2,500 Scientists To Meet, Discuss Nutrition Needs

An estimated 2,500 nutrition scientists from almost every country in the world are expected to attend the Fifth International Congress on Nutrition at the Sheraton-Park and Shoreham Hotel in Washington, September 1-7.

This congress, first to be held in the United States, is expected to produce the most important exchange of knowledge in recent years on current nutrition research. Major problems of nutrition throughout the world will be reported and discussed during the meetings.

Symposium Featured

An all-day symposium on "World Food Needs and Food Resources" will be one of the main features of the scientific program. The remainder of the program will consist of seven half-day discussions by invited participants, and special sessions of ten-minute papers reporting unpublished research.

The congress is being arranged under auspices of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences, the American Institute of Nutrition, and the U.S. National Committee (See NUTRITION, Page 3).

1,500 Request Glaucoma Test Within First Two Days

Employee Health Service reports that the response to its recently inaugurated campaign against the common sight-destroying disease, glaucoma, is "excellent" and "most gratifying."

Within two days following distribution of cards to NIH employees over 35, offering them the opportunity to make an appointment, the Service asks to be notified by phone. The card offering the opportunity to make an appointment for a glaucoma-detection test, which more than 1,500 of the cards were returned requesting such appointments.

Since then the cards have been coming in at a rate gradually declining from about 100 per day. Approximately 4,600 cards were distributed. NIH employees over 35 who are members of the Commissioned Officers Corps did not receive them because the glaucoma-detection test is included in the regular physical examination they receive at the Outpatient Clinic of the PHS, located in the South Building, at 4th and D Sts., S.W.

At the present time, EHS is allotting an hour each day for conducting the scheduled tests, which with brief chart reading and record keeping require about 10 minutes each.

The Service points out that at this rate the scheduled tests will take many months for completion. Also, employees with a family history of glaucoma are being tested first.

Because of these factors there will be a considerable delay in the scheduling of appointments for large numbers of those who have applied.

EHS therefore suggests that failure to receive notification of appointment is not a cause for concern. However, if any one entitled to the test has not received a card offering the opportunity to make an appointment, the Service asks to be notified by phone. The extension is 4411.

Glaucoma is an insidious condition of the eye that occurs most frequently in persons over 40, and if not detected and treated can lead to blindness.

The test is simple and painless. All positive and suspicious cases will be referred to private ophthalmologists.

Hundley Group Recommends Revision Of PHS Organizational Structure

The Study Group on Mission and Organization of the PHS, appointed by Surgeon General Burney last December, has issued its final report in the form of a 66-page booklet.

The group, under the chairmanship of Dr. James M. Hundley, formerly NIH Special Assistant on International Affairs, has made recommendations for the revision of the organizational structure of the PHS, including additions at the Divisional level of NIH.

Legislation to provide authority for carrying out the proposals has been introduced into Congress.

The report is being distributed by Dr. Hundley's office, Rm. 9677, North Bldg., DHEW. Copies may be obtained at NIH through the Public Information Branch, ORI, Ext. 895.

Among its recommendations, the group has proposed the creation of a Bureau of Environmental Health and a National Center for Health Statistics. These changes, according to the report, are in accordance with PHS' specific obligation "to anticipate and prepare to play its proper role in meeting the health needs of the American people."

NIH Remains Bureau

A Bureau of Community Health Services. The National Institutes of Health and the Bureau of Medical Services will remain as Bureaus with certain functional modification.

Proposals for NIH include the establishment of a Division of Grants Management, a Division of Research Facilities, and a Center for Nutritional Sciences.

Science Section Omitted

The Science Section of the NIH Record is "on vacation" for this issue. It will reappear in the issue of August 16.
Dr. Leonard Appointed To Committee Post

Dr. James R. Leonard has been appointed Executive Secretary of the NINDB Otolaryngology Post-graduate Training Committee, effective July 1.

He succeeds Dr. Bernard Schaefer, who for the past year has been responsible for both the Otolaryngology and Ophthalmology Training Committees, and continues in the latter post.

Before joining the NINDB Extramural Programs staff, Dr. Leonard was on the staff of the Santa Monica City Hospital, California.

Graph-Reading System Available in September

A graph-reading system has been designed and built for NIH use and will be available as a central service to laboratories and offices in September.

The system combines various components which will read and rapidly convert the coordinates of graphs recorded on opaque paper films into a form that can be used as input for digital computer and electric accounting machines.

The system will also automatically plot the output of such devices to any desired scale.

Inquiries about the new service and its application to special problems are invited. Please call Benjamin Baker, Administrative Officer, Office of Research Services and Data Processing Branch, Ext. 2282.

New Booklets Describe Recent Aging Research

DGMS has announced the issuance of two new publications on aging.

Activities of the National Institutes of Health in the Field of Gerontology, January 1960 is a listing of all of the 582 NIH research and training grants active on January 31, 1960, that are related directly or indirectly to the problems of aging. The publication also lists intramural NIH research projects in aging carried on during calendar year 1959.

Research Highlights in Aging, NIH is a review of selected scientific papers in research projects in aging which were carried out in the intramural program or supported by the extramural program during 1958. Fifty-one scientific papers are covered under the subheadings of “Aging at the Level of Cells,” and “Aging at the Level of Subcellular Structures and Activities.”

The latter document was prepared by Robert W. Palmer, of the DGMS staff, and by the NIH Center for Aging Research, a component of the Division.

Definite plans for the future of the club will be made known following the first annual meeting and election of permanent officers, scheduled for November 17.

An interim board of directors is managing the club’s affairs at present. The temporary officers are Henry N. Doyle, president; Dr. Leslie W. Knott, vice president; Pope A. Lawrence, secretary; and Dr. Theodore F. Hilbish, treasurer.

Mr. Doyle is the Assistant Chief of the Occupational Health Program, Division of Special Health Services, BSS; and Dr. Knott is Assistant Chief of the Bureau’s Division of Special Health Services.

NIH Members Listed

Mr. Lawrence heads the Environmental Field Studies Section, Field Investigations and Demonstrations Branch, NCI. Dr. Hilbish is the Chief of the Diagnostic X-ray Department, CC.

Six other members of the interim board are also stationed at NIH. They are:

Louise Carlson Anderson, Assistant Chief, Nursing Department, CC; Dr. Roger M. Cole, Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, NIAID; Chris A. Hansen, Chief, Division of Research Services; Dr. Samuel Herman, Director, Russian Scientific Translation Program, DGMs; and Dr. Harvey Scudder, Executive Secretary, Viruses and Cancer Panel, Research Grants Branch, NCI.

New Officers Club Acquires Clubhouse Near the NIH

The USPHS Commissioned Officers Club, Inc., has acquired the home of Mrs. J. Bartley Reeside at 9101 Old Georgetown Road for use as a clubhouse by resident and non-resident members of the Commissioned Corps and their families and guests.

The residence was built for the Reeside family in 1938. It is the stone house situated on 1.8 acres of ground opposite the NIH reservation at the corner of Old Georgetown Road and Cedar Lane.

Organized in March

Members of the Washington, D.C., Branch of the Commissioned Officers Association spearheaded the organization and incorporation of the club in March and the search for a desirable site. The property was purchased in June. The close proximity of the residence to NIH, where approximately 750 PHS career officers are stationed, was a factor leading to purchase. There are 1,200 officers on permanent duty in the Washington area.

Alterations to convert the residence into a clubhouse are under way and will be completed by November 1, in time for the social and recreational activities planned for this fall.

The social events held in past years at Top Cottage and Wilson Hall will be continued and expanded as new facilities are provided at the club.

Recently purchased by the newly formed Commissioned Officers Club for use as a clubhouse, this attractive stone house is located on 1.8 acres fronting on Old Georgetown Road, across from the NIH reservation at the intersection of Cedar Lane. Alterations are expected to be completed in time for late fall use.

Correction

In the July 19 issue the Record incorrectly stated that Dr. Sam Silbergold, formerly staff assistant to Dr. Roderick Murray, Director of DBS, had transferred to DRG. His transfer was to the Research Grants Branch of DGMs.
Cancer Institute Issues
Two New Publications

Two new publications prepared by the Office of Information and Publications, NCI, were issued recently.

Treatting Cancer, a 16-page booklet, describes in lay language the uses of surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy against malignant diseases.

Chemotherapy, the booklet explains, has produced no cures but holds great promise for the future, especially against leukemias or cancers that have spread beyond their point of origin.

Treatting Cancer is listed as Public Health Publication No. 690.

Progress Against Cancer, 1959, Public Health Publication No. 738, includes the statement by Dr. John R. Heller, Director, NCI, to the Appropriations Committees of the Congress, and a selection of items on research and related programs conducted and supported by NCI.

Single copies of both publications may be obtained from NCI.

13 Vocalists from NIH In Watergate Opera

Thirteen vocalists from NIH sang with the 100-voice chorus of the romantic opera "Der Freischütz," presented by the Washington Civic Opera Association at the Watergate on Wednesday, July 27.

Among this group were the following from NIAMD: Dr. Nelson K. Richtmyer and Dr. David F. Johnson, Laboratory of Chemistry; Dr. Gerald M. Shean and Dr. Margaret L. Keister, Laboratory of Physical Biology; Dr. Makio Murayama, Laboratory of Pathology and Histochemistry; Dr. Russell J. Hilmo and Millicent Tomkins (wife of Dr. Gordon M. Tomkins), Laboratory of Biochemistry and Metabolism; and Carol Brault, Information Office.

Others from NIH were Dr. Robert A. Fouty, Clinical Pathology Department, and Carol Long, Office of the Director, DC; Elizabeth O'Toole, Office of the Director, Supply Management; Elizabeth Mihalyi (wife of Dr. Elmer Mihalyi), Laboratory of Cellular Physiology and Metabolism, and Dr. Joseph E. Hayes, Jr., Laboratory of Technical Development, NIH.

NUTRITION

(Continued from Page 1)


Financial support for the congress is being provided by several Federal agencies as well as American foundations, institutions, and interested segments of industry.

Requests for additional information and advance registration should be addressed to Dr. Milton O. Lee, General Secretary, 9650 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington 14, D.C.

MANAGEMENT TRAINING COURSE DESIGNED FOR DRS SUPERVISORS

Instructor Trent O. McPherson (at end of table), Chief of Planning and Control, Plant Engineering Branch, DRS, reminds unit chiefs attending the June classes of the DRS supervisory training course that good work management implies a logical approach in solving and acting on the problems that occur daily on the job. Observing (right rear) is Robert H. Handy, DRS Special Assistant for Training, who planned the course.

A training program in effective employee leadership has been developed by the Division of Research Services for supervisors of administrative units within the Division.

Designed to meet the need for middle management training in the Division, the program covers the broad aspects of supervision, administration, and work management in a short, intensive course of lectures, discussions, and demonstrations plus continuing followup.

Course Is Intensive

The training course is concentrated in three and a half days of 28 sessions. The followup phase features information materials related to each session, self-rating questionnaires, and the encouragement of additional training opportunities.

In a trial run in May a representative group of DRS section chiefs had an opportunity to evaluate the kind and quality of training their supervisory employees would experience. Eighteen unit chiefs from the Laboratory Aids, Plant Engineering and Instrument Engineering and Development Branches attended the course when it was introduced in June.

All other DRS unit chiefs will take the course when it is repeated in September or October and in subsequent months.

The major purpose of the program is to alert each unit chief to means of increasing his own supervisory competence and effectiveness. To bridge the gap between management theory and administrative practice, the short course combines effective supervisory methods and techniques with a general survey of the major functions and responsibilities of the supervisor.

In nine months of preparatory work, Robert H. Handy, DRS special assistant for training, studied DRS service and training needs and analyzed a variety of in-service training programs. He planned the course to meet the special needs of the first-line supervisor, who as chief of a DRS unit is part administrator, part producer, and often the "middleman" between management and employee.

The principles and suggestions presented throughout the course are contained in a manual given to each participant. Mr. Handy developed the manual as an outline of the 28 sessions scheduled and as a guide to meeting and handling the variety of situations and problems DRS supervisors face daily.

Instructors Listed

Instructors for the course were drawn primarily from DRS and the Office of Administrative Management. They included Drs. Philip W. Hansen, DRS Chief; James A. King, DRS Executive Office; John M. Sangster, Chief, Personnel Branch, OAM; Albert L. Pelmoter, Head, Employee Development Section, FMI-OAM; and DRS and OAM staff members.

Other instructors were Dr. Eckhart A. Jacobsen, associate professor of industrial education, University of Maryland, and Alfred R. Kinney, Jr., training methods consultant, Communicable Disease Center, PHS, Atlanta. Mr. Kinney worked closely with the Division in development of the course.

Dr. Sanford Rosenthal
To Supervise Peruvian Burn Shock Project

Dr. Sanford M. Rosenthal, chief of the Laboratory of Pharmacology and Toxicology, NIAMD, recently left NIH for Lima, Peru, where he will supervise the burn shock project provided in progress at three Peruvian hospitals and continue his research on spermine (an alkaline type of amino acid) until June 1, 1961.

Dr. Rosenthal and his NIAMD associates, Drs. Herbert Tabor, R. Carl Millican, and Kehl Markley, have been engaged in extensive laboratory and clinical investigation of shock since 1942. Their earlier experiments with laboratory animals demonstrated that shock can be treated by a salt and soda solution administered orally.

Later, in adult burned patients, it was found that this saline solution was as effective in treating the shock resulting from severe burns as the traditional treatment of intravenous injections of whole blood, plasma and plasma-expanders. The controlled clinical studies in Lima were initiated in 1951.

Lima Chosen Site

The NIAMD team selected Lima as the site of their clinical studies because there the annual mortality rate from burn shock was very high. At that time, very little plasma or whole blood was available in this area of the world.

Patients with burns over at least 10 percent of their bodies were used in the initial studies. In one group of 79 burned adult patients who received the saline treatment, not one death occurred during the shock period. However, in another group of 74 adult patients receiving the traditional intravenous plasma, 12 percent died during the shock period.

As a result of the team's findings, the U.S. Office of Civil Defense in 1959 recommended the oral administration of saline solution as an emergency treatment for burn shock in the event of a major bomb disaster (when plasma and personnel to administer it would not be available).

The simple ingredients in the saline solution are: one level teaspoon of table salt and one-half teaspoon of baking soda mixed with a quart of water. The average patient is given one quart for each 20 pounds of his body weight during the first 24 hours and half of that amount for the next 24 hours.
Charles E. Mills Dies; Was EO in NIMH

Charles E. Mills, 52, Executive Officer of NIMH since May of 1955, died in the George Washington University Hospital July 23 after a long illness.

Immediately prior to his appointment to NIMH he had served here as a consultant, conducting a workload statistics survey for the Buildings Management Branch (now Plant Engineering Branch), which resulted in establishment of a new workload reporting system.

During his years at NIH Mr. Mills was an active member of the American Society for Public Administration, serving as a member of the Executive Committee of the District of Columbia Chapter and as its vice president from 1958 to 1959.

Served in Athens

Mr. Mills entered the Federal service in 1929, specializing in personnel, budget, and management assignments before joining the Navy during World War II.

After the war he served with the State Department for six years, including a tour of duty as Administrative Officer at the American Embassy in Athens.

In 1951 he joined the staff of the Economic Stabilization Agency as Deputy Administrator for Operations, and two years later was appointed manager of the Washington office of George Fry & Associates, consulting management engineers.

Native of Arkansas

Mr. Mills was a native of Chicot, Ark., and a graduate of the University of Illinois. He received his Master’s degree from the University of Wisconsin, where he was an instructor of political science.

His health apparently improved after surgery, he was hoping to return to NIH and had changed his residence from Washington to 4521 Dorset Ave., Chevy Chase, Md., only a few days before his death.

He is survived by his wife, Frances, and three sons; his mother, two brothers, and a sister.

Dr. Ferguson Appointed Head of DGMS Section

Dr. Frederick Palmer Ferguson, formerly professor of physiology and acting head of the Department of Physiology, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, has been appointed Chief of the Research Fellowships Section of the Research Training Branch, DGMS.

Dr. Ferguson’s appointment is part of a move to consolidate the administration of the Division’s various fellowship programs.

European Laboratories Visited by Dr. Cole

Dr. Kenneth S. Cole, Chief of the NINDB Biophysics Laboratory, recently returned from a five-week visit to European laboratories which are conducting research on electrical potentials in nerve fibers.


Dr. Cole spent most of the time at Uppsala University, Sweden, where he discussed comparative results of analoge computer studies of clamped nerve fibers with Dr. Torsten Teorell.

Present Seminar

While in Paris, he presented a seminar on “Dynamic Electrical Characteristics of the Squid Giant Axon,” commemorating the 11th anniversary of the first report of this important work. He also spoke before the Swedish Physiological Society in Stockholm, and to the Uppsala Society for Experimental Biology.

At Cambridge, he discussed his investigations with Drs. Hodgskin and Huxley, who developed equations for the squid axon current patterns originally described by Dr. Cole.

Dr. Cole was joined in Cambridge by Dr. Richard Fitzhugh of the NINDB Laboratory of Biophysics, who is spending eight months in Dusseldorf, Germany, working in the electrochemical laboratory of Prof. Ulrich F. Franck, a former NINDB visiting scientist.

Biochemistry Professor Named to DGMS Post

Dr. Herbert Bowen Pahl, formerly assistant professor of biochemistry at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tenn., has been appointed Executive Secretary of the Biochemistry Training Committee, DGMS.

Dr. Pahl succeeds Dr. George M. Briggs who has accepted a professorship with the University of California at Berkeley.

In his new post, Dr. Pahl will supervise committee review of applications for research training grants in the basic specialties related to biological chemistry.

Dr. Pahl was a Fellow at the National Institute for Cancer Research from 1954 to 1955 and a postdoctoral Fellow with NCI from 1955 to 1957.

He has published independent research papers on chromatographic fractionation of ribonucleic acid from yeast, and nucleic acid metabolism studies of nuclear and cytoplasmic RNA in rats.

PLASTIC PLAQUE SHOWS INGENUITY

Philip Joram (left) and Howard Bartenor, of the Medical Arts Section, DRS, pictured with the embossed plastic plaque they designed and produced as a model for the bronze tablet of the next DBS building. To achieve this highly realistic effect, they constructed a mold by mounting block letters on a wooden frame faced with copper screening, then vacuum-formed a sheet of bronze-colored polystyrene against all surfaces, and applied antique touches with bronze paint and green chalk.

For future consideration is an NIH Center of Advanced Study for encouraging advanced, creative, speculative thought, ranging across the full panorama of new findings and concepts emerging from current scientific endeavor which may have meaning in biology and medicine... in an atmosphere removed from program, laboratory, and administrative distractions.

The report further states that there are “clear indications that the programs of the National Institutes of Health will continue to expand.”

Purpose Stated

The mission of the proposed Bureau of Environmental Health is to conduct, support, and foster a comprehensive, unified approach to the multiple aspects of the physical environment as it affects human health.

The proposed National Center for Health Statistics initially will bring together a majority of now-separate functions into the National Office of Vital Statistics and the National Health Survey.

It is expected that the functions of the National Library of Medicine will be expanded when it moves into its new quarters.

Regarding the report, Surgeon General Burney pointed out, in his foreword, that the group “intentionally and wisely left many details to be worked out by others.”

This was amplified in the report’s conclusion, which states that the group adopted as a cardinal principle the position that the organizational structure of the PHS must be flexible and adaptable.

REVISION

(Continued from Page 1)

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