New U.S.-U.S.S.R. Health Pact Reached; NIAID’s Dr. Galasso Co-chairs Signing

Moscow was the site recently for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on the First Meeting of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Working Group on Chemoprophylaxis and Chemotherapy, Including Interferon and its Inducers, for Influenza and Other Acute Respiratory Viral Diseases. Dr. George J. Galasso, chief, Development and Applications Branch, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Program, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, as co-chairman, signed for the U.S. His counterpart in Russia, Dr. V. M. Zhadanov, Director of the D. I. Ivanovsky Institute of Virology, Moscow, signed for the U.S.S.R.

U.S. Participants Named

Accompanying Dr. Galasso to Russia were Drs. Robert Couch, Director of the Influenza Study Center, Baylor University, Houston, Texas, and Gordon Douglas, head of the Infectious Diseases Unit, Rochester University, Rochester, N.Y. Dr. Zhadanov was assisted by scientists from Moscow and Leningrad.

Dr. Galasso and the group reviewed findings and formulated plans for future joint efforts in the development and testing of drugs to prevent or treat influenza and other acute respiratory viral diseases.

Of special interest and promise are antiviral drugs such as rimantadine, amantadine, and ribavirin. Studies of these antivirals, conducted in both countries, will provide a beginning for collaborative efforts.

Because vaccine programs are not always possible, development of antivirals is of major worldwide importance. One drug—amantadine—was licensed in the U.S. in late 1976 on a prescription basis for prevention and treatment of infection with any influenza A virus.

The meeting in Moscow was the result of previous cooperation between the Soviet Union and the U.S. which began with the formation of the Joint U.S.-U.S.S.R. Committee on Health Cooperation to provide collaborative efforts in the field of public health.

Inclusion of influenza and acute respiratory viral diseases.

Dual Posts To Be Held By Dr. Julius Richmond, Asst. Secy. for Health

Dr. Richmond was the first director of the National Head Start Program in 1965 and served from 1966 to 1968 as the first director of the Office of Health Affairs, Office of Economic Opportunity, which developed the Neighborhood Health Centers Program.

On July 13, Dr. Julius B. Richmond took the oath of office as Assistant Secretary for Health and Surgeon General, the first person to hold both offices simultaneously.

Dr. Richmond was formerly professor of child psychiatry and human development and chairman of the department of preventive and social medicine at Harvard Medical School. He was also psychiatrist-in-chief at Children’s Hospital Medical Center and Director of the Judge Baker Guidance Center in Boston.

Born in Chicago, Dr. Richmond received his B.S. degree from the University of Illinois in 1937, and in 1939 an M.S. degree in physiology, and his M.D. degree from the same university.

He was an intern at Cook County Hospital in Chicago and was a pediatric resident there and at Municipal Contagious Disease Hospital in Chicago in 1941 and 1942.

After serving as an Air Force flight surgeon during World War II, Dr. Richmond was commissioned in the Air Force in 1943 and served in the U.S. Army Air Forces until his discharge in 1946.

President Appoints Dr. Arthur Upton New NCI Director

President Carter announced on July 29 the appointment of Dr. Arthur C. Upton as Director of the National Cancer Institute.

Comes From Stony Brook

Professor of pathology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook since 1969, Dr. Upton served as Dean of its School of Basic Health Sciences from 1970 to 1976.

He received his M.D. degree in 1949 from the University of Michigan and remained there for his internship and residency in pathology and as an instructor in pathology.

Worked at Oak Ridge

In 1951, Dr. Upton went to Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee as a pathologist in the Biology Division, and in 1954 became chief of the Pathology-Physiology Section.

The new NCI Director is noted for his studies of radiation as a cause of cancer. He has served on the International Commission on Radiological Protection and on advisory committees of the National Cancer Institute.

Dr. Upton, who is well known for his studies of radiation as a cause of cancer, has been closely associated with NCI activities for a number of years.

(See DR. RICHMOND, Page 5)
UMC Hopes To Reach More NIH Employees

The Upward Mobility College here is seeking to reach more NIH employees this fall and in future terms.

The UMC hopes to expand its enrollment especially to increase the numbers of male students.

“We're always expanding our services but we're never satisfied,” UMC Director George Slate said. “I can't believe the program can't reach more than our current enrollment of 300 students.”

Classes have from 8 to 20 students, and there are many openings. The average class size is only nine, Mr. Slate indicated.

The majority of UMC students are female, he said. “That's great. But we'd like to see more males enrolled.”

Mr. Slate said the UMC hopes to reach more blue collar employees in the fall through apprenticeship training and as a result of an merger with the Washington Technical Institute and Federal City College.

The registration deadline for matriculating students has passed, but the UMC will be accepting non-credit students until Sept. 6. The only requirement is a high school diploma or its equivalent.

The spring term registration deadline will be around Dec. 1.

Half of the UMC teaching staff has Ph.D., degrees and none has less than a master's degree. “You don’t necessarily have that quality even on a private campus,” Mr. Slate said.

While all students are full-time employees, the class schedule is flexible enough to accommodate them. Classes are scheduled from 7:30 a.m., ending as late as 8 p.m., and also on Saturdays.

Mr. Slate said that while the UMC goal is the fulfillment of career proposals and not the achievement of academic degrees, a degree can be obtained.

That a degree usually is not earned is the “largest misconception” in the operation of the program, he said, citing the figures that 47 associate degrees and 51 baccalaureate degrees have been earned in the 6 years of the UMC's existence.

Preschool, Kindergarten Spaces Now Available

Eligibility requirements for the Preschool Developmental Program at NIH have been changed, due to licensing requirements, from 2 years 9 months to 3 years of age. A few spaces may be available for preschoolers this fall. Spaces are currently available for children eligible to attend Montgomery County Public Kindergartens in 1977-78.

Child Care is provided from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. for preschoolers, and around the public school kindergarten schedule for the kindergarteners.

Families are eligible to transfer their children of kindergarten age to Ayrlawn Elementary School where the program operates for the purposes of child care. For further information, call the Preschool Program at 496-5144.
NIH Visiting Scientists Program Participants

7/1—Dr. Shou-Mei Chang, Taiwan, Environmental Mutagenesis Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Steven Li, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.

7/3—Dr. Caryll Webner, South Africa, Southwestern Field Studies Section. Sponsor: Dr. Peter Bennett, NIAMDD, Phoenix Indian Medical Center, Phoenix, Ariz.

Visits NIAMDD

7/8—Dr. Maria Neuwirth, Canada, Laboratory of Experimental Pathology. Sponsor: Dr. Robert Friedman, NIAMDD, Bldg. 4, Rm. 310.

7/7—Dr. Daniel J. Luchins, Canada, Laboratory of Clinical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Richard Wyatt, NIMH, WAW Bldg., St. Elizabeths.

7/11—Dr. Yechiel Becker, Israel, Laboratory of DNA Tumor Viruses. Sponsor: Dr. Robert A. Manaker, NCI, Bldg. 37, Rm. 1B14.

7/7—Dr. Zvi Grossman, Israel, Laboratory of Theoretical Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Charles DeLisi, NCI, Bldg. 10, Rm. 4B43.

7/12—Dr. Eduardo Consiglio, Italy, Laboratory of Biochemical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Leonard Kohn, NIAMDD, Bldg. 4, Rm. B1-31.

7/13—Dr. Greti Aguilera, Chile, Endocrinology and Reproduction Research Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Kevin Catt, NICHD, Bldg. 10, Rm. 18N246.

7/13—Dr. Carmelo Bruno Bruni, Italy, Laboratory of Molecular Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Robert G. Martin, NIAMDD, Bldg. 2, Rm. 214.

7/15—Dr. Judith Criaba Kertesz, France, Laboratory of Biophysical Chemistry. Sponsor: Dr. Koloman Laki, NIAMDD, Bldg. 4, Rm. B112.

Comes From Sweden

7/15—Mr. Per-Erik Mannson, Sweden, Laboratory of Environmental Toxicology. Sponsor: Dr. Stephen Harris, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.

7/17—Dr. Per Torsten Bjerle, Sweden, Cardiac Diseases Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Michael Mock, NHLBI, Federal Bldg., Rm. 3C10.

7/17—Dr. Igal Baruch Gery, Israel, Laboratory of Vision Research. Sponsor: Dr. Jin Kinosita, NEI, Bldg. 6, Rm. 222A.

7/18—Dr. Stuart Bentley, United Kingdom, Laboratory of Pathology. Sponsor: Dr. Chester Herman, NCI, Bldg. 10, Rm. 1A21.

7/18—Dr. Govind K. Menon, India, Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry and Biology. Sponsor: Dr. James Kelley, NCI, Bldg. 37, Rm. 6D23.

7/18—Dr. Yasuo Nara, Japan, Hypertension-Endocrine Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Walter Lovenberg, NHLBI, Bldg. 10, Rm. 7N242.

7/18—Dr. Yoichi Katoh, Japan, Experimental Pathology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Curtis C. Harris, NCI, Bldg. 37, Rm. 3A97.

7/25—Dr. Kohji Shima, Japan, Medical Neurology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. W. King Engel, NINCDS, Bldg. 10, Rm. 10D18.

7/31—Dr. Paul Jacquemin, Belgium, Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Robert Gallo, NCI, Bldg. 37, Rm. 6B04.

Linda Garrett, Deaf Student Worker, Is Honored

More than 25 persons attended a party held July 20 to honor Linda Garrett, a recent graduate of Walt Whitman High School and a participant for the past 2 1/2 years in the Stay-In-School program, which will attend Frostburg Community College this fall.

Maintained Cell Cultures

Linda has been especially adept at maintaining cell cultures in the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke laboratory where she has worked.

For her superior performance over a 2-year period without a break, even during school vacations, NINCDS Director Dr. Donald B. Tower presented a cash award to Linda on July 17.

Linda’s performance in the complex laboratory duties is all the more remarkable because she is deaf. She reads lips extraordinarily well—even distinguishing the various foreign accents of several of the employees and guest workers in the laboratory.

She speaks slowly, but responds quickly to directions as well as in conversations and good-natured kidding.

Notes and diagrams overcome remaining communications problems, and other workers can relay telephone messages to her.

Tools Are a Welcome Gift

At the party her NIH friends presented her with a large tool box and set of wrenches. She is proficient in auto repairs, even tune-ups! She plans to major in physical education and hopes to become a teacher.

A SINGULARLY GOOD TIME was enjoyed by more than 100 NIH’ers who attended a recent picnic sponsored by the NIH Singles Club at Carderock Park. Dr. Padman Sarma, Dr. Paul Gerber, and Carole Dickson initiated this R&W-sponsored club to provide an opportunity for eligible singles at NIH to find new friends who share scientific, intellectual, and cultural backgrounds and interests. For information, call the R&W office, Ext. 66061.
Internist Gerontologist
Dr. Leroy Duncan Is NIA Special Projects Officer

Dr. Leroy E. Duncan, Jr., has been appointed the first special projects officer in the National Institute on Aging. In this role, he will assist the Director, Dr. Robert N. Butler, and staff on areas of special emphasis in aging research. Geriatric medicine, protection of elderly human research subjects, problems of aging in minority groups, development of electronic and mechanical aids for the elderly, and problems of worldwide retrieval of scientific information on aging are among the special concerns.

These interest areas—for intramural research that the Institute conducts in its own laboratories, and extramural research which it supports at hospitals, medical schools, and universities—often involve other Federal agencies and components of NIH.

To generate interest and progress in the aging field, the special projects officer will coordinate conferences and symposia, publish reports, and participate in several task forces.

Symposium Held

In July, Dr. Duncan chaired a symposium on Protection of Elderly Human Research Subjects. In recent years Congressmen, health providers, and the general public have expressed much concern over the treatment of human research subjects. The topics of experimental risk and informed consent have become especially controversial.

Several special groups have been examining these issues in recent years, until now limited emphasis has been given to the older research subject. Investigative physicians, outstanding legal authorities, and ethicists assembled for the symposium.

Dr. Duncan hopes that resolutions may result, both facilitating research on our aging population and protecting the older research subject.

Prosthetics Conference Scheduled

In 1978 a major conference on prosthetics and mechanical and electronic aids for the aged will be held. Dr. Duncan is bringing together clinicians, bioengineers, and technology experts from the private sector and from several Federal agencies (NASA, National Bureau of Standards, and VA).

Modern technology may yield devices which will enhance the lifestyle of the older person. There is interest in a broad range of devices—from the very simple to the very complex.

No one realizes the need to develop prostheses which will compensate

Dr. Duncan conducted research on aging in the unit of the then National Heart Institute which later became the Gerontology Research Center, now part of NIA.

for sensory and motor losses. Special attention will be given to devices for the management or control of incontinence, the single largest factor contributing to institutionalization of our old people.

In his new position Dr. Duncan is also developing consensus documents. Poor dissemination of the best available information on common, serious diseases and disorders of the elderly has convinced NIA of the need for a series of consensus statements concerned with detection, diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment of these conditions.

Dr. Duncan will work with appropriate consultants to develop draft statements which will then be circulated through professional organizations for careful review.

Final, reworked documents can be distributed to involved professionals as authoritative statements of the best current knowledge and opinion. The first consensus document will deal with reversible brain syndromes.

Career Detailed

Dr. Duncan, an internist, has been actively involved in the conduct and administration of aging research for most of his professional life. A graduate of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, he took his clinical training there and at Vanderbilt University Hospital.

Later, Dr. Duncan joined the PHS Commissioned Corps to conduct research on aging in the unit of the then National Heart Institute which later became the Gerontology Research Center, now the direct research operation of the NIA.

There he undertook metabolic studies on aging and initiated research on adrenal function in older persons. As a senior investigator in the National Heart Institute, he conducted clinical and laboratory studies on two diseases of particular importance to the elderly—

NHLBI-Funded Research in Iowa Studies

The Effects of Salt on Blood Pressures

Some individuals may be very sensitive to the deleterious effects of salt on blood pressure, while others may be resistant, according to physicians at the University of Iowa College of Medicine and Hospitals, Iowa City. Their report results from studies on young adults at the University of Iowa Clinical Research Center, one of 83 such units funded by the Division of Research Resources.

The Iowa studies involved two groups of young adults—one with normal blood pressures and another with slight or early hypertension. For 10 to 30 days, the six individuals in each group ate diets with either high or low amounts of salt.

Diet Controlled

Because the individuals were studied in the Clinical Research Center, research dietitians were able to vary the salt intake and keep all other ingredients in their diets constant.

In order to insure the safety and accuracy of the diets, the blood pressures, body weights, kidney and hormonal functions, and general physical condition of the patients were assessed daily by research nurses and by a physician who specializes in the treatment of hypertension.

As the research neared its conclusion, detailed studies of cardiovascular effects were conducted. These showed that normal blood pressures and normal blood pressure. Some individuals may have a salt-responsive condition, while others have a salt-insensitive condition.

The Effects of Salt on Blood Pressures

In 1986 the mandate for research on aging was assigned by Congress to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. In 1965 Dr. Duncan transferred to that Institute and assumed responsibility for its extramural aging research program, during its fourfold growth in the course of the next 10 years.

In 1973 Congress passed legislation for the establishment of the NIA, and in 1975 Dr. Duncan transferred the program of research on aging to the new Institute.
Noted Neurophysiologist
Dr. M. G. F. Fuortes Dies

Dr. M. (Michelangelo) G. F. Fuortes, chief of the Laboratory of Neurophysiology, National Institute of Neurological and Communicative and Stroke, died Aug. 2 of lung cancer at the Washington, D.C. Veterans Administration Hospital. He was 59.

Dr. Fuortes, whose research centered on the electrical manifestations of nerve function, achieved international stature for his research on the physiology of the neural processes, particularly the retina of the eye. He served as the laboratory's chief for the past 8 years.

Born in Bologna, Italy, Dr. Fuortes' career began at the State University in Torino, Italy, where he earned his M.D. degree in 1941, completed his internship, and served as chief of the department of electrophysiology at the University Clinic of Nervous and Mental Diseases.

During his internship in German-occupied Italy, Dr. Fuortes interrupted his training, stole a boat, sailed to Brindisi to join the Allied Forces, and fought at the battle of Monte Cassino. Afterward, he was presented with four silver medals from the Allied Forces.

In 1949, while a Rockefeller Foundation Fellow at the Physiological Laboratory, Cambridge University, Dr. Fuortes met future Nobel Laureates Alan Lloyd Hodgkin and Andrew Fielding Huxley and decided to make his career in neurophysiology.

From 1951 to 1956, Dr. Fuortes worked at the State University Medical Center, Brooklyn, N.Y., and then at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C. For the next 11 years, Dr. Fuortes served as head of the NINCDS Section on Ophthalmology Physiology.

This past year Dr. Fuortes sailed his own boat to Pisa, Italy, to work with colleagues there. He returned in April to undergo treatment in the National Cancer Institute.

Tipelling, Braille Notes Aid Linda Anderson of NLM

Handling Phone Inquiries

Information aide Linda Anderson is very busy, with as many as 50 calls a day coming in on four telephone lines to the Reference Section of the National Library of Medicine.

Since the summer of 1976 she has been handling phone inquiries regarding books, journals, inter-library loans, and other services of the Library, and frequently directs callers to other offices for answers to their queries.

Oxygen Caused Blindness

A victim of retrolental fibroplasia shortly after birth, Ms. Anderson can't "see" what she's doing, but she certainly handles the great variety of incoming calls expeditiously.

She rapidly types messages with the name, telephone number, and sometimes address of the caller, then the information, title, or article requested and sorts them into stacks for responses from reference personnel.

She keeps a Rolodex file handy with cards bearing names, titles, and telephone numbers of I/D Directors, information offices, regional libraries, and other frequent referral contacts.

Before undertaking her present position, she noted it took more than a week to put the pertinent NLM policies into Braille and then study them.

Computers Can Printout Braille

Lately she has been investigating the possibility of obtaining a special computer terminal that produces printouts in Braille that Dr. Fuortes is survived by his wife, Yvonne, and two sons.

The M. F. G. Fuortes Memorial Fund will be established for a lectureship or scholarship. Information can be obtained from the NINCDS Laboratory of Neurophysiology.

DR. RICHMOND

(Continued from Page 1)

From 1953 to 1971 Dr. Richmond was professor and chairman of the department of pediatrics at the State University of New York at Syracuse, serving as Dean of the medical faculty from 1968 to 1971.

He is vice chairman of the Council of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences and is a member of the board of directors of the Foundation for Child Development in N.Y.C.

Dr. Richmond has been president of the Society for Research in Child Development, the American Psychosomatic Society, and the American Orthopsychiatric Association.

He has served as vice president of the Child Welfare League of America, the Society for Pediatric Research, and is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Richmond is a member of the President's Commission on Mental Health and of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Advisory Committee on Children.

would make her still more able to aid others in finding information.

Ms. Anderson enjoys the many resources of the Washington area, including readily available Braille and talking books, the Washington Ear news service, and a YMCA membership. Her regular reader visits at least once a week and sometimes takes her to a golf driving range. She enjoys rugs as a hobby and likes to travel.

A native of Ohio, she graduated from Miami University, Ohio, majoring in sociology/social work, and completed a practicum at Hines VA Hospital in Chicago.

Seeks Challenge in Washington

Determined to make her own way in the world, she found a part-time temporary summer job in 1973 typing identification cards for welfare recipients.

Wanting a greater challenge, she applied all over the country for jobs, and in the summer of 1974 came to Washington as a clerk/administrative assistant in the Social and Rehabilitation Service of HEW. She also assisted in writing an article produced by members of that staff and answered phones in the personnel office.

The next summer she answered phones in the White House Communications office and typed up callers' comments.

Ms. Anderson offers good advice for others seeking jobs and follows it well herself. "Get out and look around; the agencies are here. It's up to each individual to best communicate his or her needs and abilities. Employers look favorably on a person with initiative."
Dr. Robert Edelman, physician and virologist, recently joined the staff of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases as chief of its Clinical Studies Branch, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Program.

As chief of the new Branch, Dr. Edelman will develop plans for contract and grant-supported clinical and laboratory studies which might aid in the translation of research findings into improved procedures for the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of infectious diseases.

To ensure conformance with ethical standards, Dr. Edelman will also serve as project officer on volunteer studies and on field trials of vaccines and antibiotics involving human subjects.

**Earned Degrees in St. Louis**

Born and educated in St. Louis, Mo., Dr. Edelman received both his A.B. and M.D. degrees from Washington University.

He began his medical career as an intern at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, and was a medical resident at Johns Hopkins and Barnes Hospital, St. Louis.

Later, he was an instructor in preventive medicine at Case Western Reserve where he also held a Special U.S.P.H.S. Fellowship. He is a fellow in the American College of Physicians and Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, London.

Entering the Army in 1968, he served as chief, Communicable Diseases and Immunology Research Branch, Office of the Surgeon General, Washington, D.C.

**Serves in Thailand**

In 1970, Dr. Edelman went to Bangkok, Thailand, as virologist and instructor in the Department of Virology, SEATO Medical Research Laboratory. While in Thailand, he was visiting lec-

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**While in the Army, Dr. Edelman was awarded both the Commendation and Meritorious Service Medals.**

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**Tuesday Night Tempin Bowlers’ Mixed League Starts Sept. 6**

The Early Bird Tuesday Night Mixed Tempin Bowling League will begin its new season on Sept. 6. Members bowl on Tuesdays starting at 5:30 p.m. for 35 weeks at the Brunswick River Bowl on River Road in Bethesda.

If interested, call Leonard Karban, league secretary, on Ext. 69253, or at home, 424-8731.

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**NHLBI Tells of Lipid Program Findings; Cholesterol, Heart Disease Levels Down**

Dr. Levy (1) and Dr. Rifkind as well as scientists from several of NHLBI’s Lipid Research Centers announced the preliminary findings of the 6-year-old LRC program at a press conference on July 13.

Cholesterol levels and heart and blood vessel disease rates are declining among Americans, according to National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute officials.

NHLBI Director Dr. Robert I. Levy credited the decrease to the vast amount of publicity about the dangers of overeating high fat and high cholesterol foods and to the changes in the average American diet.

The findings were announced at a July 13 press briefing at NIH, called to discuss the initial results of the NHLBI’s 6-year-old Lipid Research Clinics program.

It was noted at the conference, however, that the cholesterol level drop may be largely confined to individuals in higher education and higher paying job categories, groups that are generally more aware of the publicity.

The finding constituted a turn-around from previous studies which showed higher cholesterol levels among the more highly educated and the more affluent.

**Other Findings Noted**

Other major findings concerned the correlation of oral contraceptive use with cholesterol levels in women, and further recognition that atherosclerosis patterns begin in childhood.

The Lipid Research Clinics were established as a result of a 1970 recommendation by the Panel on Hyperlipidemia and Premature Atherosclerosis that was advising the then National Heart and Lung Institute on ways to prevent premature atherosclerosis through the diagnosis and treatment of hyperlipidemia, disorders in which the blood fats are elevated.

**Discuss Effects of Hormones**

Dr. Herman A. Tyrold of the University of North Carolina LRC said the analysis thus far does not address any health consequences and does not, in itself, constitute an argument against the use of oral contraceptives.

**Another Major Finding**

Another major finding—additional evidence on the initiation of atherosclerosis in childhood—was a fall in cholesterol among adolescents.

The reasons for the decrease are not yet completely understood, according to Dr. Basil M. Rifkind, project officer and chief of the Lipid Metabolism Branch, NHLBI. But, he said, with the reasons are known, they may provide further insights regarding the control of plasma cholesterol.
HEALTH PACT (Continued from Page 1)

respiratory diseases was proposed and accepted at a 1973 meeting in Moscow. Subsequent meetings concerning the exchange of scientific health data have been held in both countries.

Collaborative studies on influenza were also the topic of discussion in Leningrad in 1974 when a U.S. delegation, headed by Drs. William Jordan and John R. Seal of NIAID, met with Soviet scientists. At that time a Preliminary Memo of Agreement on Research was signed by Dr. Jordan.

Exchange Reports

Reports of studies in the two countries will be exchanged annually and brief summaries exchanged at each meeting. Working sessions will be held in alternate countries on an annual basis in order to review the previous years’ research, compare results, resolve discrepancies, and plan future studies. An exchange of specialists and information will also continue.

It was recommended that this Memorandum of Understanding be approved by the next Joint U.S.-U.S.S.R. Committee on Health Cooperation to be held in Oct. 1977.

NLM-Egypt Agree: Al-Ahram to Print, Translate Publications

Sayed El Gabri, general manager of the circulation department, and Dr. Sayed Abul Naga, managing director of Al-Ahram—the largest publishing firm in the Arab world—visited Dr. Jeanne Brand, chief of the National Library of Medicine's International Programs Division and Division staff on June 21.

Arrangements Concluded

The visit of the Egyptians marked the conclusion of special NLM arrangements, carried out under Al-Ahram’s contract with the National Science Foundation, whereby Al-Ahram’s Center for Scientific Translations in Cairo will translate, in print and microfilm, critical reviews and monographs funded under NLM’s Special Foreign Currency Program (Public Law 480).

This program enhances the Library’s ability to collect and disseminate published information important to the progress of biomedical science, through the use of foreign scientific personnel and resources.

During Fiscal Year 1976, NLM’s Special Foreign Currency Program supported 113 scientific projects in seven countries—Poland, Tunisia, Egypt, Yugoslavia, India, Pakistan, and (through awards from the U.S.-Israel Binational Science Foundation) in Israel.

Boston Researchers Study Development Of Longer Term Immunity to Gonorrhea

Only patients with long-term or severe gonorrhea are likely to develop antibodies capable of killing the organisms causing the disease. This finding—by scientists funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases—using a recently developed test, helps to explain the

Antigens May Differ

Other scientists have suggested that antigenic differences in bacterial strains may be significant in the pathogenesis of infection and the development of immunity. Strains that cause severe illness may have antigenic determinants or growth requirements different from those of nonpathogenic strains.

The investigators found that in some individuals with gonorrhea the development of antibodies depended upon the length and severity of infection. Correlate With Antibodies

Prolonged or severe infection with gonococci correlated with the presence of bactericidal antibodies in about 70 percent of the cases studied, whereas antibodies were found in less than 31 percent of the patients with uncomplicated gonococcal infection. Of the five individuals who had been exposed to gonorrhea but were not infected, one possessed antibodies to the strain of N. gonorrhoeae isolated from her sexual partner. The antibodies, in this case, may have been the result of a previous gonococcal infection or a cross-reaction of N. gonorrhoeae with a meningococcal strain.

According to Drs. Dennis L. Kasper, Peter A. Rice, and William M. McCormack, there was only one person who had antibodies to N. gonorrhoeae in the group of individuals with no history of gonorrhea infection. This individual had been working with N. gonorrhoeae in a laboratory setting.

The implications of these results were considered by the scientists in relation to the role of immunity to N. meningitidis, since this organism has been studied more extensively. As with the meningococcus, mucosal infection with the gonococcus was associated with the development of serum bactericidal antibody; however, this effect was seen primarily in individuals who had been infected for longer than a month.

In addition, the data from this study as well as others suggested that whereas a majority of adults have bactericidal antibody to N. meningitidis, only a few individuals have bactericidal antibody to N. gonorrhoeae.

The investigators suggest that the apparent difference in prevalence of antibody may be due to a number of factors including the extent of exposure, failure of carriage to induce antibody, and lack of sensitivity of the gonococcal assay as compared with that of the meningococcal assay.

More importantly, perhaps, development of bactericidal antibody in most patients with uncomplicated infection may have been curtailed by early antibiotic therapy.

Throughout the May 1977 issue of The Journal of Infectious Diseases.
4 Scientists Win Fight for Sight Award
For NIH Studies of Diabetic Retinopathy

Four NIH scientists who found an association between increased levels of a blood clotting factor and diabetic retinopathy have received the 1976 Citation for Fight for Sight, Inc., a national philanthropic organization which is a leading source of private support for vision research.

The award honors Dr. Robert N. Frank, former senior staff fellow at the NIH Clinical Center; Dr. Roy C. Milton, head of the Biometry Section, National Eye Institute; and Dr. Harvey R. Granlisch, chief of the Hematology Section, CC, for their research into the Von Willebrand Factor and Effect on Platelet Aggregation of Plasma from Diabetics with Retinopathy.

The investigators received embossed scrolls For Achievement in Clinical Vision Research and shared a monetary prize awarded by Fight for Sight, Inc., in cooperation with the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO).

Presented in Florida

The citation was presented by Dr. Paul Henkind, a member of Fight for Sight's Scientific Advisory Committee, at ARVO's annual meeting in April in Sarasota, Fla.

Dr. Henkind is chairman of the department of ophthalmology at Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center in Bronx, N.Y.

During the past 27 years, Fight for Sight, Inc., has provided more than $5.5 million in grants and fellowships to medical schools, hospitals, and eye research centers in the U.S. and 25 foreign countries.

The four NIH researchers investigated a factor in blood plasma of diabetics that may be involved in the obstruction of retinal capillaries, an early stage of diabetic retinopathy. This disease is the major ocular complication of diabetes and a leading cause of blindness in the U.S.

Little is known about how diabetic patients may be distinguished from normals on this basis.

Clotting Factors Elevated

Plasma concentrations of two blood clotting factors, fibrinogen and von Willebrand factor, have been found to be elevated in diabetics, but their relationship to vascular disease is unclear.

In a controlled study, Dr. Frank and his associates found that levels of von Willebrand factor are significantly elevated in diabetics without retinopathy. In fact, the latter group could not be distinguished from normals on this basis.

The discovery of an association between diabetic retinopathy and increased plasma levels of von Willebrand factor may be an indication that plasma factors are involved in the initiation or propagation of diabetic retinopathy.

Additional research will be needed to determine whether increased von Willebrand factor activity actually initiates platelet clumping in diabetic retinopathy or whether it occurs secondary to this event.

Construction Begins for NLM's Lister Hill Center

WHERE'S THE GRASS?—These two gentlemen are not here to find the answer to that but to survey the location of the new Lister Hill Center next to NLM.

The land adjacent to the southern area of the National Library of Medicine has been a grassy lawn. But it looks quite different now that workmen have begun construction of the new 10-story Lister Hill Center Building.

The facility, expected to be completed by spring 1980, will house the communications technology and network engineering programs of the Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications and the closely related functions of the National Medical Audiovisual Center, currently located in Atlanta, Ga.

Other NLM components expected to occupy the new building are the Toxicology Information Programs, the Office of Biometry and Epidemiology, Section on Clinical Trials, and Extramural Programs.

The $13.6 million construction contract was awarded to the George Hyman Company on June 17. Plans were drawn up by the architectural firms of J. Roy Carrol, Jr., & Partners.

Dr. Daniel Seigel Named
As Deputy Chief of NEI, Biometry, Epidemiology

Dr. Daniel G. Seigel has been appointed deputy chief of the Office of Biometry and Epidemiology, National Eye Institute.

In this newly created position, Dr. Seigel will collaborate with the chief of the Office in directing epidemiologic and biometric research in blinding eye diseases.

Dr. Seigel will also serve as head of the Section on Clinical Trials and Natural History Studies and will be responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating the Institute's growing program of collaborative therapeutic trials.

With Dr. Seigel's appointment, Fred Ederer, chief of the Office of Biometry and Epidemiology is relinquishing his position as head of the OBE Section on Clinical Trials and Natural History Studies and assuming the position of acting head of the Section on Epidemiology.

The following is a list of Dr. Seigel's publications:

Dr. Seigel brings to NEI a distinguished record as a scientist and administrator including over 10 years of experience in biometric research.

As director of the Epidemiology Section, Dr. Seigel will chair the Biostatistics Advisory Committee on Biostatistics and Epidemiological Methods, Dr. Seigel is to be honored with a fellowship from the American Statistical Association at its annual meeting this month.

and Biometry Research Program of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Dr. Seigel assisted in the initiation and management of the Institute's research in population research, clinical trials in perinatal care, and statistical methods.

Dr. Seigel received his M.S. degree in hygiene from Columbia University and Sc.D. degree in hygiene from the Harvard University School of Public Health. Before coming to Bethesda, he worked as a biostatistician in New York State and in Nagasaki, Japan.

FIC Research Fellows

Dr. Francis D. Raul, from the Institut National de la Sante et de la Recherche Medicale, Paris, France, arrived June 30, to begin an International Research Fellowship in NICHD, under the preceptorship of Dr. Norman Kretchmer. His study will be on the regulation of enzymic differentiation of intestinal cells.

Dr. Steinberg, a specialist in human metabolism and rare diseases, has received international recognition for his research on insulin activity and the role of lipoproteins in the development of heart disease. He is the principal investigator of a San Diego-based Specialized Center of Research (SCOR) on atherosclerosis, sponsored by the NHLBI.

He was formerly associated with the National Heart Institute for 17 years, including 6 years as chief of the Laboratory of Metabolism. He received his M.D. degree from Wayne State University College of Medicine and his Ph.D. degree from Harvard Medical School.

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