Dr. Curlin Named Chief Of New Epidemiology, Biometry Branch, NIAID

Dr. Curlin is a fellow of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

Dr. George T. Curlin has been appointed chief of a new Epidemiology and Biometry Branch in the Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Program of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Dr. Curlin was most recently head of the Epidemiology Division of the Cholera Research Laboratory in Dacca, Bangladesh.

Will Develop Programs

He will develop and manage programs involving the application of epidemiological and biostatistical concepts and techniques to basic and applied research.

He will also plan and direct epidemiological studies on the morbidity of certain infectious diseases in order to identify promising new directions for proposed NIAID research.

Provide Consultant Services

In addition, the Branch will provide consultant services in the area of statistical studies of infectious diseases.

Dr. Curlin received the B.A. degree from Centre College in Danville, Ky., and his M.D. from Vanderbilt Medical School, Nashville.

In 1973, Dr. Curlin earned an M.P.H. degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and (See Dr. Curlin, Page 5)

3 New Enteric Disease Centers Will Investigate Gastroenteritis Causes

Three Infectious Enteric Disease Study Centers have been established: at the University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston; the University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor; and the Research Foundation of Children's Hospital, District of Columbia.

The comprehensive Centers are being supported by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Infectious gastroenteritis, with its symptoms of diarrhea and/or vomiting, is a major cause of illness in American families and communities. It is an even greater problem in the developing countries where it contributes significantly to a high rate of infant mortality.

The first goal of scientists working in the new Enteric Disease Centers will be to determine the incidence of infectious gastroenteritis in defined populations and to identify the organisms causing

Reovirus-like particles observed in a stool filtrate made from a stool specimen from a young patient with acute gastroenteritis. This virus, identified as the cause of diarrhea in young children around the world, is one of the organisms that will be intensively studied at NIAID's new enteric disease centers. Magnification - 224,250.

both individual cases and disease outbreaks.

The causative agents may be vi-

(See 3 CENTERS, Page 7)

OBESITY—Internat'l Conferees Consider Problems, Treatment, Recommend Action

From around the U.S. and abroad—including Great Britain, Italy, Canada, Germany, Sweden, France, Australia, Japan, and Denmark—over 100 conferees gathered Oct. 20-22 to discuss a growing problem: obesity.

The National Council on Obesity, International Center, the National Institute on Aging, the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute sponsored the Conference on Obesity and the American Public: A Task Force Analysis and Recommendations for Public Action.

Dr. Milo D. Leavitt, Jr., FIC, Director, and NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson opened the meeting. Dr. George A. Bray, professor of medicine, Harbor General Hospital, Torrance, Calif., served as chairman of the organizing committee.

Topics of the session panels were:

- Definitions, Criteria, and Prevalence of Obesity, including consideration of various height/weight charts, distinctions between moderate and gross obesity, and long-term overweight compared with sudden weight gain.

- Pathogenesis: Energy Intake and Expenditure, including data on exercise and obesity, and changes and individual differences in metabolism.

- Natural History of Obesity, including the effects of sudden weight gain or loss, obesity in infants, and discussion of psychological/physical aspects of obesity.

Surgical Risks Increase

- Risk, Hazards, and Disadvantages, including social effects of obesity, increased surgical risks and increased risks for some illnesses such as diabetes, endometrial cancer, stroke, high blood pressure, and heart attacks.

- Conservative Approaches to Treatment: for instance, generally decreased caloric consumption, special (See OBESITY, Page 5)

Leder Lectures Tomorrow On Mammalian Genome

Dr. Philip Leder will deliver the G. Burroughs Mider Lecture tomorrow (Wednesday, Nov. 2) at 8:15 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium.

Dr. Leder, chief of the Laboratory of Molecular Genetics in the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, will speak on A Close and Surprising Look at the Mammalian Genome.
Holman S. Gray of NLM Dies

Holman S. Gray, a supply specialist with the National Library of Medicine since 1968, died on Oct. 12. Mr. Gray, who suffered from a heart ailment, was scheduled to retire from Government service in 3 months.

He began his career at NIH in 1962 as a guard with the Plant Safety Branch, DAS.

Ethical Information Issues Subject of Nov. 3 Talk

Dr. Samuel Gorovitz will discuss ethical issues related to information work on Thursday, Nov. 3, at 3:30 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Conference Room 6.

Dr. Gorovitz is chairman of the department and professor of philosophy at the University of Maryland.

The NIH Information Training Committee is sponsoring the meeting.

Do not try to live forever. You will not succeed.—George Bernard Shaw

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Literature Searches Cover Current Topics in Biomedical Field

Convenient lists of recent journal articles on such subjects as Guillain-Barré syndrome, mammography, saccharin, endorphins, and asbestos toxicity are available from the National Library of Medicine's MEDLARS Management Section.

Essentially reprints of MEDLINE bibliographies on popular subjects, these Literature Searches generally cover the world's biomedical journal literature for a 2-3 year period. Published Monthly

A complete list of available searches can be found within the introductory pages of Index Medicus each month. Fourteen searches for 1977 are listed below, and may be requested in writing from the MEDLARS Management Section, National Library of Medicine, Bldg. 38, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

LS 77-1 Guillain-Barré syndrome
LS 77-2 Mammography
LS 77-3 Dietary fiber
LS 77-4 Bismuth toxicity
LS 77-5 Ozone toxicity
LS 77-6 Thallium toxicity
LS 77-7 Bone marrow transplantation in leukemia and solid tumors
LS 77-8 Platinum complexes in the treatment of cancer
LS 77-9 Saccharine
LS 77-10 Failure to thrive
LS 77-11 Effects of silicone on the breast
LS 77-12 Endogenous opioid peptides (endorphins)
LS 77-13 Euthanasia and the right to die
LS 77-14 Asbestos toxicity

If you start to think about your physical or moral condition, you usually find that you are sick.—Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

It was a snap! Delma G. Ellstrom, grants technical assistant, receives an NIH Employees Suggestion award from DRR Director Thomas C. Gowery. Miss Ellstrom's suggestion, involving perforation and snipping out of material on grants award forms, is a timesaver.

Upward Mobility College Courses Are Open to All Employees Without Cost

Upward Mobility College at NIH, a satellite campus of the University of the District of Columbia, now offers courses to all NIH employees without cost to them or their B/1/D, according to Richard Jackson, project officer, Office of Career Development.

Among the more than 70 courses offered at NIH during the spring semester—which runs from Jan. 17 to May 9—are subjects of both general and professional interest such as Speed Reading, Public Speaking, Discussion and Conference Table Techniques, Logic and Philosophy, French, and Spanish.

Also, Bureaucracy and Policy Making, Organization and Administration in Aging, Reading Skill in Foreign Scientific Languages (German), Electron Microscopy, Concepts Basic to Nursing, Basic Programming, Cost Accounting, and Budgetary Control, Introduction to Management, Personnel Management, Public Personnel Management, Public Personnel Management, Public Personnel Management.

Short 1- to 3-week courses will also be offered in: Report Preparation and Presentation for Government Employees, Computers and Their Application in Medicine and Related Fields, History of the Public Health Service, and History of the Civil Service.

Courses Are Credit, Non-Credit

NIH employees may earn college credit for UMC courses taken here in the early morning, through the day, late afternoon, or Saturday morning if they are admitted to the university before the Nov. 28 deadline.

Courses may also be taken without credit.

For more information and a complete schedule of courses offered, contact Richard Jackson, Bldg. 31, Room B2-C39, or call Ext. 66211.
‘OPEN SEASON’

Employees Can Enroll, Change Health Benefits Enrollment Nov. 13-Dec. 14

During the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program’s “Open Season,” Nov. 14 through Dec. 9, eligible employees may enroll in one of 13 different plans, change option, type of enrollment, or any combination of these.

A booklet entitled Open Season Instructions will be distributed in a packet to all employees. Brochures on the major general plans and premium rates for all plans will be included.

The general plans are: Indemnity Benefit Plan (Aetna Life and Casualty Company); Service Benefit Plan (Blue Cross-Blue Shield); Group Health Association of Washington, D.C. Plan; Georgetown University Community Health Plan; and the George Washington University Health Plan.

Other plans available to NIH staff are: American Federation of Government Employees Plan, Alliance Health Plan, American Postal Workers Union Plan, Government Employees Hospital Association

New 1978 Rates


GROUP HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

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INDEMNITY BENEFIT PLAN

(Aetna)

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SERVICE BENEFIT PLAN

(Blue Cross-Blue Shield)

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GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY HEALTH PLAN

(formerly University Affiliated Health Plan—only 1 option)

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GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HEALTH PLAN

(formerly University Affiliated Health Plan—only 1 option)

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The NIH Tennis C Team recently won the Greater Washington Tennis Association Spring Doubles League tournament and was also winner of the Red Division of the GWTA Summer League tournament.

The team’s record in the Spring Doubles was unmatched in the C League (5-0). The individual match record was 14 wins and 1 loss.

The team finished with a 7-0 record in the Red Division of the Summer League with 41 individual wins.

The NIH D team finished third in the GWTA Southern Division with a record of 5 wins and 2 losses.

The Greater Washington Tennis Association is composed of 38 participating clubs, including country clubs and government teams, in the Washington Metropolitan area.

Women’s Doubles Finalists are (I to r): winners Sally Hedrick and Pat Harwood, and runners-up Tish Wallske and Sue Hockfield.

Men’s Singles Finalists, B Division, runner-up Irv Simos (I) and winner Bud Steckman hold their trophies.

Some members of the NIH Tennis C Team are (I to r): Tony Rene, captain, Peter Rene, Steve Weise, Antonio Rene, Buddy Hamilton, and Jim Strickland. Other team members are: Paul Brown, Ray Chen, Don Craven, Adi Gazdar, Mark Geier, Ann Geier, Jim Morrow, Dick Risenberg, Mort Stimler, and Eric Zatman.

Winners of the NIH Fall Tennis Tournament

Men’s Singles, A Division—Buddy Hamilton
Men’s Singles, B Division—Bud Steckman
Women’s Singles—Mimi Alvord
Men’s Doubles—Buddy Hamilton and Antonio Rene
Women’s Doubles—Pat Harwood and Sally Hedrick
Mixed Doubles—Pat Harwood and Steve Weise

Singles Club Will Meet Nov. 7

The NIH Singles Club now has more than 140 members. The next business meeting will be held Monday, Nov. 7 at 5 p.m. in Wilson Hall. Light refreshments will be served. Plans for the next 3 months’ activities will be discussed. Members are urged to attend and to contribute their ideas and effort.
Booklet on 'How to Cope With Diabetes' Discusses Disease's Various Facets

Single copies of How To Cope with Diabetes, a new booklet prepared by the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, are available from the Institute's Office of Scientific and Technical Reports.

The 16-page publication is designed for diabetic individuals who want to learn as much as possible about their disease. How to Cope with Diabetes discusses the nature of the disease, its symptoms, detection, and treatment.

It also explores the two main forms of diabetes—juvenile and adult-onset.

The publication includes discussions of insulin shock and insulin coma, which may occur when a diabetic patient's insulin dosage is not well regulated, the long-term complications of diabetes, and the impact of juvenile diabetes on the family.

Conduct Intensive Studies

Intensive studies on the various facets of the disease are presently being conducted and supported by NIAMDD, while research closely related to diabetes is also supported by six other NIH Institutes.

Current research is focused on the interaction of the three hormones—insulin, glucagon, and somatostatin—in regulating glucose levels in the body; the possibility that diabetes might be triggered by a virus and that it may involve disorders of the immune system; the relationship between diabetes and nutrition; and the mechanisms involved in the thickening of certain small blood vessels in patients with diabetes.

The booklet also discusses in detail recent diabetes legislation which has resulted in substantially increased funding for diabetes research in 1977, more than doubling the 1976 effort.

One Secretary Shifts Easily From Space Management to Sky Diving, Scuba Diving

Nancy Previti breaks her office routine by skydiving and scuba diving on weekends.

During the week she is a secretary in the Space Management Branch; on weekends, summer and winter, Nancy Previti jumps out of airplanes at 10,000 feet, free falling for 7,000 feet linking with other sky divers to form aerial circles, diamonds, and wedges, then at 3,000 feet pulls the ripcord to parachute to a landing as soft as skipping the last two steps on a staircase.

Nancy has been skydiving almost every Saturday and Sunday for 4 years. She also likes to scuba dive, especially when on vacation in the Florida Keys.

Dispels Misconceptions

Why skydive? "It's an accomplishment," Nancy muses, "especially the relative work. Relative work is when you link with other sky divers to make patterns in the sky. That takes skill, mostly timing."

Even a short conversation with Nancy is long enough to dispel many misconceptions about sky diving. The sport, according to her, is not necessarily much more dangerous or expensive than skiing.

The parachutes used by experts are more square than round. The buildup of air resistance makes sky diving feel more like falling through water than air.

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Nancy demolishes one further misconception: "Women," she says, "are often better sky divers than men—because they're lighter."

DR. CURLIN

(Continued from Page 1)

Public Health. Since July, he has been a member of the U.S. P.H.S. Commissioned Corps.

Dr. Curlin's research interests have focused on field studies of infectious enteric diseases, including trials of choleratoxoid and, most recently, the effects of diarrheal diseases in growth and development of infants and young children, and the epidemiology of population growth in the developing world.

OBESITY

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Pneumonia Vaccine Developed for Children
With Sickle Cell Anemia, Spleen Malfunction

A new experimental pneumonia vaccine seems to protect children with sickle cell disease against a bacterial infection which often takes their lives.

In addition, preliminary evidence obtained by California investigators supported by NIH indicates that the new vaccine was effective in other children and young adults who were without functioning spleens and, therefore, also at high risk of an overwhelming pneumococcal infection.

Conditions Increase Risk

Sickle cell anemia is a serious hereditary blood disorder found most frequently in this country among Blacks. Children with the disease and others whose splenic function is missing or deficient are very susceptible to bacterial infections, but are capable of developing a normal antibody response to injections of purified antigens such as those used in certain vaccines.

Dr. Arthur J. Ammann of the University of California at San Francisco and fellow physicians at three hospitals in the San Francisco area set up a study to evaluate, first, the response of sickle cell or asplenic patients to a recently developed pneumococcal vaccine, and, second, its protective effect.

In their first series of investigations, the scientists found that these patients did indeed respond to the vaccine in a manner similar to that of normal individuals. Adverse reactions were minor, consisting of localized pain at the site of injection.

Protection Lasts 2 Years

Even more encouraging was the scientists' finding that during a 2-year follow-up period no cases of pneumonia occurred in a group of 77 immunized sickle cell patients.

In contrast, 8 of 106 sickle cell patients who had not been immunized (either because of parental refusal or lack of vaccine) had a serious pneumococcal infection during the 2-year period.

Two of these 8 children died in spite of early diagnosis and prompt antibiotic treatment.

NIAID Sponsors Preparation

The vaccine used in the study was prepared by Eli Lilly Company under contract to National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

It consisted of purified antigens from the gelatinous outer capsules of eight different types of the pneumococcal organism.

A similar so-called polysaccharide vaccine consisting of antigens from 14 types has been prepared by Merck, Sharp, and Dohme. Licensing of this vaccine is currently under review by the FDA.

Dr. Ammann's work is reported in the Oct. 27 issue of The New England Journal of Medicine.

Alcoholism Films Planned

A series of films on alcoholism will be shown in Bldg. 31, B2-B57 every Tuesday at noon by the Occupational Medicine Service and the Public Health Employee Assistance Program beginning Nov. 15.

This series will run through Dec. 27, and depicts alcoholism as a disease, its symptoms and treatment, and how it affects the individual, friends, family members, and employers.

Truth is rarely writ in ink; it lives in nature.—Martin H. Fischer
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Subject of Recent Conf.

At a recent seminar on osteogenesis imperfecta Dr. G. Donald Whedon, Director of the National Institute of Dental Research, and announced plans for a February 1978 symposium on osteoporosis—a much more prevalent bone disease—which will include a discussion of osteogenesis imperfecta.

Children suffering from osteogenesis imperfecta may break an arm or leg a dozen times a year because of minor accidents.

Symptoms Described

The disease causes generalized decalcification of the skeleton, with the resulting softness and porosity leading to multiple fractures and severe deformities such as curvature of the spine, hunchback, and legs of uneven length.

The osteogenesis imperfecta seminar held last month at the Children's Hospital, National Medical Center in Washington also featured, among other panelists, Dr. George Martin of NIDR, who presented a paper on Molecular Defects in Osteogenesis Imperfecta.

Sponsored by the local chapter of the Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation the conference was held for physicians, allied health professionals, and patients and their families.

Dr. Jay Shapiro, director of medical staff, Greater Southeast Community Hospital, Washington, and a former member of the Metabolic Diseases Branch, NIAMDD, organized the conference.

Section Chief in DCG Ralph Flaherty Dies

Ralph Flaherty, chief of the Cost Analysis Section, Financial Advisory Services Branch, Division of Contracts and Grants, died Oct. 17. He came to NIH in 1961 after serving in the Office of the Assistant Comptroller in the Department of the Navy and had held his current position since March 1973.

In June 1977 he received a pin for 40 years of Government service.

He had been an active member of the Montgomery-Prince Georges Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants. He served as president of that organization in 1974-75 and received its annual award for outstanding service in 1971.

1978 Nutrition Congress Planned in Brazil; Apply Soon for Travel Funding

The Xth International Congress of Nutrition will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Aug. 27 to Sept. 1, 1978.

Limited funds will be available for use as travel grants to help insure that nutrition scientists and scientists in related fields are given the opportunity to attend and participate in important professional meetings.

Membership in the American Institute of Nutrition is not a requirement to apply for a travel grant. Priority will be given to participants in the scientific program and to those less experienced scientists who would benefit most by attendance at the meeting.

A committee representing the AIN and the U.S. National Committee of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences will review applications for select awardees for the limited funds which are expected to cover a major portion of the cost for travel to and from the meeting.

The deadline date for receipt of applications is March 1, 1978. Awarders will be selected in April 1978. Application must be made on forms available on request from: Xth International Congress of Nutrition, American Institute of Nutrition, 9550 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Md. 20014 (301-530-7050).

Faster Bus Schedule Set For Columbia Commuters

A new, faster schedule is now in effect for the 4-year-old commuter bus service from Columbia, Md., via Route 20 to NIH and Bethesda.

For further information and schedules, contact: Ann Shalowitz, Ext. 61722, or Carter's Bus Service, (301) 465-9839.
The new $25,000 NIH ambulance gets an extra bit of polishing from Guy Burleson (l), who demonstrates the compactly and thoroughly equipped interior of the vehicle (r), which makes about 25 calls per week, usually for just one person. At least two persons (driver and aid), most of whom are qualified Emergency Medical Technicians, go on each first aid call and along with all fire fighters, go on each first aid call and along with all fire

Remodeled Fabric Care Dept. Holds Open House

NIH Deputy Director Dr. Thomas Malone (l) and CC Director Dr. Mortimer Lipsett (r) watch CC Fabric Care Department chief Alexander Davis cut the ribbon opening the remodeled facility.

An open house was held Sept. 29 in the Clinical Center Fabric Care Department, celebrating the remodeling of the Bldg. 15 facility.

Renovation of the department began in August 1976. New locker rooms, a conference/break room, remodeled offices, air conditioning, and new equipment were all installed during this period.

The Fabric Care Department is responsible for almost 2,000,000 pounds of laundry and 170,900 pounds of dry cleaning each year for NIH, the rental buildings, and St. Elizabeths Hospital.

3 CENTERS (Continued from Page 1)

ruses, bacteria, or parasitics. At present a large proportion of acute enteric disease remains unexplained, but recent exciting research results have kindled scientific interest in this field.

A second goal of the Centers' programs will be to investigate the clinical course of enteric disease in individuals and their immune response. Information obtained in these studies can be expected to lead, eventually, to the development of better means of prevention and treatment.

Populations Differ

The three Centers were chosen not only because of staff expertise in clinical microbiology but also because each location offers a slightly different population group for epidemiological study.

In Houston, investigations will be carried out locally in a ethnically mixed Southern population—Caucasians, Blacks, and Mexican Americans. The study population at the University of Michigan is essentially small town or rural while that at the D.C. Children's Research Foundation is basically inner city.

In each study group, data will be collected on all cases of acute gastroenteritis so they may be characterized clinically and the major clinical features correlated with the causative agents isolated.

Attempts will be made to trace the spread of infection and illness among family and other contacts. Principal investigators at each Center are: Texas, Dr. Herbert L. DuPont; Michigan, Dr. Arnold Monto; and District of Columbia, Dr. Robert L. Parrott.

The M.C. Policeman To Discuss Sexual Assault Prevention

A 1-hour program on "Sexual Assault Prevention" will be conducted by Corp. George Luddington, of the Crime Prevention Section of the Montgomery County (Md.) Police Department, next week in four different places and times for the convenience of NIH employees.

Monday, Nov. 7, 11:30 a.m., Bldg. 10, Masur Auditorium
Tuesday, Nov. 8, 11:30 a.m., Federal Bldg., Room B-119
Wednesday, Nov. 9, 12:30 p.m., Bldg. 1, Wilson Hall Friday, Nov. 11, 11 a.m., Westwood Bldg., Room 9A-10

The program, sponsored by the Occupational Medicine Service, is an effort by the M.C. Police Department to promote citizen awareness, suggestive preventive measures against assault, and lessen citizen vulnerability.

All employees are invited; however, those who live alone are especially urged to attend.

NIH Visiting Scientists Program Participants

10/2—Dr. Yair Sharav, Israel, Neurobiology and Anesthesiology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Ronald Dubner, NIDR, Bg. 30, Rm. B18.
10/3—Dr. Godwin O. M. Emeke, Nigeria, Laboratory of Environmental Toxicology. Sponsor: Dr. Robert Dixon, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.
10/1—Dr. Suraj Prakash Bhat, India, Laboratory of Molecular Genetics. Sponsor: Dr. Joram Piatigorsky, NICHD, Bg. 6, Rm. 333.
10/1—Dr. Robert Fagnani, Italy, Laboratory of Immunobiology. Sponsor: Dr. Herbert J. Rapp, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 2B20.
10/1—Dr. Filipowski, Poland, Laboratory of Neuropathology and Neuroanatomical Science. Sponsor: Dr. Igor Klatzo, NICHD, Bg. 6, Rm. B18.
10/6—Dr. Konosuke Kamakura, Japan, Laboratory of Preclinical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Ernest Freese, NINCDS, Bg. 36, Rm. 3D02.
10/11—Dr. Paul C. Hiro, United Kingdom, Pharmacokinetics Branch. Sponsor: Dr. T. E. Eling, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.
10/11—Dr. Shinichiro Hori, Japan, Behavioral Biology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Gordon Guroff, NICHD, Bg. 6, Rm. 310.
10/11—Dr. David I. Hoult, United Kingdom, Biomedical Engineering and Instrumentation Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Gordon Guroff, NICHD, Bg. 6, Rm. 310.
10/11—Dr. Nicholas Pavlidis, Greece, Laboratory of RNA Tumor Viruses. Sponsor: Dr. Michael Chirigos, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 1D19.
10/11—Dr. Henry Metzger, NIH, NIMH, WAW Bg., Rm. 2060.
10/11—Dr. Ronald Dubner, NIDR, Bg. 30, Rm. 111.
10/11—Dr. Heikki Hervonen, Finland, Laboratory of Neuropathology and Neuroanatomical Science. Sponsor: Dr. Igor Klatzo, NINCDS, Bg. 36, Rm. 4D02.
10/11—Dr. Erminio Costa, NIMH, WAW Bg., St. Elizabeths.
10/11—Dr. M. Zain-Ul Abedin, Pakistan, Laboratory of Molecular Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Ernst Freese, NINCDS, Bg. 36, Rm. 3D02.
10/11—Dr. James L. Lattimer, United States, Hypertension-Endocrine Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Gordon Guroff, NICHD, Bg. 6, Rm. 310.
10/11—Dr. Kevin J. Catt, NICHD, Bg. 10, Rm. 13N246.

Visits From India

10/11—Dr. R. Krishnan Kutty, India, Laboratory of Biomedical Sciences. Sponsor: Dr. Walter Glinsmann, NICHD, Bg. 6, Rm. 312.
10/11—Dr. Lars S. Lehmann, Sweden, Laboratory of Biochemistry. Sponsor: Dr. Vincent C. Haswell, NIDR, Bg. 30, Rm. 111.
10/11—Dr. Juan Lopez-Barea, Spain, Laboratory of Environmental Mutagenesis. Sponsor: Dr. Chi-Yu Lee, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.
10/11—Dr. Nicholas Pavlidis, Greece, Laboratory of RNA Tumor Viruses. Sponsor: Dr. Michael Chirigos, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 1D19.
10/11—Dr. Umapati Prasad, India, Laboratory of Viral Carcinogenesis. Sponsor: Dr. Ursula Heine, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. C17.
10/11—Dr. Michael E. O'Neill, United Kingdom, Biomedical Engineering and Instrumentation Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Robert L. Dedrick, DRS, Bg. 13, Rm. 3W13.
10/11—Dr. Hugh Simpson, Scotland, Hypertension-Endocrine Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Frederic Barter, NHLBI, Bg. 10, Rm. 8N214.
10/11—Dr. Ru-dong Wei, Taiwan, Environmental Mutagenesis Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Ernest Freese, NICHD, Research Triangle Park, N.C.
10/12—Dr. Dermot Cooper, United Kingdom, Laboratory of Nutrition and Endocrinology. Sponsor: Dr. Martin Rodbell, NIMAM, Bg. 6, Rm. B1-28.
10/12—Dr. Rosemary Jagus, United Kingdom, Laboratory of Molecular Hematology. Sponsor: Dr. Brian Safer, NHLBI, Bg. 10, Rm. 7D12.
10/17—Dr. Birgit An der Lan, Netherlands, Laboratory of the Cerebral Blood Flow. Sponsor: Dr. Robert L. Parrott.

Henry Metzger, NIMAM, Bg. 10, Rm. 9N206.

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Medicine for the Layman Lecture Planned Tonight

Dr. Robert Levy, Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, will speak on Heart Attacks tonight, Nov. 1, at 8 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium in the Medicine for the Layman lecture series sponsored by the Clinical Center.

No lecture is planned for Nov. 8.

Dr. Donald Calne will discuss The Brain on Tuesday, Nov. 15, and Dr. Lester Salans' topic on Nov. 22 will be Obesity.

Dr. Ronald Crystal will speak on The Lungs on Nov. 29, and on The Brain on Tuesday, Nov. 15.

Dec. 6, Dr. E. Brad Thompson will discuss Cancer: What Is It? Dr. Vincent DeVita, Jr., will talk on Cancer Treatment on Dec. 13.

The lectures are free and open to the public.

Biohazard, Injury Control Course Planned in Dec.

A safety training course on Biohazard and Injury Control in the Biomedical Laboratory will be held at NIH on Dec. 13-14.

The course—presented by the University of Minnesota School of Public Health and the Office of Research Safety, National Cancer Institute—will provide up-to-date contamination and injury control information to scientists and senior-level technicians engaged in virus cancer and related biomedical research.

Enrollment is limited, and early application is recommended. For further information contact Dr. Randolph K. Larsen or Manuel S. Barbeito, ORS, NCI, Ext. 61862.

New Telephone System To Be Installed; Quicker, Dependable Service Is Predicted

At 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, NIH will convert to a new and improved telephone dialing system called Centrex-II. The most noticeable change Monday morning will be that all NIH telephone numbers will be seven rather than five digits long. Everyone's 5-digit extension will remain the same. The difference will be that the digits 49 will precede each extension even when calling from one NIH office to another.

Eases Transfer of Calls

As a result of Centrex-II, telephone users will be able to add another party to incoming calls or transfer incoming calls without waiting for the operator's assistance.

Also, users will be able to place incoming calls on hold, dial another number for consultation, then return to the original call. After dialing 9 for off-campus calls, there will be no need to wait for a second dial tone.

During November 1-hour training sessions will be offered to all employees who regularly place and receive telephone calls. The new NIH telephone directory will be available before the Dec 2 switch-over to Centrex-II. Next year the dial phones will be replaced by touchtones.

Speaking of Centrex-II, Joseph Whitlock, chief of the Communications Section, Telecommunications Branch, in the Division of Administrative Services, stressed the new system’s advantages:

— it's quicker and more efficient
— it can accommodate growth
— electronic surveillance and more dependable solid-state equipment should reduce problems
— more and better features will be available.

Costs Will Not Increase

Despite these improvements, Centrex-II will not cost appreciably more than the present system.

The Centrex-II system has been under discussion for more than 4 years. The NIH Telecommunications Branch has seen the system work in the North Carolina Research Triangle Park and in other Government departments.

The NIH switching center will be relocated to the Centrex (Central Exchange) in downtown Bethesda. Large outmoded switchboards will be replaced by small push button consoles.

Instructions Distributed

Shortly, the Telecommunications Branch will distribute desk-to-desk a flyer containing precise instructions as to the use of Centrex-II and the times and locations of the training sessions.

For further information call the Telecommunications Branch, Ext. 65671.

Dr. Jerry A. Solon, program planning officer of the National Institute on Aging and one of the first staff members when that Institute was created, recently retired after more than 20 years of Government service.

During the early development of the NIA, Dr. Solon had primary responsibility for working with the National Advisory Council on Aging in preparing Our Future Selvess, the research plan on aging mandated by Congress. He also provided material for the NIA portions of the NIH Forward and Evaluation Plans.

Before joining the NIA staff, Dr. Solon contributed to policy formation and program planning in the DHEW Division of Health Care Systems, where he was chief of Health Services.

In addition to his Government service, Dr. Solon has worked in both hospital and university settings. He created, and for 6 years directed, a Medical Care Studies Unit at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston.

Dr. Solon received his Ph.D. in sociology from the American University in 1964.

At a retirement luncheon in late August, Dr. Solon was honored by Herman Brotman, a consultant to the U.S. Senate and House Committees on Aging, Bernice Harper, former director of the Division of Long-Term Care, NIA staff, and many of his friends from other DHEW components.

Dr. Solon's research has mainly addressed the health behavior of consumers and providers and the organization of health care and related services.