Dr. Harmison New Chief Of Engineering Section, Artificial Heart Program

Dr. Lowell Thomas Harmison has been appointed Chief of the Engineering Section of the National Heart Institute's Artificial Heart-Myocardial Infarction Program.

Dr. Harmison is responsible for guiding the engineering aspects of the program, reviewing contract proposals, and monitoring research and development work performed by contractors of the Artificial Heart Program.

The bioengineering aspects of this program are aimed toward developing and refining mechanical devices which, hopefully, will provide temporary or permanent pumping assistance to damaged or failing hearts.

In June 1964, the Institute launched an expanded research and development program to make circulatory assist devices and, eventually, total heart replacements a

(See DR. HARMISON, Page 6)

NIAID’s Middle America Research Unit Helps Fight Polio Epidemic in Nicaragua

By Martha Mader

NIAID’s Middle America Research Unit (MARU) recently cooperated with other PHS and international groups combating a polio epidemic in Nicaragua. MARU scientists identified the virus responsible as poliovirus type 1, the most frequent culprit in epidemics of the disease.

By mid-July, some 735,000 doses of trivalent polio vaccine had been sent to the Central American republic, in the hope of stopping the disease outbreak, which began in April and reached epidemic proportions by late June. By July 3, Nicaragua had reported 253 cases of paralytic polio and 21 deaths.

MARU sent Dr. Peter Franck and Veronica Rivera, a nurse, from the Canal Zone laboratory to Managua in response to a June 22 request from the Nicaraguan Ministry of Health.

Worked Quickly

Working with local health authorities and the Pan American Health Organization officials, they gathered appropriate specimens. Returning to the laboratory June 26, they and other MARU scientists by July 1 had isolated and identified poliovirus type 1 from each specimen.

(See POLIO EPIDEMIC, Page 2)

Air Force Band Concert Set for July 27 at CC

A band concert for Clinical Center patients will be presented July 27 at 7:30 p.m. by the United States Air Force Band in the Clinical Center auditorium.

NIH employees, their families and friends are invited to attend, but patients will have priority in seating. Arrangements for this concert were made by the CC Patient Activities Section.

(See DR. GOULET, Page 8)

Dr. Goulet Is Appointed Asst. Chief of DRFR’s Research Support Branch

Dr. Normand R. Goulet has been named Assistant Chief of the General Research Support Branch of the Division of Research Facilities and Resources.

In this position, Dr. Goulet will assist in administering the General Research Support Branch programs. These programs provide flexible support to institutions for their biomedical research and research training activities, permitting the institutions to exercise greater discretion and initiative in developing their biomedical research programs.

Dr. Goulet has been with the Division since 1965, when he started his Civil Service career as a scientist administrator in the General Research Support Branch.

Dr. Goulet was born in New Bedford, Mass. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Providence College, R. I., and

(See DR. GOULET, Page 8)
One more nice thing about summer is summer students, like Shirley Duval of Damascus, Md., Shirley, who's with NIDR, is a graduate of Damascus High School. She plans to attend Montgomery Junior College in the fall.

**Pamphlet Offers Tips On Handling Picnic Food**

Tips on food handling and service to insure that summertime picnics do not turn out to be "no picnic" are contained in a recently issued pamphlet, PHS Publication No. 1623.

The publication, "No Picnic," states that the most important single factor affecting the outcome of a picnic is menu selection, and points out that disease-producing bacteria are found most often in foods high in protein and moisture such as eggs, meat, poultry, milk and milk products, fish, shellfish, potato salad, cream pies and custards.

Such foods after preparation must be kept either hot or cold enough to protect against bacteria, or else omitted from the menu.

**County Needs Doctors For Health Programs**

The Montgomery County Health Department reports a need for physicians to do part-time clinical work in both the Maternity and Child Health Programs.

Board eligible pediatricians and obstetricians are preferred. U.S. citizenship and Maryland medical license are required.

The positions include work in health supervision clinics for all ages of children, management of referral cases such as seen in the Crippled Children's Program, school medical advisory service and consultation to the public health nurses in the area.

To qualify for these positions, candidates must be licensed to practice medicine in the State of Maryland and have a current license in the State of Maryland. Applicants must have completed an approved residency program in pediatrics or obstetrics and gynecology.

**Medical Arts Offers Consultation Service To NIH Investigators**

The Division of Research Services is now offering a special consultation service which will give the investigator at NIH an opportunity to explore in depth the best way to use illustrations in presenting his research data.

Early and careful planning of visual material will afford a comprehensive coverage of the research material. It is anticipated that a closer union between the spoken or written word and pictorial materials will result.

The Medical Illustration Section, Medical Arts and Photography Branch, will assist in organizing complex data in chart or graph form for publication and slides. This will include help in selecting the proper graph form (line, bar, pie, etc.) for depicting data in a clear manner.

The use of labels on photographs and accompanying line drawings will be reviewed and information on specific journal format requirements will be made available to the requestor.

To take advantage of this assistance, contact Martin Finch, medical illustrator, Ext. 62191, before submitting work to the Medical Illustration Section.

**3 New Members Join NICHD Advisory Council**

Three new appointments for 4-year terms on the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council were made recently by Surgeon Gen. William H. Stewart.

The appointees are: Dr. Ewald W. Bazemore, Director-Center for the Study of Aging, Duke University, Durham, N.C.; Dr. William L. Nyan, Professor and Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, School of Medicine, University of Miami, Fla.; and Dr. Elizabeth M. Boggs, a longtime worker in public affairs relating to child development, State College, Pa.

**PAPER CLIPS**

1. Although there is no standardized procedure for answering an office phone, the telephone company recommends that you, the telephone answering service, announce your name at the outset to identify both your office and yourself to the caller.

2. When telephoning another office, it is helpful to identify yourself slowly and clearly to the person answering the phone.

To submit material for this column, call Steffie Swann, Ext. 61665.
Permanent Subcommittee Is Formed by NINDB To Review Eye Research

A permanent advisory body concerned with research on the basic mechanisms of sight and the many eye disorders has been formed by the Advisory Council to the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness.

The new Subcommittee on Impaired Vision and Blindness will make recommendations to the Council regarding development of the Institute's eye research programs.

Provides Continuous Review

Formed on the recommendation of a previous Advisory Council Committee concerned with vision and its disorders, the new subcommittee will provide a continuing review of the status of research and training and of the state of knowledge in this area. "Vision and Its Disorders," a report of the previous committee, will be published in early fall.

Institute Director Dr. Richard L. Masland told the subcommittee that the new subcommittee will identify areas which need special attention and will provide the Institute with a basis for long-range planning in eye research. This planning is necessary, he believes, for the Institute's programs to meet their objectives and to serve as a guide for determining the direction of future programs.

Dr. Bernard Becker, Professor of Ophthalmology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, will be chairman of the subcommittee.

Other members appointed by Dr. Masland are: Dr. Irving H. Leopold, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York; Dr. Glenn A. Fry, Ohio State University, Columbus; Dr. Richard E. Hoover, Greater Baltimore Medical Center; Dr. A. Edward Maumane, Johns Hopkins University; Dr. Kenneth C. Swan, University of Oregon Medical School; Dr. V. Everett Kinesey, Kresge Eye Institute, Detroit; and Dr. Richard Feinberg, NINDB, who will be the Executive Secretary.

Dr. Greulich Speaker At Periodontal Meeting

Dr. Richard C. Greulich, Director of Intramural Research, National Institute of Dental Research, was the guest speaker at a recent workshop conference on clinical methods in periodontal disease.

Dr. Greulich spoke on "The Correlation of Clinical and Fundamental Sciences in Investigations of Human Periodontal Disease" at the NIDR-sponsored meeting at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine.

Leading periodontologists from the United States and six other countries met to compare methods of evaluating periodontal disorders. Proceedings of the meeting, which provided an opportunity to test and compare the instruments and methods currently in use, will be published.

3 Join Gallon Donor Club

The Clinical Center Blood Bank reports that three NIH staff members have joined the Gallon Donor Club. They are: Austin Foster, OD; Lester Geiger, DRO; and Leo Von Euler, NIAMD.

Pokeweed Used Here to Probe Mystery Of Human Body's Immune Responses

Pokeweed is coming up in the world. From a common plant whose berries are squashed by children making "ink," it has advanced to the laboratory, where scientists are using it to probe the mystery of the human body's immune response.

NIH investigators are participating in studies with PWM—short for pokeweed mitogen, the biologically active substance extracted from the pokeweed plant. This substance has been found capable of causing in the test tube a transformation of human lymphocytes (specialized white blood cells) into cells which are biologically and morphologically indistinguishable from cells generally recognized in the body as being responsible for antibody production.

In concentrations of less than 1 part per million, PWM has been shown, again in the test tube, to possess agglutinating properties (or the ability to cause clumping) of both red and white blood cells.

Participating in the studies are Drs. Ralph A. Reisfeld, Lawrence N. Chassin and Jan Borjeson, all of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Dr. Parker Small Jr. of the National Institute of Mental Health; Dr. Herbert L. Cooper of the National Institute of Dental Research; and Dr. Steven D. Douglas, formerly of the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, now of the National Institute of Dental Research, Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, and will enter Clark University, Worcester, Mass., in the fall to study biochemistry.

POKEWEED—a common plant now being used in laboratory studies at NIH—U.S. Department of Agriculture Photo.

Fall Schedule Announced For Graduate Program

Catalogs for the Fall 1967 semester of the Graduate Program at NIH are now available. Seventy-one courses will be offered in the Behavioral and Social Sciences, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Genetics, Languages and General Mathematics, Medicine and Physiology, Microbiology and Immunology, Physics, and Statistics Departments.

Courses Listed


Also, Introduction to Algebra, Introduction to Mathematical Logic, Numerical Solutions of Problems in Mathematical Physics, Topics in Mathematical Biology, Fundamentals of Laboratory Animal Medicine, Basic Cell Biology for Science Writers, Molecular and Cellular Aspects of Immunology, and Stochastic Processes in Biology and Medicine.

Registration will be Sept. 8th through 15th with classes beginning the week of Sept. 15th. For a catalog or additional information call Ext. 66571.

POLIO EPIDEMIC

(Continued from Page 1)

case Center, PHS, has since sent advisors to Nicaragua to give further epidemiological assistance.

According to PAHO, immunization efforts are being directed at the under-10 age group, which includes more than one-third of the 1.7 million Nicaraguan population.

The current epidemic, concentrated in the Department of Managua (which includes the nation's capital and several nearby towns), has struck primarily children under 6 years old. Experience has shown that widespread vaccine administration effectively stops spread of polio within 2 to 3 weeks.

Donors Named

Of the 750,000 doses of vaccine, 200,000 doses were provided by the United States through the Agency for International Development. Donation of 175,000 doses came from the First Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio, and another 10,000 from Wyeth Laboratories of Philadelphia, Pa. The remaining 350,000 doses were bought by the Nicaraguan government through a PAHO emergency revolving fund.

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A 1966 tuberculosis survey revealed that over half of TB occurring in the Montgomery County area is in persons over 40 years of age with the bulk of cases over age 60.
Reggie concentrates—in her lab as she constructs a peptide analyzer and at home as she proves her analyses with a slide rule and chromatograms, while listening to favorite “classics” on stereo.

Reggie makes intricate adjustments to an amino acid analyzer—she maintains technical know-how that pays off in time and money when her sports car needs tuning.

a day in the life of

By Louis Cook with photos by Roy Per

To be Young at Heart is to be absorbed in research at the National Heart Institute—and to love the job enough to take it home.

To be Young at Heart is to drive a Morgan—and to make sure it runs, or not run.

To be Young at Heart is to be interested in the creative work at them as well.

To be Young at Heart is to be Regina Grimek—one of the new generation of workers at the NHLI.

Regina, or “Reggie” as she is known to her friends, is a new generation of workers at the NHLI. Her boss is Dr. William Kielley, her friend is Dr. Marshall Nirenberg. In the laboratory, an ability in mathematics and mechanical know-how also pays off in time and money when her sports car needs tuning.

In the laboratory, an ability in mathematics and mechanical know-how also pays off in time and money when her sports car needs tuning.

The immediate interest of Dr. Kielley’s group is the chemical structure of myosin and actin, the contractile proteins of the heart. These experiments include studies to determine the adenosine tri-phosphatase activity of myosin during this process.

Reggie’s interest in such biochemical problems was inspired by Dr. Marshall Nirenberg. While a student at Barry College, Miss Grimek became acquainted with the Nirenberg group. She obtained her degree in chemistry and sought employment at the National Heart Institute.

Life is not all textbooks, slide rules, and wrenches, Miss Grimek. Her interests include Japanese art, forays into interior design, and a firm belief in physical fitness. The latter is inherited from her father, a former “Mr. America,” now Editor of a “ment” magazine.
The Young at Heart

Physicist and research chemist Dr. Wayne Kielley of the outstanding the National Lab at the National Laboratory at the National Institute of Health in home.

know what makes creative arts—and to of the outstanding

a research chemist Dr. Wayne Kielley. chemical "know how" as well as calculate addition, she is con-

physical and chem- proteins of all muscle determine the role in the contractile

inspired by the work College, Miami, Fla., work. In 1965 she present at the National

though, for Reggie to culinary research, limited, no doubt, from "Muscular Develop-

Interested in several facets of Japanese art, Reggie is about to hang a display of her "origami" (paper folding) technique. Her knowledge of "ikebana" (flower arrangement) is demonstrated as she arranges a cluster of peonies.

More familiar with amino acids than baking powder, Reggie concentrates on a new recipe.

Reggie waves to friends as she drives away at the wheel of her sports car—a graduation gift responsible for discovery of her mechanical ability.

She finds a way to really "cool it" on a hot day.
Heart Advisory Council Appointments Announced

Three new members have been appointed to the National Advisory Heart Council.

Margaret Dixon, Dr. R. E. Forster, and Russell Larmon will participate in critical evaluation and make recommendations to the Surgeon General on the programs of NHI. The appointments of Mrs. Dixon and Dr. Forster run from Oct. 1, 1967, until Sept. 30, 1971. Mr. Larmon, replacing Arthur Hanisch who died in December 1966, will serve until September 1968.

A nationally known journalist, Mrs. Dixon is managing editor of the Baton Rouge (La.) Advocate. Dr. Forster is a professor of physiology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He served previously as a member of the Cardiovascular Study Section, NHI, from 1960-64; and is presently a member of the General Clinical Centers Study Section.

A previous Heart Advisory Council member (1955-58), Mr. Larmon is a former Dartmouth College administrator and educator. He served a 4-year term on the National Advisory Health Council and is currently a trustee of the Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Jack Davies Is Appointed To Dental Advisory Council

Dr. Jack Davies, Chairman, Department of Anatomy, School of Medicine, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., has been appointed to a 4-year term on the National Advisory Dental Research Council.

Harold Wolfe Appointed To Information Position With New York State

Dr. Jack Davies

Harold Wolfe assumed new duties with New York State early this month.

Harold Wolfe, former Public Information Officer in the Division of Regional Medical Programs, has accepted an appointment as Assistant Commissioner for Communications in the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene. He assumed his new duties in Albany on July 6.

Duties Given

In his new post, Mr. Wolfe will be the principal staff advisor to the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, Dr. Alan D. Miller, on the public information, public education, and public relations activities of the department. He will also plan and direct a broad range of press, publication, film, and other communication projects in support of the department's mental health and mental retardation programs.

A veteran of World War II, Mr. Wolfe entered the Federal Service in 1952. From then until 1960, he served as an editor and writer in the National Library of Medicine, the National Naval Medical Center, and the Office of the Army Surgeon General.

Since 1960 he has been with the Public Health Service, serving first as the public information specialist for the collaborative mother and child study of the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness and later as the public information officer for the Division of Foreign Quarantine, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and the Division of Regional Medical Programs.

Postgraduate Studies Cited

A native New Yorker, Mr. Wolfe received a bachelor of science degree in biology and chemistry from Hartwick College, Oneonta, N.Y., and has done postgraduate work in political science and editorial and information techniques at Brooklyn College, American University, Georgetown University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School.

Mr. Wolfe is married to the former Sherry Siegel, also a native of New York State, who, for the past 3 years, has been the administrative secretary of the Bowie, Md., School for Retarded Children. They have two sons, Scott, 13, and Bruce, 9.

An estimated 4 million persons in the United States have some hearing loss in both ears. An additional 2.5 million persons (13.5 persons per 1,000 population) are estimated to have loss of hearing in one ear.—National Center for Health Statistics.

If interest warrants, DRS's Zonal Centrifugation Course To Be Given Early Next Year

Interested persons should contact Eileen Hodkinson, Ext. 64131, giving names and months preferred.
POKEWEED
(Continued from Page 3)
Mount Sinai Hospital Medical School, New York.
These scientists are currently using the mitogen to investigate control mechanisms of the cell to find out what keeps the lymphocyte normally quiescent, yet permits it to respond when such stimuli as vaccines, tissue grafts, and other antigenic agents are applied.
They believe this work may be relevant to organ transplantation—where the body’s rejection of a foreign organ is the principal problem. They also believe that it may shed new light on deficiencies in the body’s immune system which permit uncontrolled growth of cancer cells, and that it may lead to better understanding of how autoimmune diseases are caused.
These investigators also plan to begin combined studies in animals of the consequences of human ingestion of pokeweed in connection with cases of accidental poisoning. Although toxicity of pokeweed is not widely recognized, it is responsible for a number of child poisoning cases each year, mainly in the eastern United States, where the blue-tinted, red berry-producing plant is indigenous.
The pokeweed work was begun in 1964, when it was first reported that a crude extract from the plant elicited mitogenic action. Initial reports of the NIH studies, published early this year in the Journal of Experimental Medicine, will be augmented soon by further reports on the biological and chemical characterization of PWM.

3 DRS Employees Get Cash Awards for Ideas

Three Division of Research Services employees recently received cash awards for suggestions made through the NIH Employee Suggestion Program.

Donald J. Farley and Elmer B. Saffell, DRS Plant Engineering Branch, each received $50 for their suggestion for a special modified electrical utility box. Their proposal will save NIH over $2,000 annually.

Owen E. Cox, PEB Paint Shop, was awarded $30 for his suggestion for removing scale from the ceramic tile walls of the Clinical Center.

Dr. Gordon M. Clark, RML Entomologist, Dies

Dr. Gordon M. Clark, research entomologist at NIAID’s Rocky Mountain Laboratory since 1952, died June 20 in Hamilton, Mont. Dr. Clark’s research concerned diseases of wildlife, including those transmissible to man. As a parasitologist and ecologist, he worked actively to preserve natural resources and public recreational areas threatened by air and stream pollution and industrial exploitation.

A native of Boston, he received an A.B. degree from Boston University, M.S. degree from the University of Massachusetts, and Ph. D. degree in zoology from the University of Maryland. Before joining the Rocky Mountain Laboratory, he was a wildlife biologist for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Patuxent Research Refuge at Laurel, Md.

Survivors include his wife, Esther J. Clark, and a son, Wayne M. Clark, both of Hamilton.

Joseph A. Powers, NIAMD, Selected For Academic Year at Stanford U.

Joseph A. Powers, a program analyst in the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, has been selected to participate in a special education program in systematic analysis.

Under the Mid-Career Educational Program in Systems Analysis, Mr. Powers will attend Stanford University in Palo Alto, Calif., beginning this fall for an academic year of intensive work in a variety of subject areas such as economic analysis, operations research, and study of other quantitative methods.

Sponsored Jointly

The program is sponsored jointly by the Civil Service Commission, the Bureau of the Budget, and the National Institute of Public Affairs, a non-profit educational organization devoted to attaining greater excellence in public service.

This program is similar to another one sponsored by the National Institute of Public Affairs under which outstanding Civil Servants are given Career Education Awards (See NIH Record, June 27, 1967), but differs in a number of respects.

The intent of the Systems Analysis program is to encourage agencies of the Federal Government to identify and develop persons who can be expected to make a major contribution to systematic program analysis in their departments.

At NIAMD Since ’65

Mr. Powers joined NIAMD in July 1965 to assist in the coordination and administration of the Institute’s collaborative research activities, particularly the Artificial Kidney Program. He has served as chief assistant to the Associate Director for Program Analysis and Scientific Communication in the program analysis function of the office, and in the preparation of comprehensive reviews of Institute programs.

Prior to joining NIAMD, Mr. Powers had served for a year and a half as a budget analyst in the Office of the Secretary, DHEW, and also had been an investigator for the Civil Service Commission. He has an academic background in the sciences and humanities, having received a B.A. degree in 1961 from Wesleyan University, in Middletown, Conn.

The Mid-Career Educational Program in Systems Analysis was developed last year when President Lyndon B. Johnson recommended such a program to help develop skill in planning, programming, and budgeting.

The program provides an opportunity for individuals to invest an academic year in the broad study of analysis and related subjects to help develop their capacities either to serve as program managers who need to understand and utilize modern analytical techniques or as staff who actually conduct studies and analyses.

In its first year the program was offered at five outstanding universities. This year seven are participating: the Carnegie Institute of Technology, the University of Chicago, Harvard, the University of Maryland, Prinston, Stanford, and the University of Wisconsin.

DHEW Participation Cited

Twenty-eight departments and agencies of the Federal Government will be sending staff members to these universities this fall. Five individuals from DHEW participated last year, and it is hoped that that number will be increased for the coming academic year.

The program at Stanford draws upon courses in the Departments of Civil Engineering, Engineering Economic Systems, Industrial Engineering, Economics, Political Science, and the Business School.

Mr. Powers will study such subjects as policy theory, the utilization of computers, engineering economy, planning and scheduling, cost allocation in public works.

Getting thrown out of the car is still the number one cause of death in automobile accidents, and the Injury Control Program insists that 80 percent of such deaths could be prevented—by wearing seat belts.
earned his Master of Science and doctorate at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He has also completed specialized studies at Temple University and Villanova University, Pa., the Graduate School of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

He joined the staff of the National Drug Company's biological laboratories at Swiftwater, Pa., as a virologist, in 1958. The following year he accepted a position as research associate with Merck, Sharp and Dohme.

In 1961, he rejoined the National Drug Company as senior virologist in their research laboratories in Philadelphia. In 1964, he was also appointed virology instructor at Rutgers—The State University, Camden, N. J.

Dr. Goulet is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Institute for Biological Sciences, the Maryland Branch of the American Society for Microbiology, and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences.

Dr. and Mrs. Goulet and their daughter reside in the Bethesda area.

Dr. Stewart Endorses Fair Housing Ordinance For Montgomery County

Strong endorsement of the adoption of a Fair Housing Ordinance in Montgomery County was expressed by Surg. Gen. William H. Stewart at the Montgomery County Council hearings on July 6. He emphasized the urgent need for the adoption of some legal instrument which will assure that persons who wish to live in Montgomery County may obtain the kind of housing they need and desire without discrimination as to race, color, or national origin.

Dr. Stewart pointed out to the Council that the NIH "has long suffered from existing housing practices which have interfered with its recruitment and retention of essential scientists and other research personnel." The interests of Montgomery County, ideally situated for future growth, Dr. Stewart asserted, would best be served by adoption of "fair housing legislation that is truly fair, positive and enforceable."

Dr. Mitchell Receives Awards From N.Y.U.

Dr. John T. Mitchell, a Staff Fellow in the Laboratory of Bio­logy, National Cancer Institute, was honored recently with two awards from New York University.

He received the Founder's Day Award for high scholastic achieve­ment, and was named the 1967 recipient of the annual Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association Jay F. Kra­kauer Award for the outstanding doctoral thesis in science.

Dr. Mitchell's dissertation was entitled "Studies with Thalido­mide and Related Compounds on the continued success in the con­trol of gout with specific anti-inflam­matory drugs and others which stimulate uric acid secretion from the body, and with the new drug allopurinol, recently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Adminis­tration for general use.

Dr. Goulet will help administer DRFR's general research support program.

No scared rabbit this—he knows Damara Bolte is his friend as he gets a taste of the paper work.—Photo by Tom Joy.

By Margaret George

Damara Bolte has never outgrown her love of animals, and today she's literally surrounded by them. She is now assistant to the Head of the Animal Production Unit of the Laboratory Aids Branch, in the Division of Research Services.

She helps to supervise the breeding and raising of over a million rats, mice, guinea pigs, hamsters, and rabbits a year. These animals are the major source of laboratory animals for NIH intramural research.

Damara is well qualified for her job. She holds a B.S. degree in agriculture from Purdue Uni­versity, where she concentrated in ani­mal husbandry. Her job at LAB seems tailor-made for someone of her unusual interests and back­ground. She has been there since 1959.

Breeds and Shows Dogs

What does Damara do to relax after spending all day at work with animals? Well, she breeds and shows her six dogs! She has two mastiffs, and one is the first American-bred champion mastiff bitch ever.

This year she has three offspring that finished their championships, also a record. Damara's other four dogs are Basenjis, an ancient bark­less breed from Egypt comparatively rare in the U.S. She became devoted to the attractive breed when she managed the Bettina Bel­mont Ward Basenji Kennels in Middleburg, Va., from 1955 to 1958.

She's a licensed professional dog handler, and trains and shows dogs for other breeders as well. Last year she showed the top winning 13-inch beagle in the U.S. If you think this keeps her pretty busy—you're right!

But she's not too busy to pursue her other talents and hobbies. She has a great interest in art. After graduation from Purdue, she spent a winter in Paris studying paint­ing and sculpture. In the recent NIH Art Show, she entered a scratchboard drawing of a rac­coon, entitled "Who, Me?" She is also an accomplished swimmer and tennis player.

Damara lives in Alexandria with her mother and father, Gen. Charles L. Bolte (Ret.), former Army Chief of Staff. During their worldwide travels, the family always kept a houseful of pets, and they still share Damara's enthusiasm for animals today. The only thing missing, Damara admits, is a horse—and only because there isn't room in the back yard!