Rally Here Spurs UGF Campaign; Goal Is $79,305

The 1960 UGF campaign was highlighted here October 7 by an NIH-wide rally in the Clinical Center auditorium.

Guests included Edward F. Wilson, DHEW Assistant Secretary; Dr. Richard C. Arnold, Assistant Surgeon General and UGF Chairman for PHS; Ruth Rea, who won the title of Miss Washington and was third runner-up in the recent Miss America contest; and the Muppets, popular TV puppets.

The 17-piece dance band from Walter Johnson High School in Bethesda, under the direction of Gilbert Muir, played contemporary music.

Quota Increased

An NIH quota of $79,305 was announced by Dr. Roderick Murray, DBS Director and the UGF campaign chairman. Though this figure is above the quota for last year, Dr. Murray pointed out, there has also been a marked increase in the number of NIH personnel.

Mr. Wilson, in his brief talk said, "I can think of no better way to help the community's needs than through UGF. We give only once, yet we give all year long through united giving."

Dr. Arnold emphasized the fact that this is a voluntary campaign but added, "It is also a necessary part of today's living, for we all have a moral obligation to help our neighbor in time of trouble. It's simply the modern way of putting into practice the Golden Rule."

Ruth Rea Speaks

Miss Rea, who is the daughter of Hazel Rea of NIMH, urged NIH employees to remember the aims of UGF and the number of UGF agencies which benefit all of the community. Ruth is a resident of Chevy Chase, Md.

Jim and Jane Henson, creators of the Muppets, presented an original skit concerning the UGF, using the puppets Kermit and Sam. The Hensons, residents of the Bethesda area, contributed their time and

NIH Growth Brings Parking, Traffic Woes; Employee Survey Launched; Bus Service, Car Pools Urged

By Ken Stabler

Within its 310-acre reservation, NIH over the years has enjoyed comparative freedom from the traffic and parking congestion problems that have long plagued government employees in downtown Washington.

But all indications point to the unpalatable fact that this pleasant era of non-traffic congestion and ample parking facilities at NIH is a thing of the past.

Top management, and especially those responsible for future planning here, are becoming increasingly concerned over this dual motor-age problem which has now come to roost on the range. And when they look ahead, even to the extent of the next twelvemonth, they begin to get the jitters.

Population Up 47.6%

Within the past five years the NIH full-time on-thereservation population has increased from 4,540 to 6,700. This represents an influx of 47.6 percent. In addition there are now 822 employees housed in rented office space in Silver Spring and Bethesda, who would be on the reservation if space permitted.

Within this same five-year period—from August 1, 1955 to August 1, 1960—the Division of Research Services by dint of careful planning and considerable industry has extended and improved NIH parking areas with a resultant increase in the number of spaces from 2,600 to 4,070.

Car Ratio Mounts

This reveals a favorable increase of 56.5 percent. But Plant Safety Branch, OAM, reports that the ratio of automobiles to employees has also considerably increased in recent years. This is reflected in the currently full use of parking facilities and the mounting traffic congestion of the exit lanes beginning each day at about 5 p.m.

Serious as the parking and traffic situation is getting to be, Manage-
CAMPAIGN
(Continued from Page 1)
talent to the UGF campaign at NIH.
The campaign, now beginning its
third week, will continue through­
out October.
A breakdown of quotas by Divi­
sions and Institutes follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OD-NIH</td>
<td>3,647</td>
<td>72.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHI</td>
<td>1,292</td>
<td>24.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIMH</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIDR</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>1.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIAID</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>4.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIDBM</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>3.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>NINDB</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>3.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIBD</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIAIMD</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIDB</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIDMB</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total for the entire NIH
is 79,050.

Support Urged
If you are a supervisor you prob­
ably realize that the success of a
program based on recognition of
employees, such as the NIH Incentive
Awards Program, depends largely
upon you.
As a supervisor you have special
responsibilities in utilizing all the
resources, recognized by private in­
dustry to the tune of billions of
dollars every year, is that of idea
power of the employees.
Ideas Save Money
Unwittingly you could be sitting
on ideas that would save the Gov­
ernment thousands of dollars.
Without your help, these valuable
ideas could stagnate or dry up
completely.
The Awards Program at NIH can
pay off only with your encourage­
ment and cooperation. The program
has unlimited potential for produc­
ing more efficiency, more economy,
and better service in the Govern­
ment. Equally important, it is a par­
ticularly effective way for you to
recognize and reward ingenuity and
personal accomplishment among
employees under your super­
vision.
Support Urged
Your support of the program also
works to your personal advantage.
In describing the supervisor's role,
the Civil Service Commission says:
"Your job success depends on re­
results you get through people. By
demonstrating that you want ideas
for improving operations, by en­
couraging employee participation,
and by recognizing good sugges­
tions and superior accomplishment,
you gain the respect and confi­
dence of the people whose work you
supervise. At the same time, you
reap extra benefits that come from
more efficient operations, improved
working conditions, reduced waste,
increased production, and better
employee morale and employee-
supervisor relations—all the things
that contribute to a well-run or­
ganization and reflect credit upon
the supervisor."

Publications Distributed
Your full participation, therefore,
is vital in achieving the complete
success of the Awards Program.
May I call your attention to two
current publications by the NIH
Awards Board: Supervisors Guide to
Awards, which outlines proce­
dures and areas for your partici­
pation in this program, and A
Word to the Wise, a paralleling
guide to awards for all employees.
These guides are now being dis­
tributed. For additional copies call
Ext. 4851, Employee Relations &
Services Section.

EMPLOY THE HANDICAPPED
Only one week in the year, which
this year was October 2-9, is offi­
cially set aside to publicize the
profits to be gained from employ­
ing men and women who are phy­
sically handicapped, yet these profits
create their own unofficial publicity
daily throughout the year.
In earlier years potential skills
and manpower were lost or wasted
because physically handicapped
men and women were not consid­
ered for employment. Now many
handicapped men and women have
been trained and employed so that
they make a meaningful use of
their abilities for their own profit
and for the profit of their em­
ployers.
Employment of the physically
handicapped has proved that it is
ability, not disability, that counts.
There are still many handicapped
people, however, whose training
and employment have been neg­
lected. Supervisory personnel are
in a particularly good position to
encourage employment and train­
ing of the handicapped.
Many physically handicapped
men and women are now employed
at NIH. Their continuing contribu­
tions of skill and ability have
pointed up the profits to be gained
from their employment. It is hoped
that more handicapped men and
women can be employed here.
For further information please
contact C. M. Hall, NIH Represen­
tative to the Departmental Com­
mittee for Placement of the Physi­
cally Handicapped, Ext. 2404, or
Dr. John Lynch, Chief, Employee
Health Services, Ext. 4411.
Correlation of Effort Urged In Encephalitides Research

By Ruth Scott

"Acute and Subacute Encephalitides of Current Interest" was the subject of a lecture early this month by a Belgian neurologist and neuropathologist, Dr. Ludo van Bogaert. Dr. van Bogaert, who is Director of the Institut Bunge, Antwerp, and president of the World Federation of Neurology, will remain at the National Institutes of Health for several weeks as a visiting scientist. The lecture was sponsored by the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness.

Beginning with a brief historical review, Dr. van Bogaert stated that he had not seen a single verified case of encephalitides of type A of Von Economo since 1925. (Encephalitides is the plural of encephalitis.) This pandemic infectious disease from 1921 to 1925 overlapped the world epidemic of influenza, and was notorious for the after effects of Parkinsonian symptoms. Because, however, of new cases of this post-encephalitic type of Parkinson's disease, Dr. van Bogaert admitted that "This infectious disease must continue to exist among us, in the endemic state."

The first problem of etiology he raised was that either the sequelae follow unrecognized cases of this type A encephalitis, or are due to some other neurotropic disease. "It is well known that Parkinson's disease has followed poliomyelitis, although rarely. But in most cases of Parkinsonian disease we can find no evidence of initial acute poliomyelitis," Dr. van Bogaert pointed out.

Mutation Question Raised

From this disappearance of epidemic encephalitis type A, and the appearance of other forms of encephalitides, both acute and subacute, Dr. van Bogaert raised a basic question of epidemiology, that of mutation. Do the different symptoms and characteristics of encephalitis today come from "a mutation of the virus, or a modification in the substratum of the host?"

Difficulties in checking these theories arise because no cause (probably a virus) for encephalitis type A has been isolated, and in many cases of acute encephalitis no etiologic agent is known.

"Pathology is helpful only to a point," Dr. van Bogaert said. The same typical lesion of type A encephalitis occurs in rabies and poliomyelitis. A scientist handed a slide with the lesions in the substantia nigra would not be able to differentiate these diseases. However, polio and rabies also show other localized lesions which permit identification. "The overall localization of the lesions" reveals the diagnosis, he asserted, "in addition to the quality and type of the neuronal alterations and the inflammatory infiltrations."

Etiologies Discussed

He concluded that the type A (Von Economo) encephalitis of 1917-1925 "is no longer seen for practical purposes today." What, then, are the etiologies of today's encephalitides? He discussed these large groups:

I. The influenzal encephalitides of types A and B. In the period before viral studies, clinical observations on influenzal epidemics of 1890-91, and 1918-19, noted coma with or without meningismus. According to Dr. van Bogaert, it was only around 1950 that we began to separate the influenza epidemics of virus A and B.

In contrast to "the meager information on past influenza epidemics," the Asian flu pandemic of 1956-58 offered research opportunities with modern viral techniques, "to which tremendous importance was attached," Dr. van Bogaert recounted.

"But the experience was not as fruitful as we had hoped." His group saw only four cases, verifying one by histological examination. An Italian group of investigators studied 14 cases, dividing them into three groups by symptoms.

From these studies Dr. van Bogaert asked, "Are we dealing with the infectious manifestations of more than one virus? Or, are we dealing with the activation of a latent infection by another virus? We might also accept the fact that (See ENCEPHALITIDES, Page 4)"

Screening of Anticancer Drugs Aided By the Use of Virus Induced Tumors

Dr. W. Ray Bryan of the National Cancer Institute's Laboratory of Biology has suggested an approach to employing virus-induced animal tumors in the screening of potential anticancer drugs.

Tumors induced by viruses are desirable for screening potential anticancer agents because they derive entirely from the hosts' own tissues, thereby simulating naturally occurring tumors. Since several established viral tumor systems are now available, biologically comparable tumors can be produced in large numbers. These can be used as a basis for increasing the accuracy of measuring chemotherapeutic effects.

A large store of knowledge has emerged from several years of investigation of the biological properties of such viral tumors as the Rous sarcoma of chickens, the Friend leukemia of mice, the Shope rabbit papilloma, and a leukemia of mice recently described by Moloney. Using such information, Dr. Bryan devised several "orientation charts," with which an investigator can plan a test program of chemotherapy screening using virus tumors.

The charts show the frequency of animals developing tumors with increasing dilution of virus dose and the smallest amount of virus that produces 100 percent incidence of tumors. They also show the latent period—the time elapsing between inoculation and appearance of tumors.

Dr. Bryan reviewed preliminary results of studies at other laboratories using the Rous sarcoma and Friend leukemia systems to show the sensitivity of these tumors in measuring antitumor activity of test compounds. After virus inoculation, antitumor effect was measured by the extent to which a drug delayed the appearance of grossly detectable tumors. It is of interest that many of the compounds showing significant antitumor effects in both these systems are among those found to be most effective in non-viral tumor test systems and in man.

These findings were presented to the national meeting of the American Chemical Society in Atlantic City, and are published in National Cancer Institute Monograph No. 4, Symposium—Tumor Viruses.
Toms. "Mental confusion and dis­
pneumonia and intestinal symp­
thritis' without denying their possible
necrotic softening of the brain, as
episodes are characteristic."

dal tendency, and fugues. Epileptic

ten years to man is by the tick, by swal­

II. Acute necrotizing encephalitis. This group of encephalitides often starts, the lecturer reported, with the same clinical signs of ma­

III. Subacute sclerosing leucoen­
ltides. One must always ask if we

cylindrical characteristic. His

This particular type of enceph­
ltitis differs from the influenza­
type." Dr. van Bogaert pointed
out, "by the superposition of a psy­
chiatric symptomatology with hal­
lucinations, refusal of food, suici­
dal tendency, and fugues. Epileptic

He confessed that his term for
this type leaves much to be desired.
However, as a vesicular eruption
was seen in only 2 of their 37 cases
(reported with Haymaker, Smith, and
Chenan in 1968), he could not
accept a herpetic etiology for the
which is united by a strik­
ingly characteristic clinical pic­
ure. "This particular type of enceph­
ltitis without denying their possible
herpetic etiology is the almost com­
plete absence of a biologic demon­
stration of the presence of a vi­

Occurs in Children

III. Subacute sclerosing leucoen­
cephalitis. Primarily occurring in
children between 2 and 18 years of
age, this encephalitis lasts usu­
ally from 3 to 10 months, but occa­
sionally up to 27 months. "Parents
bring in a child with complaints of
poor school work and repeated falls
in the past 2 weeks," Dr. van Bo­
gaert related. "The child soon de­
velops epileptiform seizures. Such
children die in a state of hyper­
activity and extreme marasmus." His
motion picture revealed the wast­ing and the rhythmic jerking of arms and legs in these children.

IV. Arthropod or tickborne en­
cephalitides. The natural hosts of
the virus are small rodents, the
vector is the tick, and the virus
seems to be transmitted by the
eggs from one generation to the
next," the lecturer said. "Transmis­
sion to man is by the tick, by swal­
Special Purpose Microscopes Aid Research

Recent advances in microscopy, and the problems and advantages of the newer methods, were discussed at one of the sessions of the Symposium on Recent Developments in Research Methods and Instrumentation held at the Clinical Center early this month.

Among new methods especially helpful for examination of specimens too transparent for the brightfield microscope are fluorescent, phase, interference, and electronic scanning.

Fluorescence microscopy, although introduced a few years ago, has been gaining increasing attention, particularly in immunology. Fluorescent antibody techniques are potentially applicable to any system in which a reaction between antigen and antibody occurs. The rapidity and sensitivity of the method are its chief advantages for diagnostic bacteriological procedures.

Applications of fluorescence microscopy include the study of naturally fluorescent substances in tissues, examination of tissues stained with fluorescent dyes, demonstration of fluorescent dye labelled proteins, and products of reaction of tissue enzymes with fluorescent substrates.

Dr. Frank B. Johnson of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology pointed out at the Symposium.

The microscopes shown on this page are all in use here at the National Institutes of Health. For those readers of the NIH Record Science Section who wish to test their ability to recognize these every day tools of medical research, here is the key:

Cancer Drug Therapy Seen Causing Damage In Scalp Hair Roots

National Cancer Institute scientists have reported further results in their continuing study of changes in scalp hair roots of patients receiving treatment of cancer. Earlier studies showed damage to hair roots following treatment with radiation and the antifolic agent, methotrexate, and an association between the extent of damage and the dose used in therapy.

In the present study, microscopic examinations were made of growing hair roots obtained from the scalp of patients receiving a variety of chemotherapeutic agents in the clinical services of the National Cancer Institute. In 57 patients, effects of the following drugs were studied: 3', 5'-dichloroamethopterin, triethylene thiophosphoramide (thio-tepa), 6-mercaptopurine, 5-fluourouracil, coelemid, actinomycin D, nitrogen mustard, cyclophosphamide, and vincristine.

Structural damage to hair roots occurred following the administration of the drugs. The essential effect seemed to be inhibition of hair root growth, which was promptly reversible when the drug was discontinued. A close correlation was found between hair root damage and hematologic signs of drug toxicity.

The findings led the investigators to confirm their earlier conclusion that the hair is a sensitive indicator of the toxic effects of chemotherapeutic agents and to suggest that the relatively simple procedure of examining hair roots can be useful in the clinical management of patients receiving such treatments.

The work is reported in a recent issue of the Journal of Investigative Dermatology by Drs. Robert G. Crounse, now at the University of Miami School of Medicine, Miami, and Eugene J. Van Scott, NCI's General Medicine Branch.

Soviet Cancer Specialists Report on Recent Findings

During the visit to the National Cancer Institute of a delegation of Soviet scientists, NCI sponsored a meeting at which two of these scientists reported on some of their recent findings.

Dr. Zil'ber, Director of the Department of Immunology and Malignant Tumors and Scientific Director, Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology, Moscow, talked on his work with tumor viruses. He reported that he had induced a pathologic reaction in two species of mammals with the Rous virus, which causes tumors in chickens and other fowl.

Cysts Formed

Inoculation of rats before birth or as newborns, caused a disease characterized by the formation of cysts filled with serous transudate which became hemorrhagic. The cysts were found under the skin and in other parts of the body, and hemorrhages were found in various tissues and organs, including in particular the pleura, pericardium, and lungs. The disease was in many respects similar to the hemorrhagic disease of chick embryos infected with the Rous virus.

Newborn rabbits inoculated with Rous virus developed numerous benign subcutaneous fibrous nodes. At autopsy, fibrous nodes were found in the liver, and hemorrhages in various organs.

In a few instances virus was recovered from cyst walls and fibrous nodes following X- or ultraviolet radiation. The irradiated material induced typical sarcomas when administered to chickens. These findings suggest that the virus is probably fixed by an inhibitor which is destroyed by radiation.

Other Experiments Performed

Other experiments showed that the sera of hemorrhagic rats did not contain virus antibodies, while the sera of affected rabbits contained antibodies in about half the samples tested.

Dr. Zil'ber interpreted these findings as demonstration of the pathogenicity of the Rous virus of fowl for representatives of another class, mammals. He suggested that the hemorrhagic disease in rats, in which a few sarcomas developed sometime later, and the fibrous nodes in rabbits provide new models for study of the nature and mechanism of the neoplastic process. They are particularly interesting because "it is possible for the first time to follow in the same animal the infectious and neoplastic process caused by the same virus."

Chemotherapy Discussed

Another Soviet scientist, Prof. L. F. Larionov, reported some recent findings of the experimental chemotherapy program, which he directs at the Institute of Experimental and Clinical Oncology in Moscow.

These were results of tests of some new derivatives of two well-known anticancer drugs: sarcolysin, a compound developed in Russia, and chlorambucil, developed in Great Britain; and in addition, chlorophenacil, a compound related to chlorambucil.

Amino Acids Used

The rationale for the synthesis of the compounds was to prepare antimetabolites which would incorporate the cytotoxic properties of the parent alkylating agents into the new molecules. Amino acids constituted the metabolite portion of the new drugs. These were combined chemically in groups of two or three to yield di- or tripeptides of sarcolysin, chlorambucil, or chlorophenacil.

The new derivatives, which are called alkylating metabolites, were less toxic than the parent compounds for mice and rats, and some of them were more effective against certain animal tumors.

The alkylating metabolites differed from one another in antitumor activity, depending on which amino acid was used. Furthermore, the natural (i.e., levo) isomer of the amino acid was essential in the terminal position of the molecule in order to produce antitumor activity. These findings suggested to the Russian investigators that the structure of the compounds, and particularly the identity of the terminal amino acid, influenced the extent of antitumor activity.

NINDB Studies Suggest

Some scientists now think that certain brain cells may ingest proteins and other soluble metabolites in much the same way that amoeba surrounds and entraps its food by the movement of pseudopodia. This process, known as pinocytosis or "drinking" by the cells, has been observed in living cells grown in tissue culture using phase-contrast optics. Otherwise, pinocytosis can be studied by tracing inclusions of protein in the cells which were made visible by labeling with a fluorescent marker.

In the various cell types of the nervous tissue grown in tissue culture, pinocytotic activity (as seen by formation of clear vacuoles in the phase-contrast optics) was closely correlated with the uptake of fluorescent proteins and was characteristic for the individual cell type. This correlation suggests that the cellular uptake of protein might take place by the mechanism of pinocytosis.

Strikingly similar protein uptake by the glial (glue) cells was observed in the area of edema surrounding brain tumors, which spread into whose blood stream or subarachnoid space "marked proteins" had been introduced. Thus, although pinocytosis cannot be observed directly in cells in the living brain, this similarity in appearance of protein inclusions grown in tissue culture to those seen in the brain suggest that pinocytotic mechanism may be active in the living brain at least under certain conditions.

The study was conducted by Drs. Igor Klatzo and Jaime Miquel of the Surgical Neurology Branch, National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, and was reported at the meeting of the American Association of Neuro-pathology.

NIDR Develops Method For In Vivo Studies Of Calcified Tissues

Basic studies in the broad field of mineralization have suggested that "regulators" of calcification, or differences in the reactivity of hard or soft tissue collagens, may be factors determining which of the collagenous tissues do or do not undergo mineralization. New methods enabling in vivo studies of these factors have been reported recently by National Institute of Dental Research scientists.

In collaborative studies by Drs. S. Mergenhagen, G. Martin, A. Rizzo, and D. Scott, assisted by Mr. D. Wright, strips of tail tendon from mature rats were implanted in the peritoneal cavities of young Sprague-Dawley rats. Samples removed at 100, 120, and 160 days were found to be hard on gross examination.

Marked calcification was indicated by the typically altered calcium/phosphate ratio, and the presence in the collagen fibrils of hydroxyapatite crystals as identified by electron diffraction. Tail tendon dissected from these same animals at the times when calcified tendon implants were removed showed no evidence of mineralization.

In another experiment, gels of reconstituted rabbit skin collagen were also calcified when implanted (either directly or after encapsulation in dialysis bags) into the peritoneal cavities of white rabbits and rats.

The phenomenon of intraperitoneal mineralization gives rise to challenging possibilities for in vivo experimentation with collagen preparations which may be subjected to various treatments prior to implantation, or implanted in combination with agents thought to influence mineralization.

Such living "model systems" should provide new information on the still undetermined factors and mechanisms in calcification.
Soviet Cancer Specialists Visit NIH
To Observe NCI Research Projects

Five Soviet scientists engaged in cancer research paid a three-day visit to the National Cancer Institute September 26-28.

The Russian scientists were here under an agreement between the U.S. and the U.S. S. R. for cooperation in exchanges in the scientific and cultural fields.

A return visit to Russia next year is contemplated for a group of U.S. scientists.

Purpose of the Russians' visit was to talk with NCI scientists and observe their research projects. They also discussed with Institute officials the prospects for long-term exchanges of scientists, particularly younger investigators, between the two countries.

Under the agreement, signed in Moscow November 21 of last year, details of specific exchanges will be worked out by direct negotiations between the U.S. Public Health Service and the U.S. S. R. Ministry of Health.

In the field of cancer these involve the National Cancer Institute and the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Similar arrangements in the fields of cardiovascular diseases and poliomyelitis are also specifically authorized.

George A. Van Staden Is Appointed NIMH Executive Officer

George A. Van Staden, NIH Financial Management Officer since 1955, has been named Executive Officer of NIMH. His appointment became effective October 3.

The NIMH position was filled previously by Charles E. Mills, who died July 26.

Mr. Van Staden entered the Federal government in 1945, following wartime service with the Marine Corps. He served as fiscal accounting clerk with the Bureau of State Services and then became a cost analyst in the Office of Purchase and Supply, Office of the Surgeon General, PHS.

In 1948 he was selected for a year's training course in PHS administration. A year later he became Administrative Assistant, then Administrative Officer of the National Microbiological Institute, the forerunner of NIAID.

Here Since 1951

Mr. Van Staden has been with the Financial Management Branch since 1951, first as Budget Officer, then, in 1955, as Financial Management Officer. In this latter capacity he was chief financial advisor to the NIH Director. In addition, during 1954-55 he served as Executive Secretary to the Clinical Directors and as Special Assistant to the Associate Director for Intramural Research.

A graduate of George Washington University in political science, Mr. Van Staden received an M.A. degree in public administration in 1951 from the same university.

Proceedings Published On Louisiana Meeting

Proceedings of the Fourth Conference on Research Needs in Tropical Medicine have recently been published and are now available from DRG.

The conference, sponsored by DRG's Tropical Medicine and Parasitology Study Section, was held at the School of Medicine of Louisiana State University, New Orleans, April 29 through 30, 1960.

Among the topics covered are "Tropical or Geographic Medicine" and "Impact of Modern Instrumentation in Some Fields of Medicine in the Tropics."

Copies of the Proceedings may be obtained from Dr. Ernestine Thurman, Bldg. T-6, Rm. 1206, Ext. 3692.
New Committees On Polio Control Formed by PHS

The Public Health Service recently announced the formation of a Surgeon General’s Committee on Poliomyelitis Control to be made up of representatives of the medical and health professions and the general public.

Invitations were sent to the heads of 23 organizations asking them to designate members to serve on the committee.

Previously the Surgeon General had made public at a press conference the recommendations of the PHS Committee on Live Poliovirus Vaccine. It is on the basis of these recommendations that the Service considers the vaccine available for use in the United States, according to the announcement.

Committee Meets Today
Dr. John D. Porterfield, Acting Surgeon General in Dr. Burney’s absence from the city, said that the Surgeon General was also appointing an Agenda Committee, made up of representatives of the medical and public health professions, which will meet at the Public Health Service’s Communicable Disease Center in Atlanta on October 11 and 12.

This committee will consider both technical and administrative problems and develop the basic agenda for the first meeting of the Committee on Poliomyelitis Control. Seeking to obtain the fullest range of technical information on the oral vaccine available today, the Surgeon General has also invited a number of representatives of the field of polio vaccines to serve as consultants to the Agenda Committee and the Committee on Poliomyelitis Control.

Problems Posed
The Control Committee is expected to hold its first session in December or January, according to the announcement.

At the time of his news conference, the Surgeon General took special note of a recommendation by the Committee on Live Poliovirus Vaccine that use of the live vaccine should be integrated with the presently available Salk vaccine.

Dr. Burney also pointed out that the use of live virus vaccine in the American population posed a number of special problems which would require careful consideration. Among them is the committee’s suggestion that administration of the live virus vaccine will be more appropriate on a community than on an individual basis.

The Committee on Poliomyelitis Control will consider these and other questions developed by the Agenda Committee at its midwinter meeting.

Production of the oral vaccine is not anticipated before mid-1961 and the Service will continue its efforts to promote the widest possible use of the Salk vaccine in the interim period, the PHS announcement said.