STAPH INFECTION IS TOPIC OF CONFERENCE

Staphylococcus infection in the hospital was the topic of a combined clinical staff conference, March 12, in the Clinical Center. The evening conference was attended by approximately 200 Washington area physicians in addition to NIH personnel.

Dr. John P. Utz, NIAID, reported that there is overwhelming evidence that staphylococci have the faculty of becoming resistant to almost every antibiotic originally effective against them.

Recent studies in the Clinical Pathology Department, reported by Dr. H. H. Marsh, CC, have made it possible to prepare and store lyophilized staphylococcal bacteriophage, which attacks staphylococcus organisms. The phage will soon be commercially available, and it is hoped that now small laboratories will be able to define the infection, trace its route, and provide a means for control.

The conference also included reports from Drs. H. Taylor Caswell, Temple University, Ivan L. Bennett, Johns Hopkins Hospital, and, from NIH, George Z. Williams, CC, Harry G. Steinman, NIAID, and Emil Frei, NCI.

NCI SECTION CHIEF WINS 1959 ROCKEFELLER PRIZE

Marvin A. Schneiderman, head of the Therapeutic Trial Section, Cancer Chemotherapy National Service Center, received a Rockefeller Public Service Award on March 16. He was one of 11 Federal service career employees selected by Princeton University to receive the annual prize.

Administered under a grant from John D. Rockefeller III, the awards

CHECKS PRESENTED AWARD WINNERS IN CC, DBO

Four award winners from the Clinical Pathology Department, CC, received checks at the recent presentation. Standing (from left) are Vivian Arnold, Dr. George Z. Williams, chief of the department, Dr. Jack Masur, CC Director, Anne Jennings, Charles Zierdt, and Henry Dickerson. Seated in front row (left) is Dr. Harold Morris, NCI, Awards Board representative.

Thirty-five employees in the Clinical Pathology Department, CC, and five from the Communications Section, DBO, received cash incentive awards totaling over $3,000 at ceremonies held in the Clinical Center March 17.

Dr. Jack Masur, CC Director, and Dr. George Z. Williams, Chief of the Clinical Pathology Department, presented five individual and six group awards for superior performance to department personnel.

Individual cash awards were presented to Vivian Arnold, Anne Jennings, Henry Dickerson, Hiroshi Nishi, and Charles Zierdt for "continued superior performance and inventiveness," as well as for their "contagious enthusiasm for work, accuracy, and quality."

The department also gave group awards for superior performance to Victor Chance, Lillian Robinson, Charles Ambush, and Seabea Hemingway, of the para-medical group.

DR. BAYLEY ELECTED CHILD SOCIETY HEAD

Dr. Nancy Bayley, chief of the Section on Child Development, NIMH, was voted president-elect of the Society for Research in Child Development at the society's 25th anniversary meeting here March 19-21. She will take office in 1961.

Conference sessions were attended by more than 350 scientists from universities, hospitals, and other research centers throughout the country. They discussed present activities in the field of child development as well as the forecast for the next 25 years. Dr. Bayley was program chairman for the meeting.

Left Heart Entered By New Method
No. 225 in a Series

To diagnose congenital or acquired heart abnormalities without recourse to surgery requires that the heart chambers be entered directly by needles or by hollow tubes. The chambers on the left side of the heart are the most difficult to study. This is the high-pressure side, where oxygen-laden blood returns from the lungs into the left atrium and is pumped by the left ventricle directly to the body. It is here that the most serious damage to heart valves occurs from rheumatic fever and other heart diseases.

To attempt to pass a catheter through an artery into the left heart would force the tube head-on into a reverse valve. Present techniques employ needle puncture through the chest wall or, by means of a bronchoscope, through the left bronchus into the adjacent left atrium of the heart.

A new method developed by Dr. John Ross of the Surgery Branch, called transseptal left heart catheterization, utilizes the standard right heart catheterization approach. It permits the physician to study the right and left sides of the heart at the same time, and is safer and relatively comfortable for the patient.

The patient is given mild sedation and placed on a fluoroscopy table. A cardiac catheter about 1/8" in diameter is then introduced through a vein in his right thigh. Once the catheter is visible on the fluoroscope, its tip may be guided accurately into the right atrium, the receiving chamber of the right side of the heart. This part of the procedure ordinarily takes only a few seconds.

At this point, a specially constructed needle, curved at its pointed end and 15 mm. longer than the catheter, is inserted into the catheter. The catheter tip is directed into position against the septum, or wall, separating the right and left atria, and the needle is pushed forward, thereby puncturing the septum.

Once the needle has entered the left atrium, pressure is measured in that chamber, and a small plastic catheter may be passed through the needle and across the mitral valve into the left ventricle, where pressure is again measured. These measurements, results of the pressure pulses transmitted through the needle, are observed on an oscilloscope screen and recorded. The tracings obtained indicate whether or not the mitral valve is functioning properly.

It is also possible to detect abnormal openings between the right and left sides of the heart and to determine their exact location by injecting a colored dye or a radioactive material into the left heart chambers and charting its path through the heart with special recording instruments.

Removal of the catheter and needle leaves a small puncture in the septum which closes within a short time.

After perfecting this technique on a series of dogs without complication, Dr. Ross and his associates in the Heart Institute have applied the method successfully to 16 patients. No ill effects have been observed. Dr. Ross plans to extend the technique to include some of the (See Heart, Page 4)
From girlhood in Guam to Princess in Washington's Cherry Blossom Festival is only a part of the story of Marilyn WonPat.

Marilyn, a nurse in CC's Allergy and Infectious Diseases Nursing Service, was chosen last month by the Guamanian Society of Washington to represent the Territory in the annual Cherry Blossom Festival in April. And after seeing Marilyn, it's easy to understand why she was selected.

"Nothing like this has ever happened to me before," she says. But she does admit that twice in the past she had been asked to be a candidate for Queen of the Guam Liberation Day celebrations. Unfortunately for the program, Marilyn was not able to participate either time.

Marilyn left Guam in 1949 to attend high school and college in Colorado. She graduated with a B.S. in nursing from Loretto Heights College, in Denver, in 1956. She worked as a general duty nurse in medical and surgical wards at St. Anthony's Hospital there before coming to NIH last April.

Of her childhood in the Guam towns of Sumay, Agat, and Agana, Marilyn vividly recalls two important historical times: the hardships and tortures of the Japanese occupation of her home island, and the peoples' happiness and relief at the American liberation in 1944. "The liberation," she says, "is something I will remember as long as I live."

Marilyn's choice of a nursing career, in the face of some objections and attempts at discouragement by friends and relatives, was prompted by her realization of the island's need for nurses.

Her chief aim, she says, is to return to Guam some day soon, perhaps to the Naval Hospital there, where she hopes her nursing skills will be of help to the people of her home island.
EXHIBIT SHOWS USED FURNITURE 'BEFORE AND AFTER' RECONDITIONING

Delores Calcutt (left) and Ruth Towner (right), both of DBO, show off the reconditioned office furniture exhibit prepared by the Supply Management Branch, DBO. The display demonstrates what can be done to make old office furniture look like new, and features two model offices (shown above) filled with equipment before and after reconditioning. The exhibit is open to all NIH employees from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., April 1 through April 30 in Room G-110, Building 12.

April Groundbreaking
Set For NIDR Building

A contract for the construction of the new NIDR building, to be located between the CC and the new DBS building, was awarded March 9. Groundbreaking for the new $3.7 million structure is scheduled for April.

Plans call for complete air-conditioning of the new building. It will have five floors and two basements, and is expected to provide 42,000 square feet of laboratory space to accommodate 190 NIDR researchers.

HEART Contd.

newer diagnostic procedures such as selective angiography and radioactive gas studies for the localization of congenital heart defects.

CHILD Contd.

NINDB, Dr. Emil Frei, NCI, Dr. Robert Bloodwell, NIH, Drs. Fritz Redl, Marian S. Yarrow, Nancy Bayley, Earl S. Sheaffer, Richard Q. Bell, Jacob L. Gewirtz, Harriett L. Rheingold, and David Shakow, NIMH.

Later sessions were devoted to such topics as biological studies, infancy and growth, cross cultural studies, personality and emotions, social role perceptions, development and functioning of moral standards, learning and cognition, early exogenous factors in infant development, thinking, parental attitudes and child rearing practices, and the next twenty-five years in child development research.

AWARDS Contd.

and to Dolores Kenton, Nancy Murray, Elli Malta, and Leo Hart in the Microbiology Service.

In the department's Clinical Chemistry Section, Jean Biggs, Julia Pasterwka, Mary Catherine Gorm, Dorothy Collins, Thomas Rayford, William Bowie, Sylvia Bunting, Eugenia Gregory, Miriam Bowman, and Enice Gowdy received cash awards for work performance.

Group awards for job performance in the Hematology Section went to Rowena Bayes, Eleanor Jakocek, Olga Jurevitch, Mary Cummings, Paul Rhodes, Joan Ruberg, Minna Feld, Lois Spencer, Elsie Stampe, Theresa Bernard, Anna Weiss, and Clara Barber.

At another ceremony, a group award of $400 was given to four employees of the Communications Section, DBO, for superior performance. Recipients were James G. Hawkes, George Hoff, John W. Peters, and Helen A. Wilson.

Miss Cramer, Miss Wilcox Retire with Long Service

Dorothy M. Cramer, associate librarian, Scientific Reports Branch, DRS, retired February 28 after 23 years' government service. She has returned to her home in Seattle, Wash.

Miss Cramer joined the staff of the PHS Library in 1936 and came to NIH in 1942 as an assistant librarian. She became associate librarian here three years ago. At one time, she initiated a course in library instruction for PHS reference personnel.

A contributor to various professional journals, Miss Cramer has also compiled bibliographies of selected medical subjects for Government-wide distribution.

Aimee Wilcox, protozoologist in the Laboratory of Parasite Chemotherapy, NIAID, Columbia, S. C., retires this month after 30 years of Government service.

Long recognized as a leading investigator in the field of malaria, Miss Wilcox joined PHS in 1928 in the Office of Malaria Investigation, Memphis.

While serving at the former Hygienic Laboratory, Washington, she initiated a program of technician training in malaria parasitology for state health departments throughout the country.

She assisted in research resulting in the improvement of staining procedures of malaria parasites, in studies on various phases of human and avian malaria, and in viral studies in rabbits.

ROCKEFELLER Contd.

enable outstanding public servants to spend six to nine months on job-related projects at an institution of their choice, or in some comparable educational activity.

Mr. Schneiderman, who is an expert in medical research statistics, plans to study new statistical techniques of cancer research at the School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in London.