Credit Union Reports Changes in FCU Act, 4 1/4% Dividend

Officers of the NIH Federal Credit Union, reporting at the Credit Union’s annual meeting January 15, disclosed changes in the Federal Credit Union Act and announced a dividend of 4 1/4 percent.

One revision in the Federal Credit Union Act specifies that the amount of a unsecured loan (not requiring co-signers or a share balance equal to the loan) be raised from $400 to a permissible maximum of $750. Other amendments state that the Board of Directors rather than a membership vote will declare the dividend figures and will appoint the supervisory committee.

Members Exceed 5,000

In the annual report it was noted that the NIH Credit Union’s assets are in excess of a million dollars and a quarter dollars, and that the total membership exceeds 5,000.

There has been a two-member increase in the Board of Directors, and an expansion of facilities is anticipated.

Members elected a Board of Di­rectors rather than a membership vote will declare the dividend figures and will appoint the supervisory committee.

Plans To Be Doctor

Normal Volunteer Helps in Lab

One of the young technicians assisting in a laboratory of NIH’s Section of Endocrinology is neither a PHS Commissioned Officer nor a Civil Service Employee.

Jim Conrad, 23, is a normal volunteer patient who has spent the last 16 months at NIH undergoing a variety of metabolic tests for doctors conducting research projects in NIH and NIMH. But his pre-medical courses at Goshen College and his determination to enter medical school this fall have provided him with some technical knowledge and an eagerness to learn as much as he can about his chosen field.

Jim, a member of the Mennonite

Aging Conferences Launched; AAAS Conducts Symposium

An interdisciplinary symposium on aging, supported by a research grant from the Division of General Medical Sciences, was held December 29 and 30 at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in Chicago.

Dr. Nathan W. Shock, Chief of the Gerontology Branch, NHI, was instrumental in developing and conducting the symposium.

Various Aspects Discussed

The symposium brought together, before a new audience, eminent scientists from several disciplines to discuss various aspects of aging, ranging from the role of the endocrinology to the effects of work and retirement.

Dr. James E. Birren, Chief of the Section on Aging, NIMH, and Drs. Shock and Bernard L. Strehler of the Gerontology Branch, NHI, were among the 17 speakers.

Also speaking were Drs. Ewald Busse and Philip Handler, key participants in the Duke University interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Aging, and Dr. Abraham White, a key participant in the National Institutes of Health’s National Institute of Aging.

171 Attend

Five workshop sessions were attended by 171 people from civic, social, and welfare groups of Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties, who participated in a day-long study of many of the more pressing problems associated with old age.

One of the broad goals of the conference is to encourage additional research in aging. Four Maryland regional conferences, including the one held here, will be conducted each Thursday through April 7.

Assistance Offered in Tax Preparation

Assistance in the preparation of Federal, Maryland, and District of Columbia income tax forms will be available to NIH employees until April 15.

Building 10: Barbara White will be in Rm. 1S228 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Call ext. 2164 for Thursday appointment.

Building 1: Dorothy Wipf will be in Rm. 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call ext. 707 for Thursday appointment.

Robin Building: Either Mrs. Wipf or Mrs. White will be in Rm. 106 from 9:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each Thursday through April 7.

Dr. Eagle Selected As First of Staff For NIH Lecture

Dr. Harry Eagle, Chief of the Laboratory of Cell Biology, NIAID, will be the first NIH scientist to present a National Institutes of Health lecture.

Entitled “biosynthesis in Human Cell Culture,” Dr. Eagle’s lecture will be given Tuesday, February 8, at 1:15 p.m. in the NIH auditorium.

This innovation in the lecture series was established to recognize NIH scientists and the role they play in the development of the bio-medical research endeavor. Lectureships are awarded by the Director, NIH, on the advice of the Scientific Directors’ Group.

Dr. Eagle’s lecture will deal with the nutritional requirements and metabolic activities of mammalian cells. He will discuss, for example, the limited biosynthesis of essential growth factors such as cystine and inositol, as well as specific metabolite blocks in certain cell strains. Amino acid transport and protein turnover will also be discussed and the nutritional role of serum protein.

A Medical Director in the PHS

NIAID Appoints Three To Advisory Council

The following have been appointed to the National Advisory Allergy and Infectious Diseases Council for terms beginning February 1, 1960:

Dr. Francis S. Cheever, Dean of the School of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh; Dr. Harry F. Dowling, Professor of Medicine and Head of the Department at the University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago; and Mrs. Irene Fitzhugh McCabe, Public Relations Director of the St. Louis Blue Cross, St. Louis, Mo.
NEWS from PERSONNEL

Summer Employment

The Personnel Management Branch is receiving applications for summer employment from college science students who are interested in pursuing careers in research. Each year, NIH appoints approximately 200 out of 1,000 applicants. The majority of appointees are graduate and senior level college students. Applicants are also encouraged to apply for the Civil Service Student Trainee Examination so that they may be considered for summer jobs in other Government agencies.

Opportunities for summer jobs also exist for some applicants who have completed successfully in the Civil Service typist and stenographer examinations. Inquiries and applications should be directed to the Recruitment and Placement Section, Room 21, Building 1.

In addition to summer employment under the Civil Service system, the COSTEP (PHS Commissioned Officer Student Training and Extern Program) is receiving applications from second and third-year professional students who are interested in reserve commissions in the Corps of the Public Health Service. Information about COSTEP may be obtained from Joseph A. Staton, ext. 3381.

New Wage Board Rates

The Locality Wage Schedule in the Washington, D. C., metropolitan area, as mentioned in the last issue, has been completed and the new rates for the regular Wage Board Schedule will be effective for the pay period beginning February 7, 1960. The increase in pay for those affected will appear in the checks received March 1.

The increases range from 2c an hour at Grade 1 to 12c an hour at Grade 12, with an overall average increase of about 6c an hour.

Maternity Tax-Exclusion

A recent ruling by Internal Revenue Service allows for some sick-pay exclusion in maternity cases and may be applicable in certain instances as far back as 1956. For purposes of the sick-pay exclusion, "sickness" exists from the commencement of labor to the time one is no longer physically incapacitated as the result of childbirth or miscarriage, and is physically able to return to work.

A statement from the physician showing the dates of this period of incapacity should be submitted in addition to the usual information required to support exclusion of sick-pay.

If such exclusion was applicable and not taken in the years 1956, 1957, or 1958, an application for refund may be requested by filling out form 843 and an amended return for the appropriate year.

Scientific Careers for Women

PMB is currently working with a representative of the Department of Labor on a pamphlet describing career opportunities for women in the biological sciences. The pamphlet will outline the kinds of special interest were historicologic lesions, as shown in slides, of the brains and spinal cords of monkeys inoculated with live attenuated poliovirus. These slides corroborate the data reported by DBS scientists at the WHO-PAHO Live Poliovirus Conference last year.


Virologists from Sweden, Switzerland, Ireland, Russia, and Canada have also visited DBS within the past year to study these problems.

Foreign Scientists Are Interested In DBS Poliovirus Procedures

Recent visits to DBS laboratories by scientists from three British research institutions have pointed out the worldwide interest in control problems peculiar to the live poliovirus vaccines.

Dr. Alan P. Goffe, of the Burroughs-Wellcome Laboratories in Kent; Dr. J. A. Dudgeon, Virus Research Unit, Glaxo Laboratories, London; and Dr. Thomas Bewick, Medical Research Council Laboratories, London, were here during January to study DBS research findings.

Of particular interest were the control procedures which DBS and the PHS Committee on Live Poliovirus Vaccines are developing for the anticipated commercial use of live poliovirus vaccine, including the tissue culture and animal inoculation methods for determining its safety.

VOLUNTEER

Church, requested alternative service as a normal volunteer patient at NIH, and several of the scientists here have taken a special interest in him.

Through his work two days a week in Dr. Frederic C. Bartter’s Section on Endocrinology, he has developed a keen interest in medical research, and while he is a subject of tests on glucose metabolism for NIH, he expects to assist Dr. Stanton Segal as well.

He "gained a lot of knowledge here," Jim told recently, "and one of the biggest satisfactions is to know that I've contributed constructively to the health and welfare of mankind."

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Asian Flu Outbreaks Speed Research, Vaccine Release

The current influenza outbreaks have caused increased research activities at NIH and elsewhere. At press time, outbreaks had been reported from many States, and the A (Asian) strain had been identified in seven of them and the District of Columbia.

In order to facilitate the release and distribution of the approximately 2.8 million doses of influenza vaccine now in various stages of production, the Division of Biological Standards has advised all manufacturers that, as a temporary measure, determination of potency may be made on the basis of the chicken cell agglutination test (CCA) instead of the usual mouse protection test.

CCA Test Is Faster

The mouse protection test is based on the capacity of the vaccine to elicit antibodies in mice with gradually doses of vaccine and requires 24 days for completion. The CCA test, which measures the inactivated viral content in the test tube, can be completed in less than two days. Although animal tests are more acceptable measures of vaccine potency than in vitro tests, experience over the past several years indicates that the CAA test correlates well with the mouse protection test.

The approximately one million doses of vaccine presently available contain the Asian strain as well as other A strains—PR8 and Ann Arbor 1-57—and one type B strain—the Great Lakes. The prevailing type of influenza this season appears to be caused by the Asian strain. However, the many scattered outbreaks indicate a wide seeding of the virus.

Increased support for influenza research to permit investigators to take advantage of the study opportunities afforded by the current outbreaks was announced by Surgeon General Leroy E. Burney of the Public Health Service.

Methods to stimulate research during the current influenza season and to encourage long-range research in influenza and related diseases were developed when Dr. Burney called together the Service's Committee of Investigators which is composed of some of the nation's leading authorities on influenza and related diseases. The meeting was held at NIH.

Research Accelerated

Members of the Committee agreed to accelerate their own research during this influenza season and to encourage other investigators to conduct influenza studies. All influenza research projects will receive special review at the National Institutes of Health, and qualified projects will be approved rapidly.

Types of problems cited by the Committee as needing study are:

a. Assessment of the value of vaccine given in the 1957 epidemic as to its possible degree of protection at the present time;

b. The present degree of immunity of unvaccinated individuals who had influenza in the 1957 epidemic;

c. The physiological effects of influenza on cardiovascular and respiratory systems;

d. The neuromuscular effects of influenza.

Investigators who participated in studies during the 1957 epidemic have been alerted to the accelerated project review and approval mechanism.

The Committee of Investigators was established on the recommendation of the Surgeon General's Advisory Committee on Influenza Research. The Influenza Research Committee continued to function after the Asian Influenza Epidemic of 1957. It stressed that one of the major problems of influenza research is to maintain a competent corps of investigators with a continuing interest in research in this disease between epidemic periods. A plan for a Committee of Investigators with continuing interest in influenza research was approved by the Councils of the National Institutes of Health and by the Surgeon General in the fall of 1959.

Committee Named

Members of the Committee of Investigators are: Dr. Robert Wagner, University of Pennsylvania; chairman; Dr. George Burch, Tulane University; Dr. Fred M. Davison and Dr. Thomas Francis, University of Michigan; Dr. Ivan Bennett, Johns Hopkins University; Dr. George Hirst, Public Health Research Institute of the City of New York, Inc.; Dr. Maxwell Finland, Boston City Hospital; and Dr. Roderick Murray, National Institutes of Health.

Understanding Gained In Metabolic Fate Of Phenylalanine

Further evidence of the way in which the body inactivates epinephrine and norepinephrine was provided in a study focused on the contribution of pyrogallol to this process. In a report published in Science, Dr. Julius Axelrod of the National Institute of Mental Health Laboratory of Cellular Pharmacology, has brought increased understanding of the metabolic fate of this substance whose faulty metabolism results in phenylketonuria, a condition often leading to a severe form of mental retardation.

One study, reported in the Journal of Biological Chemistry, dealt with the participation of tetrahydrofolic acid in the enzymic conversion of phenylalanine to tyrosine. Dr. Kaufman has identified dihydrofolic acid as the product of oxidation of tetrahydrofolic acid by the phenylalanine oxidase system. Tetrahydrofolic acid serves as an electron donor in this reaction and appears to be similar in structure and function to the natural, as yet unidentified cofactor.

Catechol-O-methyl Role In Inactivation of Norepinephrine Shown

Further evidence of the way in which the body inactivates epinephrine and norepinephrine was provided in a study focused on the contribution of pyrogallol to this process. In a report published in Science, Dr. Julius Axelrod of the National Institute of Mental Health Laboratory of Clinical Science, and Dr. Marie-Jeanne Laroche, NIH postdoctoral fellow now at the Institut Pasteur in Paris, present evidence pointing to catechol-O-methyl transferase as the enzyme mainly involved in the inactivation of the neurohormone norepinephrine in the sympathetic nervous system.

Pyrogallol inhibits the O-methyltransferase of epinephrine by catechol-O-methyl transferase in vitro as well as the metabolism of these catecholamines, and the formation of their O-methylated metabolites, in the intact mouse. Since pyrogallol also prolongs the physiological effects of epinephrine, it is suggested that catechol-O-methyl transferase terminates the actions of the catecholamine hormones.
Virology Holds Promise for Solution of Cancer Problem

From Heineman Foundation Lecture given by Dr. John R. Heller, Director, National Cancer Institute, at Charlotte, N. C., January 26.

There is no doubt that virology now holds the most promise in research efforts on cancer.

Of course, virology has but recently attained this high status. Only in the past few years has the accumulated evidence of a half-century of investigation proved sufficient to convince the more skeptical scientists that viruses cause cancer in animals.

The French bacteriologist Borrel was the first to make the suggestion, in 1905, that cancer might be a viral disease. His countryman, the eminent virologist Charles Oberling, has since pointed out that Borrel reached this conclusion when he failed to find the "microbe of cancer." For years his idea was defensible "mainly because no other offered a satisfactory interpretation."

Then, in 1908, the Danish scientists Ellerman and Bang succeeded in transmitting leukemia from one chicken to another by injecting cell-free filtrate of blood and organ extracts. At that time, however, leukemia was not generally considered a neoplastic disease, so their work did not receive much attention.

Two years later, Peyton Rous, working at the Rockefeller Institute in New York, transferred certain spontaneous tumors of chickens by cell-free filtrates. One of these neoplasms was the source of the "Rous Sarcoma." This work was viewed with some skepticism, due to the prevailing opposition to an infection theory, but subsequent work established beyond any doubt that these were true neoplasms, and that there were no living tissue cells in the filtrate. Now we know that Rous' discovery marked an important stage in the history of experimental cancer research.

In the early thirties, a young man named Richard Shope, also at the Rockefeller Institute, was studying rabbit tumors—in particular, a papilloma occurring in certain wild cottontail rabbits.

Using the same basic technique employed by Rous, Shope extract ed and filtered the papilloma tissue, and injected the filtrate into domestic rabbits. The Shope papilloma agent cannot be recovered from the tumors in the domestic rabbit; the animal can be infected with a filtrate, but the papillomas that arise cannot be transmitted from one domestic rabbit to another. Nevertheless, the presence of a virus is signified by the appearance of antibodies in the blood as the tumor develops.

In the last decade, however, a number of investigators have become interested in virus-cancer research, and have produced an impressive amount of information about animal tumor viruses and the fundamental nature of viruses and cell components.

Recent Studies

The beginning of this new, active period is marked by a study by Dr. Ludwik Gross, of the Bronx Veterans Administration Hospital, who in 1951 successfully transmitted mouse leukemia with filtered extracts by injecting new-born mice of a susceptible strain. His best results were obtained when he inoculated mice no more than 16 hours old. Gross also reported an unexpected result—some of the inoculated mice developed tumors of the parotid, or salivary gland, and miscellaneous other types. Such tumors rarely, if ever, occur spontaneously in un inoculated mice of this strain.

At the National Cancer Institute, Sarah Stewart attempted to reproduce Gross' results. But, although she used the same method, none of the mice she inoculated got leukemia. They developed parotid gland tumors instead. Teaming with Bernice Eddy, also at the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Stewart increased the infectivity of the parotid tumor filtrate by carrying it in tissue culture.

Thus was discovered the Bittner milk agent, now accepted as a virus.

These, then, were the early pioneers of virus-cancer research—Borrel, Ellerman and Bang, Rous, Shope, Lucke, Bittner. But it was a long time before their results were generally considered to be anything but isolated laboratory curiosities. Other paths of cancer research appeared vastly more promising than virology.

In the last decade, however, a number of investigators have become interested in virus-cancer research, and have produced an impressive amount of information about animal tumor viruses and the fundamental nature of viruses and cell components.

Virus Principle Supported

A study conducted at the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research in New York City about three years ago shed new light on the virus-tumor relationship in animal leukemia. Dr. Charlotte Friend reported her discovery of a virus that induced leukemia in adult as well as infant mice within 2 to 3 weeks after inoculation.

Viruses Principle Supported

Dr. Joseph Beard, the eminent virologist at Duke University, has pointed out that the studies by Friend and Gross have "firmly established the principle of virus etiology of well-known examples of mammalian leukemia." And, he adds, "there now exists a consid-
1910 - CARREL and BURROWS, ) first growth of cancer
1910 - WOLPINO, ) cells in tissue culture

Handling Viruses

Understanding The Nature of Viruses

1927 - BUSCH, development of the electron microscope
1939 - STANLEY, )
1952 - ZINDER and LEIDERBERG, ) discoveries of the chemistry
1956 - FRAENKEL-CONRAT, ) and biology of viruses
1956 - GIERER and SCHRAMM, )

erable body of information which is not only compatible with the hypothesis of the viral etiology of human leukemia, but which provides a substantial and reasonable background for pursuing investigations in this field.

Leon Dmochowski, who with the electron microscope directly visualized viruslike particles in a variety of mouse and chicken tumor tissues, has conducted some interesting studies on human leukemia. In a collaborative study at the M. D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute, in Texas, Dmochowski reported seeing viruslike particles in a biopsy from an enlarged cervical lymph node of a patient with acute lymphatic leukemia. He also reported that cells in the lymph nodes had undergone a number of changes similar to cell changes in affected organs of mouse leukemia and chicken lymphomatosis. Visceral lymphomatosis is a common malignancy of chickens, known to be caused by a virus.

New Development

Several months ago, one of our scientists at the National Cancer Institute reported a discovery that is, I believe, a real landmark in virus-cancer research. It is a fascinating story, beginning with John Moloney’s studies of the properties of Sarcoma 37, an experimental mouse tumor. In the course of his investigation, Dr. Moloney prepared a cell-free extract of the tumor and injected it into healthy mice. The result was quite unexpected. Within eight months, the animals developed a type of leukemia that is indistinguishable from spontaneous leukemia in mice.

Following this lead, Moloney prepared extracts from leukemia tissue of the mice that first developed the disease, and injected these extracts into mice. By repeating this process several times, he obtained an extract so virulent that it caused leukemia within 10 weeks in 100 percent of the mice injected on the first day of life.

The leukemia agent is a virus, and it has been seen under the electron microscope. Unlike other mouse leukemia viruses, the Moloney virus causes the disease in several different strains. It is also active against adults as well as newborn animals.

None of the mice has developed any form of cancer except leukemia.

Many Discoveries

Along with the numerous reports of new animal tumors, there have been many discoveries—often seemingly unrelated—in research on virus and cell constituents, their modes of behavior, and other characteristics. We have recently come to see that all these results are very likely pieces of the same large and intricate puzzle.

This realization is itself has been greatly responsible for the acceleration and vitality of virus-cancer research today. At the same time, the present phase of research in this field presents a number of problems and obstacles that demand wise and careful attention. With this need in mind, 15 distinguished scientists met at the National Institutes of Health about a year ago to explore new approaches in virology and other sciences that might lead to major advances in human cancer. The group made four proposals: 1) Basic study of viruses and animals, using electron microscopy and available animal tumors as models; 2) greater emphasis on training of biologists, zoologists, and chemists in the basic medical sciences related to the problem; 3) improvement of sources and distribution among laboratories of living host and viral materials; and 4) expanded financial support to include large-scale interdisciplinary explorations over long periods of time. These are excellent suggestions, and most of them have already been acted upon.

Recent Conference

A second conference on the problems of research on viruses and human cancer was held this past November in Rye, New York.

Research of this nature is making wider use of techniques such as treatment with X-ray or cortisone that permit human tissue to grow in experimental animals.

Other fundamental studies are equipping us with knowledge of the relationship between the host animal and the virus. Dr. Ray Bryan, at the National Cancer Institute, has conducted some revealing studies on the Rous sarcoma virus in chickens. He has shown that there is a quantitative relationship between the amount of virus inoculated and certain biological properties of the tumor—such as size, length of time before the tumor develops, and length of time before it kills the animal.

In other words, Bryan’s work makes it possible to refute the old argument that a tumor cannot have been caused by a virus if the virus cannot be extracted.

As the discussions at Rye emphasized, one of the principal questions that must be answered is: how do viruses enter a cell and make it cancerous? For many scientists, studies on nucleic acids offer the most promise in this area. In cells, as you know, the nucleic acid DNA is localized in the chromosomes, which carry the genetic information of cells and determine their form and function. Cells also contain another form of nucleic acid, RNA, most of which is in the cytoplasm.

Viruses are known to consist largely of nucleic acid—either DNA or RNA—and protein. But until fairly recently it was not known whether nucleic acid alone could be responsible for virus activity. Then, almost simultaneously...
Grow Two Cell Lines From Single Mouse Cell

Previous reports by Dr. Katherine K. Sanford and her colleagues in the National Cancer Institute's Laboratory of Biology have described results of studies of two cell lines growing in tissue culture from a single mouse cell.

These cell lines possess marked differences in morphologic, metabolic, and growth characteristics. When implanted into mice of the identical genetic origin, cells from the "high" line grow into malignant tumors in 97 percent of the mice; cells from the "low" line form tumors in only 1 percent.

By studying pure strains of cells (clones) each grown from a single cell, these investigators have now concluded that the two lines do not differ in the proportion of malignant, transplanteable cells that they contain, but rather possess entirely different, inheritable characteristics. This accounts for the low incidence of "takes" and the prolonged latent period for tumor development in vivo shown by the "low" line.

Details of the present study are given in a paper appearing in a recent issue of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute. Co-authors with Dr. Sanford are Dr. Ruth Merwin, Gwendelyn L. Hobbs, and Dr. Wilton R. Earle, of the same Laboratory, and James M. Young, of the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda.

Results of investigations of the metabolic properties of these clones are summarized by Drs. Mark W. Woods and Dean Burd, of the Laboratory of Biochemistry, and Drs. Sanford and Earle in another paper in the same journal. The "high" line and the clones derived from it utilized approximately three times as much glucose as the "low" line and its clones. The clones derived from the "low" lines were less uniform. One showed glycolytic activity intermediate between that of the "high" and "low" line cells, and thus appeared to be an intermediate in the progression toward an increased glycolytic capacity in vitro.

Scientists Find New Histidine Metabolites And Other Compounds

Several new metabolites of histidine in addition to previously known and isolated compounds have been discovered by Drs. Donald D. Brown and Marian W. Kies of National Institute of Mental Health's Laboratory of Clinical Science.

In one study, reported at the last meeting of the American Society of Biological Chemists, the investigators described an unknown compound which appeared among the urinary metabolites following intravenous injection of uniformly radioactive C-14-L-histidine in a female Macaca mulatta monkey.

The new metabolite, which represented at least 14 percent of the urinary histidine and marked acidic properties and was not the histamine or urocanic acid pathway of histidine degradation. Although the unknown compound contained carbon of the imidazole ring of histidine, it did not possess an intact imidazole nucleus.

Several other related studies by these investigators and their colleagues in the Laboratory of Clinical Science on the mammalian metabolism of histidine have been published in the Journal of Biological Chemistry. One paper describes the enzymatic formation of L-hydrantoin-5-propionic acid from histidine via the urocanic acid pathway.

Another deals with the enzymatic formation, stabilization, purification, and properties of 4(5)-imidazolone-5(4)-propionic acid, the product of urocanase activity.

A third report describes the method which they have developed to separate and measure the radioactive metabolites of L-histidine in the urine of the monkey, the human, and the rat.
Men from 23 to 98 Volunteer For NHI Gerontology Studies

One of the studies being conducted by the Gerontology Branch, NHI, is designed to determine the changes in various human physiological, psychological, and biochemical capacities with increase in age.

Participants in the study are 250 men between the ages of 23 and 98 who have volunteered to be tested every 18 months for the rest of their lives. Tests include estimates of lung, heart, and kidney functions, basal metabolism, nutritional requirements, speed of reactions and responses to standardized exercise, and psychological tests to measure intelligence and attitudes.

Two of the volunteer participants in the Gerontology Branch's aging study are senior agricultural scientists working at the USDA Plant Industry Station at Beltsville, Md. Dr. C. Roy Adair, left, is performing a maximal breathing capacity test with the assistance of technician John C. Melvin. Wallace Ashby, right, grips a hand dynamometer to test the muscle strength in his left hand.

SYMPOSIUM

(Continued from Page 1)

the Albert Einstein College of Medicine's Program on Aging. Both of these activities are partially supported by NIH grants.

Of particular interest was Dr. Handler's presentation, in which he discussed radiation effects and their similarities to physiologic aging. Dr. Handler has been one of six leaders in a series of conferences supported jointly by the National Heart Institute and the Atomic Energy Commission on the subject of radiation and aging.

Aging involves a man faster than being farmed out to pasture when he still has something to contribute. "Wisdom, judgment, experience are as irreplaceable to the life of society as are a handful of cells to the life of a man. All we can do, as scientists, is to try to answer the whys and wherefores of aging--to try to find out how a man can live a few years longer, and how his later years can be less biologically troubled. All this adds up to nothing if we aren't prepared to recognize that as long as a man has something to give, he has the right to continue to do so."

CONFERENCES

(Continued from Page 1)

Dr. Clinton C. Powell, Assistant Grants Branch Chief for Clinical Research, DRG, has been appointed by PHS Surgeon General Leroy Burney to serve as the DHEW representative on the working committee of the inter-agency Federal Radiation Council.

Established by Executive order in August, 1959, the Council will formulate policies and make plans for investigation into the field of radiation damage, exposure, and health hazards.

Prior to his appointment 11 months ago to his present post, Dr. Powell was Executive Secretary of the Radiation and Surgery Study Sections, DRG. He came to DRG in 1958 from the Division of Special Services, where he was Chief of the Radiological Health Medical Program.

Dr. Powell to Serve On Radiation Council

conducted prior to a state-wide aging conference at the University of Maryland on September 7-8. Senator Pat McNamara of Michigan, Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Problems of the Aged and Aging, was the principal speaker at the conference here. Mrs. Schweinhaut and Thomas B. Finan, Maryland Secretary of State, also addressed the group.

The Center for Aging Research, DGMS, provided technical assistance in planning the conference.

Dr. Shock Is Honored For Gerontology Work

Dr. Nathan W. Shock, Chief, Gerontology Branch, NHI, received the 1960 Modern Medicine Award for Distinguished Achievement. Cited for his "investigations of the physiology of growth and aging and unique and thorough indexing of gerontologic literature," Dr. Shock is one of a group of 10 outstanding medical researchers, educators, and clinicians selected for the yearly honor. Nominations for the award are made by readers of the journal Modern Medicine, deans of medical schools, and editors of national medical organizations. Portraits and brief biographical sketches of Dr. Shock and the other award recipients appear in the January 1 issue of the journal.

Aging Is Discussed On TV's 'Conquest'

Dr. Nathan Shock, Chief of the Heart Institute's Gerontology Branch, starred in the CBS television program, "Conquest," on Sunday, January 17. The telecast, narrated by Charles Collingwood, was filmed in the laboratories of the branch at the Baltimore City Hospitals.

One of the scenes was shot in the Physiological Testing Lab, where Dr. Shock discussed the need to obtain more detailed physiological data on the aging process, and presented viewers with various demonstrations of aging animal muscle tissue, methods of counting cells, cell reproduction and enzyme activity.

Staff Members Participate

Participating in the program with Dr. Shock were Drs. Arthur Norris, Joseph Fulzone, Irvin Konigsberg, and Charles Barrows, all of the Gerontology Branch.

Dr. Shock stressed, in the program, that while we cannot prevent old age, we may succeed in acquiring knowledge that will help us add a few more productive years to the average person's lifespan.

What we can and should do now, he said, is to recognize "that the older person has a potential for usefulness far greater than our present society is geared to accept. Right now, the best remedy I know for aging is to make use of our older people. There's noth-
NIAID Researchers Attend Symposium

Five NIH scientists participated in the Gustav Stern Symposium on virus research in New York City on January 25 and 26.

Dr. James E. Darnell of the Laboratory of Cell Biology, NIAID, presented a paper on the basic laboratory aspects of poliovirus.

Three scientists of NIAID’s Laboratory of Infectious Diseases—Drs. Robert M. Chanock, Robert J. Huhner, and Wallace P. Rowe—discussed their studies on respiratory viruses and on virus related to cancer.

Dr. Howard B. Andervont, Head of the Laboratory of Biology of NCI, moderated an evening seminar on criteria for recognition of tumor-causing oncogenic viruses in man.

Among the discussants were seven Nobel Prize winners who have worked in the field of virology.

OBITUARIES

James L. Fugitt, 51, a laboratory animal caretaker in the Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology, NCI, died during surgery on January 15. He had been at NIH since 1956. A resident of Silver Spring, he is survived by his wife, Marie Mary Fugitt.

Clifton M. Burroughs died of cancer January 6 in Montgomery County General Hospital. He was a laboratory animal caretaker in the Laboratory of Biology, NCI, and had been at NIH since 1946. He is survived by his wife and son.

Ann E. McHugh, NIRD, died December 31 at Suburban Hospital. One of the first new employees to enter NIRD after its establishment, Mrs. McHugh served in the Institute’s Administrative Office from 1949 until 1956, and from then until recently in its Information Office. Requiem Mass was held January 4 at St. Mary’s Church in Rockville.

Otto R. Saunders, 41, died suddenly December 30, at District General Hospital. A laborer in the Transportation Unit, CC, he had been employed at NIH since 1955. Mr. Saunders, a Washington resident, is survived by his wife, Florence.

Marvin E. Ford, 35, a laborer in the Transportation Unit of the CC, died suddenly December 30 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Mr. Ford had been employed at NIH since 1955. Among his survivors are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Ford, with whom he made his home, and a brother.

WHERE IS IT?

Out on a country road? Not at all. It’s part of NIH’s mail system. Located near the intersection of Center Drive and Service Road South, in front of Bq. T-19, this box holds mail for the Robin and Arts Buildings in Silver Spring. The shuttle bus collects about 250 packages of mail each week for those buildings.

Miss Anderson Named For Intern Program

Helen Anderson, NIDR Assistant Administrative Officer, was recently selected for enrollment in the Civil Service Commission Middle Management Intern Program. Her appointment was one of two from DHEW. The program began January 11 and ends June 30.

Recently elected President of the NIH Recreation and Welfare Association, Miss Anderson earned an A.B. in business administration in 1945. She entered NIH in 1949 and has been with the Dental Institute since March of 1958.

Clarence, who is employed in the CC Nursing Department.

George Boone, 42, died in District General Hospital, December 31. A warehouse tractor operator in the Transportation Unit, OAM, he had been employed at NIH for the past nine years. Mr. Boone was a resident of Washington.

Willis C. Glenn, 46, a field industrial equipment operator in the Plant Engineering Branch, DRS, died December 14 at his home in Rockville. He had been employed at NIH since 1955.

A. J. Belton, 39, died suddenly at his Washington residence December 30. Mr. Belton, who had been employed at NIH since 1963, was an elevator operator in the Housekeeping Section, CC. Survivors include his wife and three children.

NIAMD Scientists On Local TV Show

Biochemistry and its place in basic research will be discussed on a half-hour television program February 5 by Dr. DeWitt Stetten, Jr., Associate Director in Charge of Research, NIAMD.

Titled “The Biochemical Basis of Disease,” the program will be carried by Station WTTG, Channel 5, at 11:30 a.m.

Color films in which certain NIAMD laboratory techniques are demonstrated by members of his staff will be used by Dr. Stetten in his presentation. Subjects will include Paper Strip Scanning in Radiosotope Studies, demonstrated by Dr. Frank Eisenberg, Jr.; Circular Paper Chromatography, demonstrated by Dr. G. Leder; and Use of the Mass Spectrometer, demonstrated by William B. Comstock.

The program is sponsored by the Television Department of Walter Reed General Hospital.

New Booklet Reviews Research on Strokes

“Little Strokes—Hope Through Research,” a brochure prepared by NINDS, was issued last month, and already there have been “hundreds of requests” for the booklet.

Stressing the importance of prompt diagnosis of little strokes, the booklet tells the story of stroke patients who have survived their attacks to live long, useful lives.

“Little Strokes” reviews research currently being conducted by NINDS, and summarizes similar research supported through grants to non-Federal hospital and medical centers.

Listed as Public Health Service Publication No. 680, single copies of the booklet may be obtained from NINDS. Quantity orders cost $7.50 for 100 copies and may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.

DRS Clearance Needed To Visit New Buildings

Contractors and Public Buildings Service officials have complained to the Division of Research Services that the large number of NIH staff to the DRS building, now nearing completion, is interfering with construction operations and is a hazard to the visitors.

Since contractors are responsible for accidents that occur on the job and for any damage to equipment prior to a building’s completion date, they are justified in their request that NIH list visitors inside the building to those who have official business.

In order to meet this requirement, personnel having an official need to visit the DBS building or other NIH construction projects are requested to obtain clearance through Alfred. E. Williams, Jr., Associate Director in Charge, Research Facilities Planning Branch, Building 15, Room 21313.

Five Are Appointed To NIH Positions

Dr. Harold Baer has been appointed Chief of the Allergy and Sensitivity Section, Laboratory of Bacterial Products, DBS. He assumed his duties on January 4.

Dr. Baer has been a professor at the Tulane University Medical School’s Department of Microbiology since 1950. He is a member of the American Association of Immunologists, the American Academy of Microbiology, the Society of American Bacteriologists, the American Chemical Society, and Sigma XI.

He has published a number of papers in the field of immunochemistry of the human blood group substances.

Samuel M. Poiley, Chief, Animal Production Section, Laboratory Aids Branch, DRS, has been appointed to a new position in the Cancer Chemotherapy National Service Center.

A graduate of Johns Hopkins University, in business administration, Mr. Poiley has been with NIH since 1955. In his new position he will be responsible for the development and coordination of a program of production and procurement of laboratory animals to be used in screening drugs for anticancer activity.

Dr. Charles W. McPherson has been selected to replace Mr. Poiley as Chief of the Animal Production Section. A graduate of the University of Minnesota with a D.V.M. degree, Dr. McPherson was a general practitioner before entering the Public Health Service. He has been with NIH since 1956.

Anna E. Dougherty was made Assistant Chief, NIH Library, Scientific Reports Branch, DRS, December 17. A graduate of Pennsylvania State University, in business administration, Miss Dougherty formerly was with the National Library of Medicine as Head, Special Language Unit, Catalog Division. She had been with NLM since 1951.

Dr. Joe W. Atkinson, D.V.M., will become Assistant Chief, Laboratory Aids Branch, DRS, on February 15. Dr. Atkinson is currently serving as Acting Assistant Chief, Food Sanitation Section, Milk and Food Program, Division of Engineering Services, BSS, PHS. He has been a member of the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service since July 1, 1952.