Dr. J. T. Lanman Heads NICHD Research Center On Mothers and Children

Dr. Jonathan T. Lanman, pediatrician and former associate director of The Population Council of Rockefeller University, has been named director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development's Center for Research for Mothers and Children.

The Center is the focal agency for the Federal Government's support of research in the biomedical, social, and behavioral sciences for maternal and child health.

Experience Noted

In 1972 Dr. Lanman was made associate director of the Biomedical Division of The Population Council, after serving on the Fellowship Selection Committee and as a consultant for 5 years and a visiting investigator in that Division during 1966-67.

Dr. Lanman has also been professor of pediatrics at New York University since 1972. For 2 years previously, he was professor and chairman of the Department of Pediatrics at the Downstate Medical Center, State University of New York. From 1949 to 1960 he taught pediatrics at NYU's College of Medicine.

Dr. Lanman's research has focused on the problems of premature birth (See DR. LANMAN, Page 7).

Distinguished Guests Attend Colloquium On the Bicentennial of Medicine in U.S.

On May 6 and 7 several hundred distinguished physicians, scientists, and educators from this country and abroad gathered in the Masur Auditorium of the Rockefeller University for a Colloquium on the Bicentennial of Medicine in the United States hosted by the National Library of Medicine in cooperation with the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation.

The essays are being published in a two-volume Festschrift by the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation. Topics included medical education, public health and preventive medicine, medical care, select specialty areas, biomedical communications, the Federal role in medical education and research, and U.S. medicine as seen from abroad.

The essays were presented first by a specialist and then discussed with full audience participation in the spirit of a true colloquy. The essays are being published in a two-volume Festschrift by the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation.

NIAMDD's Dr. E. May Honored for Research

On April 7 Dr. Everette L. May, chief of the Medicinal Chemistry Section, Laboratory of Chemistry, National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, received the 1976 Research Achievement Award in Pharmaceutical Sciences at its annual meeting in New Orleans.

The award, sponsored by the Upjohn Company, cited Dr. May's outstanding original contributions to the science of chemistry over his illustrious 37-year career. Dr. May has synthesized analogues of opiate for use against opiate addiction. He also established the route to several totally synthetic series of opioid analogues. (See DR. MAY, Page 8)

Dr. Wallace Rowe Wins NAS Waksman Award For His Viral Studies

Dr. Wallace P. Rowe, chief of the Laboratory of Viral Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, has received the National Academy of Sciences Selman A. Waksman Award in Microbiology.

This award, with a $5,000 honorarium, was presented at a ceremony on April 26 during the Academy's 113th annual meeting. Dr. Rowe was cited "for fundamental contributions to our understanding of the biology of oncoviruses."

Dr. Rowe has been with NIAID since 1952 and is in his present position since 1968.

The award was contributed to NAS in 1967 by the Foundation for Microbiology through its president, Dr. Selman A. Waksman.

For many years professor of microbiology and director of the Institute of Microbiology at Rutgers University, Dr. Waksman was also a Nobel Prize winner in 1952 for discovery of streptomycin, the first antibiotic effective against tuberculosis. (See COLLOQUIUM, Page 4)

Dr. DeWitt Stetten Elected As NAS Council Member

Dr. DeWitt Stetten, Jr., NIH Deputy Director for Science, is one of four members elected to the Council of the National Academy of Sciences during its 113th annual meeting April 27 in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Stetten's 3-year term begins July 1.
THE WOMEN OF NIH, through the Federal Women’s Program, presented a batik wall-hanging to the NICHD Perinatal Center on May 6. NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson thanked the women for “this very special adornment to NIH” and congratulated the artist, Jill Landau of DCRT (c, with her son Jay), who hand-printed the brightly colored design—representing a mother and two children—coating with wax the areas of white silk not dyed. Also shown, l to r: Tina McIntosh, Agnes Sweeney, EEO Director Raymond Jackson, Annie Collins, Sharron Wofsy, and Dr. Sharon Levine.

NIH Singers to Present Concert Tuesday, May 25
The NIH Singers spring concert will be held next Tuesday, May 25, at noon in the CC 14th floor auditorium.

The program will include music by Haydn, Brahms, and Randall Thompson, and a group of 16th and 17th century songs sung by the NIH Madrigal Singers.

The NIH Singers are directed by Lewis Norton, and the NIH Madrigal Singers by Glenn Ricart.

AMERICAN INDIAN DAYS came to NIH on April 28 and 30 when Johnny Arlee, spiritual leader, narrated performances of singing and dancing by a group of 32 members of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes from the Flathead Indian Reservation in Dixon, Montana, demonstrating the cultural heritage they are trying to preserve. Speakers at the program discussed Traditions Tomorrow, The Role of the American Indian Woman of Today, and One View of the Etiology of Depression in the American Indian.

Latest Research Grants Index Now Available
The 15th Research Grants Index (RGI), DHEW Publication No. (NIH) 76-200 has recently been issued.

It contains scientific data on more than 20,000 active Public Health Service grants and contracts during fiscal year 1975. The Index is published in two volumes. The first has approximately 9,000 subject headings under which appear the identification numbers of pertinent projects. Each number is followed by the project title.

The second volume contains project identification data, including names of investigators, their addresses and project titles; a separate section on research contracts, and an alphabetical list of grantee investigators.

Copies of the RGI may be obtained by writing to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. The publication price is $35 domestic postpaid, or $48.75 foreign postpaid.

On a recent trip to Australia, Dr. Martin M. Cummings, Director, National Library of Medicine, acquired five paintings by aboriginal artists on eucalyptus bark—the first primitive art in the NLM collection. (L) A human subject with birds’ or fishes’ tails and bones projecting from waist and shoulders fore shadows illness—here, pains in stomach, teeth and eyes. The kangaroo (r) from Western Arnhem Land shows X-ray-like features. Internal organs indicate the subject’s “wholeness” and magically release the animal’s spirit, ensuring its abundance.
Dr. Gary Felsenfeld, chief, Section on Physical Chemistry in NIAMDD’s Laboratory of Molecular Biology, and Dr. Edward V. Evarts, chief, Laboratory of Neurophysiology, NIMH, have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

At the 113th annual NAS meeting on April 27, 75 new members were elected “in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research.” Dr. Felsenfeld’s election reflects his vital contributions to two distinctly different fields.

In the late 1950’s, Dr. Felsenfeld laid the groundwork for much of the subsequent polynucleotide physical chemistry. He examined the relationship between the secondary and tertiary structure of nucleic acids and their role in protein synthesis and in the transmission of genetic information.

His analysis of the interaction of poly-A and poly-U to form two- and three-stranded complexes has become the standard approach for both ribo- and deoxyribo-polynucleotides.

The investigator’s more recent work concerns the molecular organization and transcription of chromatin, the nuclear carrier of the inheritance genes.

Dr. Felsenfeld demonstrated that chromatin is locally heterogeneous, with sensitive portions interspersed with resistant ones.

His findings established the necessary conditions for the physicochemical study of chromatin in solution.

A graduate of Harvard College in the biochemical sciences, Dr. Felsenfeld received his Ph.D. in physical chemistry from the California Institute of Technology.

Commissioned in the PHS, he served in NIMH’s Laboratory of Neurochemistry until 1968. After 4 years as assistant professor of biophysics at the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Felsenfeld returned to NIH to assume his present post.

Dr. Evarts’ major fields of interest are: cerebral mechanisms underlying sleep, electrophysiological correlates of behavior, and neurophysiology of movement.

A graduate of Harvard Medical School, he has been with NIMH on the NIH campus since 1963 except for 1 year (1961-62) when he was on the faculty of Duke University School of Medicine. He has held his present post since 1970.

In addition to his membership in a number of professional organizations, Dr. Evarts is on the editorial board of numerous professional journals and chief editor of the Journal of Neurophysiology.

He received the DHED Superior Service Award in 1968.

Dr. Gary Felsenfeld, left, and Dr. Edward V. Evarts, both members of the National Academy of Sciences, will serve on the NIH campus since 1963 except for 1 year (1961-62) when he was on the faculty of Duke University School of Medicine. He has held his present post since 1970.

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**Columbia Commuters Find Bus Transport Saves—Hassles, Parking Space, Money**

For 2 years the bus has saved hassles and car costs for these commuters from Columbia and Route 29 to the Bethesda area. A happy side effect—often, neighbors and co-workers become friends.

**By Richard T. West**

There is a group of NIH'ers who aren't worried about present or impending parking problems at the NIH reservation. They are among the 30 to 40 individuals who daily ride the Carter Bus Service coach to NIH and Bethesda.

At 7 a.m. each weekday, bus driver Al Sheeckels leaves Ellicott City, Md., and begins picking up passengers in Columbia and along Route 29 to the Beltway.

The bus enters NIH on Lincoln Drive from Old Georgetown Road shortly after 8 a.m. and begins dropping off passengers at stops on the reservation and in Bethesda. In the evening, the route is reversed, starting in Bethesda.

The commuter bus service began more than 2 years ago when three National Library of Medicine employees contacted Roger Carter's Bus Service with their proposal. They had identified more than 150 NIH'ers who lived in the Columbia area and believed a commuter bus would prove profitable.

For the first month or so, ridership barely numbered 15, but soon grew to an average of 35 excluding the period of the "gasoline crisis" when there were more than 60 riders, and standing room only was the rule.

The present passenger load is a little short of the 35 to 40 regular riders needed to keep the bus running.

Why do such a small percentage of potential riders actually use the service regularly? To quote Alyce Myers, of NLM, volunteer bus captain, "It's hard to get people out of their cars, especially when NIH offers free parking."

Ridership increases in bad winter weather and during the summer when the air conditioned bus is appealing.

The riders represent a cross-section of NIH employees, from scientists to secretaries, and others who work at Suburban Hospital or at companies in Bethesda.

What do they do on a commuter bus? As you might expect: some snooze, some read, and others chat. It's not uncommon to hear conversations about research or site visit travel as well as the weather, or to see a couple of riders discussing a computer printer.

The commuters say the fare is $1.50 each way from Columbia and $1.25 from points along Route 29 in Montgomery County, or $1.25 and $1 per ride if a commuter ticket is purchased for 10 rides over a 2-week period.

Not only do the riders avoid the hassle of driving and trying to find one of the decreasing number of parking spaces at NIH, there is an added benefit: most auto insurance companies will reduce their rates if the car isn't used in daily commuting to work. Many riders have even found they could do without that second car.

For more information about the commuter bus or a schedule, call Alyce Myers, Ext. 64673, or Carter's Bus Service, Ellicott City, Md. 465-9839.

**Virginians Seek Bus Riders**

Employees residing in the Tysons Corner-Seven Corners area of Northern Virginia who are interested in a regularly-scheduled bus service to NIH should contact the Employee Relations and Recognition Branch, DPM, Ext. 64978.

NIMH offers free parking.

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**Pool-It PlanProsper —Printouts Are Prepared**

Over the past 4 weeks, hundreds of NIH employees have completed and returned the NIH Commuter Club Questionnaire to the Parking and Traffic Control Office.

To date, approximately 20 percent of NIH employees have participated in this effort. This figure is increasing daily, along with interest in “pooling-it.”

Completed questionnaires have been forwarded to the Washington Area Council of Governments. Each employee submitting a questionnaire will soon receive an individualized printout showing the names and work telephone numbers of other employees who live nearby.

Car pool registration will begin as soon as preparations are completed. Each registered car pool, consisting of two or more travelers, will have an assigned parking space conveniently located in one of the selected parking lots.

The Parking and Traffic Control Office urges all employees to participate in this project. To reduce air pollution and traffic congestion as well as save gasoline and money, POOL-IT!

**SAVINGS BOND DRIVE COORDINATORS Lois George of NIAMDD and Ken Styers of NLM stand near one of the 10 scoreboards around the campus on which the progress of the drive will be recorded weekly. The Bond Drive has been extended to June 15.**

**TRAINING TIPS**

A series of courses that begin in June are being offered by the Training and Education Branch, DPM.

Application deadlines are approximately 2 weeks before classes start.

**Basic Time and Attendance 6/11**
**Clerical Orientation 6/17**
**Telephonic Techniques 6/23**
**Human Relations 6/28-29**
**Speech Communications 6/23-30**
**Mailing Procedures 6/29**

Information may be obtained from B/D personnel offices or the Training and Education Branch, Ext. 62146.
Effect of Metro on NIH May Be Revealed May 24

A seminar on Metro Transportation as It Affects NIH Employees will be held next Monday, May 24, from 1 to 4 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Conference Room 6.

Cleve Amos from the Office of Community Relations, WMATA, will present a 30-45 minute movie, entitled "Metro Here and Now," which will be followed by a question-and-answer period.

Thomas Austin, III, EEO Officer of the J. F. Shea Construction Company, which is working on the Pooks Hill leg of the Glenmont/Rockville line, and a representative of Bechtel Associates will also answer questions.

The Employee Relations and Recruitment Branch, which is sponsoring the seminar, is inviting all employees to attend with the approval of their supervisors.

Dr. K. Bozkowa Reviews Collaborative Research During Her Visit Here

Dr. Krystyna Bozkowa, Director of the National Research Institute of Mother and Child, Warsaw, recently visited scientists at the National Institute of Child Health and Development to review programs being carried out under a collaborative agreement.

The agreement was signed in Poland last September by Dr. Bozkowa and NICHD's Director, Dr. Norman Kreitmer.

May Exchange Scientists

NICHD and NRIMC are cooperating on a number of research projects relating to the health care of mothers, infants, and children through adolescence. Under the agreement, both Institutes may also exchange some of their scientists for periods up to a year.

The Institute headed by Dr. Bozkowa is concerned with clinical, epidemiological, and fundamental investigations, as well as with postgraduate training related to maternal and child health in Poland.

Spends 2 Weeks in U.S.

During Dr. Bozkowa's 2-week visit to this country, she traveled to the West coast to consult with the NIH, spent a week in Warsaw, and returned to the National Institute of Dentistry, 19th Street and Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C., on May 7.

The Institute headed by Dr. Bozkowa is the largest institute of its kind in the world.

Among the scientists Deemed to be of the highest degree of specialization were Dr. John W. Nixon, director and chief of the Clinic, and Dr. Maurice W. Van Allen, professor, department of neurology, University of Iowa.

Dr. Dohe, who has already visited the National Institutes of Health, is a member of the Polish Medical Association and a full professor of medicine, University of Warsaw.

Dr. Bozkowa, who recently visited scientists at the National Institutes of Health, is associated with the Polish Institute of Clinical, Epidemiological, and Fundamental Investigations of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Polish Academy of Medical Sciences.

Dr. Bozkowa was in the United States last year for a one-month stay, during which she visited the National Institutes of Health.

May 13, James A. Hickey, assistant director for finance, Division of Financial Management, OA, received an Outstanding Achievement Award for Improvement of Financial Management in the Government. He was also presented with a plaque in recognition of his work in the Federal Government.

On May 13, James A. Hickey, assistant director for finance, Division of Financial Management, OA, received an Outstanding Achievement Award for Improvement of Financial Management in the Government. The Association of Government Accountants, D.C. Chapter, recognized "his service . . . at the NIH as well as Chairman of the committee charged with the design and implementation of the [DHEW] Federal Assistance Financing System (which) will be applied to all other departments of the Federal Government . . . ."

The closing lecture, Quo Vadis, Knowledge: The Role of a Medical Library—The Utilization of Scientific Knowledge—The Role of a Medical Library, was presented by Dr. Philip Handler, president of the National Academy of Sciences, at the Smithsonian National Museum of History and Technology.

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NIDR Grantees Suggest Revised Criteria in Early Oral Cancer Detection

Early detection of oral cancer—when chances of cure are the greatest—is improved by biopsies of velvety lesions in three specific risk regions of the mouth, a Veterans Administration oral surgeons reported to the Third International Symposium on Detection and Prevention of Cancer in New York City.

May 13, Dr. Arthur Mashberg of the East Orange, N.J., VA Hospital, and Lawrence Garfinkle of the American Cancer Society, discovered these criteria in a prospective study of asymptomatic lesions. Those lasting 2 weeks or more were biopsied regardless of color or size.

The study—supported by the National Institute of Dental Research—is described in the May issue of Cancer, Dr. Mashberg and Dr. Harry Meyers of the same VA Hospital.

They report that 97 percent of the 207 intra-oral squamous cell carcinomas found in 161 patients were located in three soft tissue areas: 49 percent on the floor of the mouth, 30 percent on the soft palate area, and 18 percent on the sides or underneath the tongue.

Most early tumors appeared as a red lesion with white specklings. The next most frequent type was red with no white areas. Very few were classified as all white, contrary to the widely-held view that most precancerous or cancerous lesions in the mouth are white.

Age Must Be Considered

The investigators believe that the traditional description of oral cancer—ulcers, ulcers, ulcers—may need to be revised to recognize that age and oral habits be considered when evaluating risks. Most patients found to have oral cancer in this study were middle aged, heavy drinkers and smokers.

Of the cancerous tumors found, 72 percent were invasive, despite their innocuous appearance and small size. Of those that were invasive, 82 percent were 2 cm or less in diameter, 39 percent being 1 cm or less.

Nevertheless, nearly all of these 161 patients have a good chance of recovery with minimal facial deformity, because only three had lymph node involvement related to the oral lesions.

Since examiners observing the existing classification might bypass some lesions less than 2 cm in size, Dr. Mashberg suggests that the cancer classification be altered to include lesions of 1 cm or less.
"Our second Open House was a great success" was the opinion of the many NIH'ers who exerted so much effort to make the public aware of NIH's special research responsibilities and unique achievements.

Despite inclement weather the first day and competing area events on the second day, visitors in numbers far greater than anticipated expressed intense interest in the speakers, exhibits, films, laboratories, and publications.

Participants in the 2-day event shared amusing experiences such as, the "lost grandmother" (only one brother and sister were lost); shuttle bus drivers who became expert sightseeing guides pointing out the sights on the reservation; and the exploding mouse population which increased by 10 overnight in the germ-free environment in the tent.

Two visitors who did not know they had high blood pressure were alerted to the dangers of their condition and rushed to the hospital as a result of the tests given.

One 12-year-old visitor was so impressed with the urgent need for blood donors that he volunteered immediately, but was told he would have to wait a few years.
Commission on Arthritis Presents Plan to Break Thru Maze of Problems

The National Commission on Arthritis and Related Musculoskeletal Diseases presented to its Congressional sponsors on May 6 a $97 million plan designed to break through the maze of problems confronting the millions of Americans who suffer from these diseases.

Sen. Alan Cranston and Rep. Paul Rogers, sponsors of the legislation that authorized the Commission, received the report from Dr. Ephraim P. Engleman, a University of California physician and Commission chairman.

Dr. G. Donald Whedon, NIAMDD Director and a Commission member, was also present and participated in the press conference that followed the presentation at the Russell Senate Office Building.

The initial phase of the long-range plan for a national attack on arthritis calls for increasing the current arthritis research program conducted by NIH.

In FY 1975, the 11 research Institutes of NIH provided an estimated $35.1 million to individual investigators in the field of arthritis-related research. Of this, $13.6 million was spent by the NIAMDD.

The Commission's report recommends a FY 1977 research budget for arthritis of $67,325,000 which would fund relevant, high priority research needs.

The 182-page report also revealed that there are in the U.S. some 10,000 physicians with specialized training in arthritis and rheumatology to treat the more than 22 million Americans afflicted.

The economic impact of arthritis and related diseases—in terms of lost productivity, health benefits paid, and lost tax revenues—exceeds $13 billion annually.

The report of the 17-member Commission incorporated not only the opinions of its six expert consultant panels, but also the testimony of the more than 260 witnesses who appeared at its 12 nationwide public hearings.

The $97 million requested for the next fiscal year increases the current amount expended by NIH for arthritis, and includes funds for the development of multipurpose arthritis centers throughout the country, for community demonstration programs, for expanded training in arthritis for physicians and other health professionals, for epidemiological studies, and for a National Arthritis Information Service.

The Commission is also asking for a 3-year extension of the National Arthritis Act to be supported by an additional $436 million to underwrite the cost of arthritis programs through 1980.
Sherbert and Namovicz Named to Administrative Posts in Cancer Institute

Richard L. Sherbert has been named deputy executive officer of the National Cancer Institute, and Robert M. Namovicz, chief of the Management Policy Branch in NCI's Office of Administrative Management.

Mr. Sherbert had been chief of that branch since its establishment in 1975. He came to NIH's Office of Personnel Management in 1966, and during 1970-71, was assigned to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, joining NCI as a management analyst when he completed that assignment.

Won Award Last Year

Mr. Sherbert won an NIH Superior Service Award in 1975. He received a B.A. degree from St. John's Seminary, Brighton, Mass., and an M.P.A. degree from Harvard University.

Mr. Namovicz came to NIH in 1965 as a management intern. The following year he was assistant administrative officer in the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

During 1965-73 he held various management positions with the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and served as managing editor of Environmental Health Perspectives.

In 1973 Mr. Namovicz joined NCI as a management analyst. The following year he was a budget examiner with the Office of Management and Budget, and he returned to NCI in 1975 as a program analyst.

Mr. Namovicz received an A.B. degree from Kings College, and later attended Stanford University.

Prior to joining the Federal Government, he was a management analyst for the Pennsylvania state government.

FAES Concert Series Tickets On Sale for 1976-77 Season

The Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences will present seven concerts in its 1976-77 Chamber Music Series: September 19—Cleveland String Quartet; November 7—Valentin Gheorghiu; November 21—Trilo di Milano; January 16—Gary Karr and Harmon Lewis; February 13—Quartetto Italiano; March 5—Thomas Paul; March 27—Charles Treger and Claude Frank.

The concerts will be held on Sundays at 4 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium.

Weekly Seminar Series For Grants Associates Open to Some Selectees

The 1976-77 weekly Seminar Series for Grants Associates—usually held on Monday mornings—is tentatively scheduled to begin in mid-September.

The 9-month series is limited to approximately 10 other NIH scientists.

Series Topics Outlined

The Series will include such topics as: The Federal Government—DHEW, NIH, other agencies; the legislative and budget processes; and Policy and Ethical Considerations in Biomedical and Behavioral Research—protection of human subjects, conflicts of interest.

Also, NIH Extramural and Collaborative Programme funding mechanisms, awards; and Program Planning and Evaluation.

Interested scientists should forward a curriculum vita and a memo of justification through their immediate supervisor to their HOD, who will make the final selections.

The Directors are asked to submit no more than three nominees and their c.v.'s to the Office of Grants Associates, Division of Research Grants, Westwood Bldg., Room 3-01, by close of business Aug. 2.

Dr. Malone Makes Selection

Dr. Thomas Malone, Associate Director of the Extramural Research and Training, will make the final selections.

Those selected will be asked to submit a completed Form 350 (DHEW Training Nomination and Authorization) to the OGA before the Series starts. This will permit selectees to receive training credit, a minimum of 120 hours, in their personnel files.

A request to participate implies a commitment to attend regularly through the entire series.

For more information, contact A. Robert Polcari, Ext. 67501.

DR. LANMAN

(Continued from Page 1)

J. Harrison Ager, EEO Coordinator for NIAMDD, received an award from the Maryland Department of Elementary School Principals at its recent convention in Ocean City, Md., in recognition of his outstanding contributions to education and service to the children, parents, and teachers in Maryland.
Dr. Clarice Reid Named Sickle Cell Branch Chief And Program Coordinator

Dr. Clarice D. Reid has been appointed chief of the Sickle Cell Disease Branch in the Division of Blood Diseases and Resources, National Heart and Lung Institute. As coordinator of the National Sickle Cell Disease Program, Dr. Reid will be responsible for coordinating the sickle cell activities at NIH, the Health Services Administration, and other agencies involved in the implementation of the Program.

Administers NHLI Programs

As branch chief, Dr. Reid will plan and administer the Institute's own programs of research on sickle cell disease and applied research concerned with the development, evaluation, and clinical application of improved techniques for screening, diagnosis, and treatment.

Dr. Reid comes to the NIH from the Bureau of Community Health Services, Health Services Administration, HEW, where as medical officer, she served as deputy director of the Sickle Cell Disease Program.

Previously she had served as medical consultant to the HSA sickle cell program for a year.

Before moving to the Washington area, Dr. Reid was Director of Pediatrics at the Jewish Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio. She was in private pediatric practice in that city from 1962 to 1968 and held a faculty appointment at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

A graduate of Talladega College in Alabama, Dr. Reid attended Meharry Medical College and was awarded her M.D. degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1965.

Dr. Reid is a co-author of the pediatric section of the publication Family Care.

NEI Contracts Study of Early Vitrectomy To Avoid Diabetic Retinopathy Blindness

A major new eye operation for preventing and treating blindness due to diabetes will be evaluated in a nationwide controlled clinical trial, the National Eye Institute announced May 9 at a National Science Writers seminar in Reston, Va., sponsored by Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc.

Patients will soon be enrolled in a multi-center study of vitrectomy, a surgical procedure primarily used for restoring sight to people who have lost vision because of bleeding inside the eye due to diabetic retinopathy.

NEI associate director Dr. William F. Raub said the Diabetic Retinopathy Vitrectomy Study will determine at which stage of the disease surgery is most effective.

A leading cause of blindness in this country, diabetic retinopathy causes formation of new, abnormal blood vessels on the retina at the back of the eye which may grow into the jelly-like vitreous, where they often bleed and cause loss of vision.

Other complications, including massive retinal detachment, may result in permanent blindness.

The DRVS will compare the risks and benefits of vitrectomy soon after hemorrhage occurs with the current practice of waiting a year for the hemorrhage to clear before operating.

Developed over the past 6 years with support from NEI, RPS, and other organizations, vitrectomy employs cutting and suction to remove the cloudy, blood-filled vitreous which is replaced with a clear solution.

Early Benefits Cited

Vitrectomy has returned limited vision to patients with little if any sight following vitreous hemorrhage; however, complications may occur such as infection, cataract, or detachment.

Many ophthalmologists think the possible benefits outweigh the risks of vitrectomy performed 1 year after a hemorrhage that has not cleared on its own.

Some eye surgeons believe vision may more safely and effectively be restored without waiting a year, or that allowing the hemorrhage to remain causes further damage to the retina. However, waiting 1 year may stabilize the retinopathy condition, decreasing the risk of the operation.

Patients accepted for the DRVS study will have one eye selected at random to receive early or late vitrectomy, assuring that differences between the two groups are due to timing of treatment, not to differences of severity of retinopathy at the time of enrollment.

To be eligible for the Study, patients must meet requirements including significant visual impairment and a severe vitreous hemorrhage in one eye which occurred in the preceding 5 months.

Another group of patients with extensive diabetic retinopathy, but retaining useful vision, will be admitted to the Study for evaluation only. Vitrectomy may be recommended for these patients if they are found to be at high risk of blindness and if patients in the early vitrectomy group benefit significantly.

NEI has awarded contracts to the seven clinical centers now participating in the DRVS, along with a coordinating center to collect and analyze Study data and a center to analyze fundus photographs of the retina.

Several additional clinical centers will join the Study under contract in the next few months.

All clinics will adhere to a uniform, detailed research protocol. An editorial on the DRVS by Dr. Carl Kupfer, NEI Director, will appear in the May issue of the American Journal of Ophthalmology.

Approximately 600-700 patients will be followed for 4 years in the DRVS. Persons who would like to be considered for admission to the Study should consult an ophthalmologist to discuss referral to a participating clinical center.

DRVS—the second major NEI-sponsored multi-center clinical trial of an ophthalmic surgical procedure—complements the Institute's Diabetic Retinopathy Study, which recently reported that photocoagulation reduces the risk of visual loss in certain patients with earlier, moderate to severe stages of the disease.

Participating clinical centers are:

- Albany Medical College: Johns Hopkins Hospital, Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary; University of Miami, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute; Milwaukee County Medical Complex; University of Southern California, Estelle Doheny Eye Foundation, and the University of Wisconsin.

The coordinating center is at the University of Minnesota, and the reading center is at the University of Wisconsin.

Dr. Levy Addresses Symposium

Dr. Robert I. Levy, National Heart and Lung Institute Director is the keynote speaker at the first National Sickle Cell Educational Symposium, May 17-18 in St. Louis, Mo.

The Symposium is sponsored jointly by the Sickle Cell Disease Branch, NHLI, and the Office of

1976 PULITZER PRIZE WINNER in nonfiction for "Why Survive? Being Old in America," Dr. Robert Butler, Director of the National Institute on Aging, held a press conference May 4 and appeared on several radio and TV shows. He discussed his award-winning book and more recent ones, his grandparents' influence on his career choice, and NIA's goals in studying the aging process and the problems and needs of the aged.

Conference Will Focus On Prevention of Kidney, Urinary Tract Disease

A Conference on the Prevention of Kidney and Urinary Tract Disease, sponsored by the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases and the Fogarty International Center, will be held on May 24-25 in Bldg. 31, Conference Room 10.

Since means to prevent kidney and urinary tract diseases are limited at present, the 25 speakers and panelists will discuss research needed to prevent or arrest these diseases.

Co-chairpersons are Dr. Nancy B. Cummings, associate director for the Kidney, Urologic and Blood Disease Program, NIAMDD, and Dr. Cecil H. Coggins, Renal Unit, Massachusetts General Hospital.

Program topics include genetic disorders, glomerular diseases, hypertension and renal disease, pregnancy and renal disease, acute renal failure, obstructive uropathy, urolithiasis, urinary tract infection, interstitial nephritis, and evaluation of screening and health maintenance.

Conference Proceedings will be published by FIC in its Preventive Medicine Series.

Continuing Medical Education at the Washington University School of Medicine.

Current clinical, scientific, and educational materials on sickle cell anemia are being presented to aid physicians, paramedical personnel, educators, and health workers in developing basic care techniques.