dainty toe outside the reservation.

Behind the doors of Bl-C-19 in the Clinical Center, one views with amazement the changes that take place. The neat little sign outside reads "Beauty Shop," and the hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. All beauty services are available by appointment, ext. 2765. Gift beauty items are also for sale. Maxine Coraone, with twelve years of experience, and Betty Wetherell, with four years, are the operators on duty.

GRAY LADIES ENTER THIRD YEAR IN CC

Readily identified by their gray caps and uniforms, and the familiar Red Cross patch on their upper left arm, the Gray Ladies offer personal services to hospital patients everywhere.

Now completing their second year of volunteer service in the Clinical Center, the Gray Ladies have 54 members on active duty here, performing varied services. They visit and write letters for patients, help them with different craft projects in occupational therapy, help them select library books, and shop for various articles. On weekends they escort patients on theater and sightseeing trips, and assist in setting up chapel services every Sunday morning.

Children look forward to the visits of the Gray Ladies. Playtime is more fun when the Gray Ladies sit in on a guessing game, teach a new game, or read stories. A play area supervised by a Gray Lady is always a hubbub of activity.

Gray Ladies are on duty in the Clinical Center every day from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and four nights a week. A number of them have completed many more than the minimum of 150 hours a year expected of each volunteer. Mrs. Willard Haskins, chairman of the CC group, and Mrs. Harry Stull have contributed over 400 hours during the past year.

The following women have given over 300 hours: Mmes. John Ewing, Ohmer Grove, Harold Hanson, Frank Linthicum, Verne Lyon, Norman Piron, John Sherman, George Wooding, and Willard Wright. Over 250 hours have been served by Mmes. Chapman Binford, Roger Ellis, Vane Hoge, Charles Olin, and Ethel Protheroe. Mrs. Isabel Bennett and Mrs. Robert Burdick have given more than twice the 75-hour night duty minimum.

Sponsored here by the Montgomery County Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Gray Ladies are recruiting candidates for a new class to start in October. Training classes have been scheduled for October 11, 15, and 18. A probationary training period follows.

Women joining this hospital volunteer corps must be at least 21 years old, and be available for service in the Clinical Center one day each week. Further information may be obtained by calling the American Red Cross Headquarters at JU 8-2515.

Credit Union To Move

On September 12, the NIH Credit Union will be open for business in new, more centrally located quarters. The new space, currently being remodeled for CU use, is located opposite the Maryland Workshop for the Blind candy stand, in Room Bl-C-27, Building 10.

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