Dr. M. Mehman Is Editor Of Journal on Toxicology And Environmental Health

This coming September, a new publication—*Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health*—will be issued by the Hemisphere Publishing Corporation in Washington, D. C.

The journal will include original and significant research papers in the fields of toxicology, teratology, environmental toxicology, drug metabolism, carcinogenesis, mutagenesis, and health effects of toxic and environmental factors.

Book reviews on those subjects and letters to the editor will also be published.

Dr. Myron A. Mehman, Special Assistant to the Associate Director for Program Planning and Evaluation, OD, is editor of the journal. Associate editors include Dr. Gary Flamm, NCI, and Dr. David P. Rall, NIEHS Director.

Researchers from many parts of the world are on the editorial board. NIH'ers who are on the board include Drs. George J. Cosmidis, NLM; David Hoel, NIEHS; Ruth Kirschstein, NIGMS Director, and Herman F. Kraybill and Umberto Saffiotti, NCI.

The publication will be issued 6 times a year.

President Ford Attends Swearing-in Of Drs. Cooper and Fredrickson at NIH

President Gerald R. Ford and HEW Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger participated in the ceremonies held at NIH on July 1 to administer the oath of office to Dr. Theodore Cooper, the new HEW Assistant Secretary for Health, and to Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, the new Director of the National Institutes of Health.

The President said that he came to NIH "to honor two outstanding men who are taking office today..."

Paying "a very long-deserved tribute" to NIH, President Ford added, "The fact that the two men are being honored today is both products of this institution is testimony to its greatness as a training ground for leaders in health and in medicine."

Watches NIH Grow

"Over the years, as I was in the Congress, I watched NIH grow into the world's foremost medical research institution. I followed your achievements — the breakthroughs that you have achieved here and in laboratories which you support around the world."

"And I have watched this growth from its inception, as a Congressman, as Vice President, and now as..."

2 Branch Chiefs Named To Posts in NHI Blood Diseases, Resources Div.

Dr. Therriault has served at the City of Hope Medical Center, Duarte, Calif., and at the U.S. Army Medical Research Laboratory and Armed Forces Education Program in Fort Knox.

Two new branch chiefs have been appointed to the National Heart and Lung Institute's Division of Blood Diseases and Resources. Dr. Joseph C. Fratantoni is chief of the Blood Diseases Branch, and Dr. Donald G. Therriault is chief of the Special Programs Branch.

Dr. Fratantoni will be responsible for the Institute's programs of basic and applied research on thrombemic and hemorrhagic diseases, Cooley's anemia, and red blood cell enzyme and membrane disorders, including review and evaluation of national and international research activities.

President Gerald R. Ford and HEW Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger administered the oath as Mrs. Fredrickson holds the family Bible and the Fredrickson's son, Eric, looks on. (See other photos on pages 4 and 5.)

President Ford observed Dr. Fredrickson taking his oath of office as Director of the National Institutes of Health. HEW Secretary Weinberger administers the oath as Mrs. Fredrickson holds the family Bible and the Fredrickson's son, Eric, looks on. (See other photos on pages 4 and 5.)

NIH issued a contract to the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing to design a pilot science-writer-in-residence program. The contract is administered by the Division of Scientific Reports, OD.

The program would enable journalists to work with scientists in research institutions. By taking an active part in a research project, the journalist would gain an understanding of the problems and methods of scientific inquiry and acquire an improved ability to assess research conclusions.

The research institutions would see how a reporter or broadcaster works and also become aware of the writer's problems and the requirements of his publication or station. Readers and viewers would benefit from the better reporting and increased understanding of science and technology.

Working journalists and editors with a minimum of 2 years experience or the equivalent and freelance writers may apply for the science-writer-in-residence program.

Those who are selected for the program will spend between 1 and 6 months at a research institution of their choice. Travel expenses plus a stipend related to the salary of the journalist will be paid.

A CASW committee will select the journalists from among the applicants. The committee is co-chaired by Victor Cohn, Washington Post, and David Perlman, San Francisco Chronicle.

Letters may be sent to William J. Cromie, executive director, CASW, 618 N. Elmwood, Oak Park, Ill. 60302.

Council Receives NIH Contract to Design Science-Writer-in-Residence Pilot Program

NIH has issued a contract to the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing to design a pilot science-writer-in-residence program. The contract is administered by the Division of Scientific Reports, OD.

The program would enable journalists to work with scientists in research institutions. By taking an active part in a research project, the journalist would gain an understanding of the problems and methods of scientific inquiry and acquire an improved ability to assess research conclusions.

The research institutions would see how a reporter or broadcaster works and also become aware of the writer's problems and the requirements of his publication or station. Readers and viewers would benefit from the better reporting and increased understanding of science and technology.

Working journalists and editors with a minimum of 2 years experience or the equivalent and freelance writers may apply for the science-writer-in-residence program.

Those who are selected for the program will spend between 1 and 6 months at a research institution of their choice. Travel expenses plus a stipend related to the salary of the journalist will be paid.

A CASW committee will select the journalists from among the applicants. The committee is co-chaired by Victor Cohn, Washington Post, and David Perlman, San Francisco Chronicle.

Letters may be sent to William J. Cromie, executive director, CASW, 618 N. Elmwood, Oak Park, Ill. 60302.

President Ford observes Dr. Fredrickson taking his oath of office as Director of the National Institutes of Health. HEW Secretary Weinberger administers the oath as Mrs. Fredrickson holds the family Bible and the Fredrickson's son, Eric, looks on. (See other photos on pages 4 and 5.)

NIH has issued a contract to the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing to design a pilot science-writer-in-residence program. The contract is administered by the Division of Scientific Reports, OD.

The program would enable journalists to work with scientists in research institutions. By taking an active part in a research project, the journalist would gain an understanding of the problems and methods of scientific inquiry and acquire an improved ability to assess research conclusions.

The research institutions would see how a reporter or broadcaster works and also become aware of the writer's problems and the requirements of his publication or station. Readers and viewers would benefit from the better reporting and increased understanding of science and technology.

Working journalists and editors with a minimum of 2 years experience or the equivalent and freelance writers may apply for the science-writer-in-residence program.

Those who are selected for the program will spend between 1 and 6 months at a research institution of their choice. Travel expenses plus a stipend related to the salary of the journalist will be paid.

A CASW committee will select the journalists from among the applicants. The committee is co-chaired by Victor Cohn, Washington Post, and David Perlman, San Francisco Chronicle.

Letters may be sent to William J. Cromie, executive director, CASW, 618 N. Elmwood, Oak Park, Ill. 60302.
Civic Leader M. R. Ripley Named to NHLI Council

Mary Roberts Ripley, a Los Angeles civic leader, has been appointed to the National Heart and Lung Advisory Council.

Mrs. Ripley has long been active in civic and community service organizations at the local, state, and national levels.

She has served as an officer or has held executive positions in many of these organizations, including the California Heart Association, the Child Welfare League of America, and the State Board of Social Welfare.

Awards Given

Her awards for outstanding civic service have included the Distinguished Achievement Award of the Los Angeles Heart Association; the Meritorious Service Award of the California Heart Association, and the Distinguished Service Award of the American Heart Association.

Cummings Leaves on Assignment To National Australian Library

Dr. Martin M. Cummings, National Library of Medicine Director, leaves next month on an assignment as consultant to the National Library of Australia in Canberra.

He will advise on a feasibility study for a proposed life sciences network—part of a national information system to be operated by that library.

Day Is Acting Director

During the 6-month absence of Dr. Cummings, NLM deputy director Melvin S. Day will be acting director.

The life sciences network will be a component of the Australian Library Based Information System. It is one of ten such networks planned for science and technology.

Day Is Acting Director

During the 6-month absence of Dr. Cummings, NLM deputy director Melvin S. Day will be acting director.

Iran, U.S. Will Further Biomedical Relations

A cooperative arrangement to further biomedical communications between Iran and the U.S. has been signed by Dr. A. H. Samii of Iran and NLM Director Dr. Martin M. Cummings.

Dr. Samii is Director of the Imperial Medical Complex of Iran and Minister of Science and Education. The IMCI has plans to develop an Iranian National Medical Library.

The Memorandum of Understanding between the two countries includes consultation, training, and services which NLM will provide upon request and funding by Iran. The arrangement was initiated by that country to assist its health professionals.

Dr. Yerby Talks on Britain's Medicine, Nat'l Health Services

Dr. Alonzo S. Yerby who has joined the FIC staff as a visiting research professor, will discuss Community Medicine and the Reorganization of the National Health Service in the United Kingdom.

His lecture will be given at 10 a.m., on Wednesday, July 23, in Bldg. 31, Conference Room 10.

Dr. Yerby is professor of health services administration, Harvard School of Public Health.
Five New Members Serve on DRR Council

An academic vice president—Dr. William S. Partridge—and a medical professor who heads a department—Dr. Jason H. Collins—have been appointed to the National Advisory Research Resources Council.

Dr. Partridge has been vice president for research at the University of Utah since 1966.

Dr. Collins is a professor and chairman of the department of obstetrics and gynaecology, Tulane University School of Medicine.

He has written a number of medical articles and has also authored a chapter in a textbook.

He will serve on the council through September 1977.

Three other members were also recently appointed to the DRR Council. They are Dr. Peter H. Abbrecht, W. Robert Blair, and Dr. Leo K. Bustad.

(See DRR COUNCIL, Page 1)

Retirement Annuity Increase Of 5.1% Effective August 1

The Civil Service Commission has announced a 5.1 percent cost-of-living increase in retirement annuities which will become effective on Aug. 1.

Employees must retire before this date in order to benefit from this increase as well as the 7.3 percent cost-of-living increase of this past January.

Employees who are considering retirement should inform their personal office as soon as possible.

Maps of Cancer Mortality Rates Show Geographic Variations; Factors Examined

Cancer mortality, 1950-69, for melanoma of skin in white males is shown by state economic area. Higher rates, adjusted for age, are darker.


By providing clues to occupational and environmental factors that contribute to cancer causation, the Atlas can be used to identify areas where additional studies may pinpoint these factors.

The authors, from NCI’s Epidemiology Branch, are Dr. Thomas J. Mason, Frank W. McKay, and Drs. Robert Hoover, William J. Blot, and Joseph F. Fraumeni, Jr.

The Atlas contains maps of 16 common cancer sites on a county-by-county basis.

The other 19 sites, for which fewer deaths occurred, are mapped by “state economic area,” defined by the Bureau of the Census as a single county or group of counties with similar economic and social characteristics.

Rates Computed, Adjusted

The maps are based on average annual cancer death rates per 100,000 population, obtained from data provided by HEW’s National Center for Health Statistics and based on death certificates.

The rates were computed separately for whites and nonwhites and for males and females.

The data, adjusted to correspond to the distribution by age of the U.S. population in 1960, were published by NCI in 1974 in a 729-page volume.

The new maps of cancer mortality show geographic patterns separately for males and females and describe cancer only in whites.

Another study is now under way with modified mapping techniques to assure reliable results with the smaller numbers of nonwhites in the U.S.

Summary tables for each cancer site list a percentile ranking of mortality rates and numbers of deaths. Other tables in the Atlas give death rates for each cancer site for consecutive 5-year age groups.

Similar geographic patterns for both sexes for a particular cancer suggest that common environmental factors may contribute to causation; markedly different patterns for the sexes suggest occupational factors.

Some Patterns Predicted

For some cancers, such as melanoma—a rare form of skin cancer—geographic patterns were predictable. Melanoma deaths occurred predominantly in the southern U.S. and the Southwest. Scientists have known for many years that sunlight is a major cause of skin cancer, and that darker-skinned persons are less susceptible.

Cancers of the colon and rectum, believed to be related to diet, were found in both sexes at above-average rates in the Northeast and in urban areas along the Great Lakes. Low rates were found in the southern and central parts of the U.S.

Surprisingly, breast cancer showed a similar pattern suggesting that this disease may have an environmental factor in common with cancers of the large intestine.

High rates in the Northeast for cancers of the esophagus, larynx, mouth and throat, and bladder were limited to males, suggesting occupational factors.

In a correlation study, the NCI scientists identified high rates of cancers of the lung, liver, and bladder in counties with significant employment in the chemical industry. Additional studies are needed to clarify any occupational risks.

Lung cancer death rates were above average in counties where a significant percentage of the work force is engaged in smelting and refining of copper, lead, and zinc ores.

In counties along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts south of Charleston, S.C., high rates suggest that environmental factors, in addition to cigarette smoking, may contribute to lung cancer deaths in these predominantly rural and seaport areas.

High rates of stomach cancer found in both sexes in the North Central States correspond closely with the geographic concentration of persons with ancestors from Austria, the Soviet Union, and Scandinavia. Stomach cancer rates in those countries are also higher than the U.S. average.

An unexpected concentration for cancers of the lip and mouth/throat was found among women in the South. There were no clearly discernible patterns in the U.S. for cancers of the pancreas, brain, salivary gland, nose, and sinuses.

The authors of the mapping study caution that the maps should not be used alone to ascribe cancer mortality to hazards in specific areas. For example, mortality rates may reflect environmental exposures from entirely different parts of the U.S. due to population movements such as retirement.

Techniques Further Refined

The data and mapping techniques will be further refined. New studies will follow up leads suggested by national patterns for specific forms of cancer.

Further analyses of the effects of socioeconomic status, urbanization, and latitude on cancer death rates will complement the current studies.

A limited number of copies of the Atlas will be available directly from NCI. Additional copies will be on sale from the GPO at a later date.
THE PRESIDENT COMES TO NIH
Photos by
Tom Joy, Ed Hubbard,
Jerry Hecht, Heather Banks
EHS Scientists Testing Toxic Effects of DES On Unborn Animals

Scientists at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences are testing the toxic effect of DES—diethylstilbestrol—a synthetic hormone, on unborn animals.

Recent reports have described the latent appearance of previously rare genital tract tumors in young women whose mothers had been given DES during gestation. During the 1950s and 1960s a number of women having trouble with their pregnancies were given the drug to keep them from aborting.

Using mice in their experiments, the investigators will try to determine how and when damage to offspring of DES-treated mothers occur.

The experiment should also be useful in studying factors associated with transplacental carcinogenesis and may help investigators find predictive indicators of cancer.

The ovaries are being taken very early from unborn mice and grown in culture. Some are then being traced through the normal process of development and studied to see how changes occur when there is no interference.

Other cells of the same kind are being exposed to DES to determine what changes occur in the way the cells develop. To date, in studies with the DES-exposed mice, no visible changes in the development of the animal have been found. The offspring appear to grow and reach puberty normally.

Lesions Noted in Males

There is some evidence, however, that reproductive tract lesions may be produced in male offspring following DES exposure during gestation.

NIH scientists are also examining whether male offspring of DES-treated mothers also may be at risk.

Although DES has generally been considered as a method for preventing abortion, it has been found to be an effective post-coital contraceptive, and has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in emergency situations.

The hormone has also been used routinely as a cattle feed additive to speed weight gain, and a ban on the use of DES for this purpose is being considered.

Platigorsky, NICHD, Bg. 6, Rm. 333.

7/1—Dr. Ella Nora Slack, NIH, Bg. 15, 1975
Record Breaking Number Of Minority Researchers Attend MBS Symposium

Four new members have been appointed to the National Advisory Dental Research Council: Barbara Ann Banner Maves, and Drs. Ronald Johnson, Thomas Wai Sun Wu, and Roy V. Talmage.

Ms. Maves is Director of Planned Parenthood of East Central Indiana.

She served as the first administrator of the Operations Division, Community Services Program, in Indianapolis, and was administrator of the Office of Consumer Affairs in that city.

Heads Dentistry Service

Dr. Johnson is chief of the Pediatric Dentistry Service at the Martin Luther King, Jr., General Hospital in Los Angeles.

He was a research fellow at the Forsyth Dental Center and a post-doctoral fellow at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, receiving a specialty certificate in pedodontics in 1967.

Dr. Johnson has served as assistant and associate professor of pediatric dentistry at several universities.

Dr. Wu, a practicing dentist in San Francisco, received his D.D.S. degree from the University of California School of Dentistry.

He has maintained an active interest in the development of methods to correct the occlusion through orthodontic treatment of the jaw and has conducted clinics and lectured on this subject.

Served on HEW Committee

Dr. Wu served for 3 years with the HEW National Advisory Committee for Dental Health.

Dr. Talmage is Director of the Orthopedic Research Laboratory and professor of surgery at the School of Medicine, University of North Carolina.

In recent years, he has done work under support of NIH, including NIDR.

Dr. Talmage, who has taught biology at a number of universities, was also a staff biochemist with the Atomic Energy Commission.

"The Nation has not utilized the scientific talent of its minority students.

"The National Institutes of Health recognized this fact and has launched several programs to rectify this situation."

He pointed out that there are only 1,200 full-fledged minority scientists in the Nation today.

Dr. Gonzales said, "With the MBS program in progress, we should be able to double this number in approximately 4 years."

"Writers, like teeth, are divided into incisors and grinders." —Walter Bagehot

Federation Proceedings Devotes Issue To Research at DRR’s Primate Centers

The July issue of the Federation Proceedings is devoted entirely to papers on the activities at the seven primate research centers supported by the Division of Research Resources. Published by the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, the magazine presents articles of interest to biomedical scientists.

The articles in the July issue include the Wisconsin Primate Research Center's study on the biological effects of polychlorinated biphenyls. This investigation indicates that levels of PCBs permitted in some foods intended for humans can produce toxic effects in non-human primates within a relatively short time.

Exposure Levels Studied

Continuous exposure to even minute quantities may cause ill effects since PCBs accumulate in the tissues of exposed animals; a safe level of PCBs has yet to be established.

The Oregon Primate Center's report on their study of the immunologic and morphologic effects of vasectomy in rhesus monkeys indicates no significant correlation between vasectomy and any long-term systemic dysfunctions located away from the surgical site. This study also includes an investigation of the success rate in vasosartosomies, the surgical procedure to reverse a vasectomy.

An article from the Yerkes Primate Research Center in Atlanta discusses the use of nonhuman primates in human tumor immunology studies.

Although the research covered leukemia and melanoma antigens, the investigators felt that their approach may also serve for the detection by simian antisera of tumor-specific membrane antigens of cancer cells from patients with various types of solid tumors.

Tulane University's Delta Primate Research Center reports that preliminary results indicate that patas and African green monkeys may serve as models for the investigation of human barrelosis infection, or relapsing fever.

Other topics in this issue include the New England Center's study of chromosome differences in Squirrel monkeys from different regions of South and Central America; the California Primate Research Center's studies of the effect of oxidant air pollutants, and results of the chronic use of marijuana, and the Washington Center's study on the baboon's endocrine and metabolic responses to environmental cold.

DRR COUNCIL

(Continued from Page 3)

Dr. Abbrech is professor of physiology and chairman of the biotechnology program at the University of Michigan.

His textbook for biotechnology students, Physiological Systems Analysis For Engineering, will be published in July.

Mr. Blair, former Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives, is an attorney in private practice, and president of the Fairfax Realty Company in Park Forest, Ill.

Dr. Bastad is dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, Washington State University.

He is also an associate editor of Laboratory Animal Science, and is on the editorial board of the American Journal of Veterinary Research.
A Successful Conclusion: 80% of NIH Employees Checked Blood Pressure

Between last November and this June, NIH employees were given the opportunity to have their blood pressure checked. Over 80 percent of all employees took advantage of the free service. Nurses screened workers in every building, excepting Building 6, and the Laboratory of Neurogenetics, on day and night shifts and even on weekends.

The program was initiated by the National High Blood Pressure Education Program, a multi-agency program with its focus in the National Heart and Lung Institute. The Employee Health Service at NIH offered its full cooperation and support.

Dr. Jim L. Shields, NHII assistant director for health information programs, Dr. Robert I. Levy, Director of the Division of Heart and Vascular Diseases, NHLI, and Graham Ward, NHBPEP program coordinator, praised the many people who gave generously of their time and talents to make the screening a success.

They also urged those found to have elevated pressure to seek further evaluation and to obtain or to continue treatment.

James A. Shannon and Mrs. Shannon, and representatives of many private health organizations.

Dr. Jaffe Wins Two Awards for Blood Research

Dr. Russell M. Jaffe, staff physician in the Clinical Pathology Department, Clinical Center, recently received two awards for his research on the interaction of structural proteins (collagen) of blood vessels and the aggregation of platelets—blood cells necessary for coagulation.

The awards were the John D. Lane Annual Research Award in the junior investigator category and a third place Mead Johnson Excellence of Research Award for his paper, "Role of Quaternary Structure in Collagen Binding to and Aggregation of Platelets."

The Lane award was created by the Commissioned Officers Association. Dr. Jaffe's paper was selected from about 300 that were presented at the COA annual meeting held in Las Vegas early last month.

Dr. Jaffe received the award from Dr. Theodore Cooper, HEW Assistant Secretary for Health. Two other NIH scientists were announced as being among the finalists in the junior investigator category. They were Dr. Ronald D. Barr, NCI, and Dr. James A. Nathan son, NIGMS.

Dr. Jaffe, who graduated from Boston University Medical School in 1972, has been a resident in the CC's Clinical Chemistry Section until recently, when he received an appointment to the permanent staff of the Clinical Pathology Department.

Energy Tips

- If everyone scheduled household chores to lighten the load at the generating plants during peak hours in the afternoon and evening, fewer inefficient generating units would have to be used, reducing fuel consumption and the possibilities of brownouts and blackouts.

- On cooler days and during cooler hours, open the windows instead of using air-conditioners or electric fans.

Dr. Jaffe's work supports the hypothesis that a precise arrangements of collagen molecules must be attained before self-perpetuating platelet aggregation can be induced.