HIDDEN VALUES IN FEDERAL SERVICE

Higher salaries in private industry are not always pure profit for the ex-Federal employee. Hidden values obtained from Government service are often overlooked, states Warren B. Irons, Chief of the Retirement Division, Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Irons refers specifically to the value of the protection provided by the Civil Service Retirement Act in three areas—survivorship protection, disability protection, and retirement benefits.

In leaving Federal service, says Mr. Irons, perhaps the most serious loss is in survivorship protection. The employee who leaves the Government before he is eligible to retire, destroys all survivorship protection for his family. All that is payable upon his death is the return of his credit in the retirement fund. No monthly payments can be made to his family.

Another serious loss is in disability protection. No worker who becomes disabled is provided for more liberally than the Federal employee. After only five years of civilian employment, the employee who is physically or mentally incapable of satisfactorily performing the duties of the position he holds may be retired on an annuity.

In discussing retirement benefits, Mr. Irons says that the average career employee has a potential annuity right which is far superior to any he may gain from a similar system on the outside. This benefit can be equalled by the privately employed individual only through investment (insurance or otherwise) of any part of his salary he can spare from current living expenses.

NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR YORE HEALTH

Although the name of NIH was slightly jumbled, the boiler picture above was delivered with no problems.

LAB WORKERS PREVIEW NEW FILMSTRIP SERIES

A number of NIH laboratory workers turned into film critics recently when they were called upon to preview and judge two filmstrips on laboratory training.

These filmstrips, produced jointly by the Communicable Disease Center, Atlanta, and the National Institutes of Health, are designed to teach new workers proper laboratory techniques and safe procedures for handling glassware.

The pictures, in color, were taken in laboratories here with NIH people as models.

As a result of the suggestions of the preview critics, revisions are being made in the two filmstrips.

Four additional filmstrips are to be prepared, completing the series on laboratory behavior.

McCULLOUGH NAMED TO NEW NMI POST

Dr. Norman B. McCullough was recently appointed Chief of Clinical Research at NMI.

The newly established unit which Dr. McCullough heads will conduct clinical investigations on infectious and tropical diseases at the Clinical Center.

Prior to his appointment, Dr. McCullough was in charge of brucellosis research at NMI. His work in this field will continue.

Dr. McCullough was born in Milford, Michigan, in 1909. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Michigan State College. His Ph.D. in bacteriology was earned at the University of Chicago in 1937, and in 1944 he was awarded his M.D. by that institution.

Dr. McCullough has been with NMI since he joined the Public Health Service in 1947.
Effect of Minerals on Ossification

No. 73 of a Series

Dr. Savchuck measures the breaking strength of small bones with a special apparatus.

While the process of bone repair is one of general scientific interest, it is of particular concern to the dentist. Whether dealing with the natural filling in of the socket after tooth extraction or with the treatment of fractures of the jaws, the rate of ossification is influenced by various factors. The effect of mineral supplements upon fracture healing is being studied by Dr. William B. Savchuck at the Staten Island, New York, Unit of NIDR's Section on Oral and Biological Chemistry.

The basis for these studies is the fact that bone shows an affinity for both strontium and fluoride ions. Since these ions bear opposite charges, it seems plausible that one of these minerals may exert a favorable influence upon the other in promoting bone repair. To this end the effect on healing of fractures is being studied by supplementing the diet of rats with one or the other element as well as with a combination of the two.

The actual fracture healing study involves histological, radiological and chemical methods as well as measurements of breaking strength. At different periods throughout the repair process, the amount of minerals absorbed by the fractured rat humerus is easily followed by means of isotopes, using standard procedures.

However, the problem of checking the final breaking strength of the healed fracture is complicated by the absence of recognized testing methods for determining low breaking strengths of bones of small laboratory animals. Therefore it was first necessary to devise a special assembly which would apply a failure load of less than 25 pounds to the specimen being tested. This simple apparatus, employing three knife edges, has been used to break hundreds of variously treated bones in an attempt to elaborate a reliable test for the breaking strength of healed fractures of rat humeri.

If the results show that strontium or fluoride has a favorable effect upon the rate of ossification, then further considerations will deal with the optimum time of administration and dosage of each mineral.

Here and There

Bloodmobile Visit

The Red Cross Bloodmobile visited Wilson Hall on June 4. NIH donors gave 95 bottles of blood.

Honors

Dr. James A. Shannon was awarded a Doctor of Science degree by the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Mass., at its 106th commencement on June 11. Dr. Shannon is Associate Director in charge of NHI research.

Vacation Plans

An interesting array of travel folders grace a table in the Personnel Branch in the basement of Building 1. If you are undecided where you would like to spend your vacation, you're sure to find the ideal spot described in these booklets.

Dr. Bell Honored

Dr. Joseph A. Bell, Chief of the Epidemiology Section of NIMI's Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, was elected President of the American Epidemiological Society at its recent annual meeting in Pittsburgh.

Property Disposal

The Property Unit of the Purchase and Supply Branch is holding its quarterly sale of surplus equipment during the month of June. Institutes are requested to submit only property which is in good condition. Call the Property Unit on Extension 609 for further details.

PHS Appointment

Dr. John W. Knutson was named Chief Dental Officer of PHS to succeed Dr. Bruce D. Forsyth. Dr. Knutson, formerly chief of the Division of Dental Public Health, was engaged in studies in dental caries at NIH from 1938-40.
SAFETY IS MORE THAN JUST A MOTTO AT NIH

Patterning ourselves after the majority of well-managed commercial laboratories, NIH has established a safety program that is now beginning to produce effective results. During the current calendar year, five lost-time injuries have occurred as compared with fifteen during the same period last year.

NIH Safety Officer Jim Black plays an important advisory role in this program. One of his main jobs is to encourage each Institute to minimize or eliminate unsafe working conditions or procedures by creating an atmosphere of accident awareness. Periodically, accident prevention circulars, humorous cartoons, and photographs are displayed or circulated for this purpose.

For new employees, a safety orientation program is conducted. At these meetings volunteer staff members describe the general types of hazards existing on our reservation, the fire protection program, and activities of the Employee Health Service.

Safety committees have been established in all Institutes. These committees consider safety problems that involve their own buildings or Institutes, and Mr. Black works with them whenever he is asked for guidance. He assists these committees in their preparation of chapters for the manual, "Safe Practices."

The Safety Officer also cooperates with the Fire Marshal, Ernie Davis, in the training of the Emergency Brigade and the civil defense conversion teams. Instruction is given in fire prevention, fire fighting, and the disposal of hazardous materials. Mr. Black also assists the Employee Health Service in its effort to provide an effective industrial hygiene program.

Other activities of the Safety Officer involve the maintenance of statistics of on-the-job injuries, occupational diseases, vehicle accidents, fires, and the processing of Bureau of Employees Compensation forms.

The NIH Record celebrated its third birthday last month. The first issue was dated May 20, 1949.

GET ON THE R & W PARTY BANDWAGON

The first two parties of the NIH Recreation and Welfare Association series were top drawer, judging by the enthusiasm of those who attended. The dance in May attracted a large crowd, with the floor show the high light of the evening.

The June picnic at Top Cottage was a fun-filled success, from the softball game to the gallons of baked beans and strings of hot dogs consumed by the hungry participants.

Demand is heavy for athletic equipment that the Recreation and Welfare Association has available for loan. Contact Britton Smith on Extension 336 if you would like to borrow badminton and tennis rackets, golf clubs, softball and fishing paraphernalia. Equipment should be picked up or returned after 4:45 p.m. to Room 301, Building 6.

Storage facilities for garden tools are available for R & W members until October 15 in Room 1058, Building T-6. The keys have been left with the building guard. The Association at its June board meeting authorized the purchase of not more than $50 worth of garden tools for the convenience of its members. These tools, however, may not be removed from the grounds.

The Association is busy completing plans for the Montgomery County Library to send its Bookmobile to NIH regularly.

PERSONNEL BRANCH TO BETTY'S RESCUE

Mrs. Betty Savage of the Performance Rating and Appointment Section, Personnel Branch had been waiting to adopt a baby for a long time. She'd almost given up hope when suddenly on Sunday, June 1, she received word that she could have for adoption a 9 lb. baby girl.

The Savage household was turned into an uproar. Most young couples have an appointed amount of time to prepare for a new arrival, but Betty and her husband had just one week.

When Betty reported for work on Monday morning, she excitedly told her friends in Personnel that she would have to resign to make frantic preparations for the baby's arrival.

That's when the Appointment Section stepped in. A surprise shower was quickly planned. A suggested list of baby supplies was drawn up with the cooperation of seasoned parents in the Personnel Branch. Then each person selected from the list a gift that he or she wanted to give.

The next day Betty's shower was held. To her surprise and delight, her shopping trips were indefinitely postponed. The Personnel Branch had completely outfitted the new baby!

DR. SCOTT RETURNS FROM LECTURE TOUR

During his recent trip abroad, Dr. David B. Scott, acting Chief of NIDR's Laboratory of Functional Morphology, delivered eighteen lectures in eleven cities in Scandinavia and England. He lectured on studies of tooth structure with the electron microscope.

Dr. Scott's trip, sponsored by dental societies and schools in Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, and England, was organized and arranged by Dr. Poul O. Pedersen, a professor at the Royal Danish Dental School. Dr. Pedersen was NIDR's first foreign Special Fellow.
AMA STAGES MAMMOTH MEETING IN CHICAGO

The Navy Pier in Chicago was the scene of the 101st annual meeting of the American Medical Association June 9-13.

The convention was one of the largest yet held. There were more than 220 hours of lectures given in the meeting rooms and 8,000 hours of demonstrations given by scientific exhibitors. It was estimated that the technical exhibits, if stretched end to end, would have reached nearly two miles and the scientific exhibits another mile and a half.

Two NIH representatives were invited to speak at the meeting. Dr. Norman Topping, Associate Director, discussed "The Development of the U. S. Public Health Service's Clinical Center for Medical Research." Dr. Russell Wilder, Director of NIAMD, spoke on "Arthritis As A Public Health Problem."

NIH sent two exhibits to Chicago. One was on the clinical center, and the other, prepared in cooperation with the Division of Tuberculosis and Chronic Diseases, PHS, showed aids to the professions in cardiovascular education.

CALCULATING CLASS COMPLETED AT NIH

Certificates of Proficiency were awarded to four NIH employees for successful completion of the standard basic operator's training course in operation of the Monroe Adding Machine.

The class which began April 23 was instructed by Mr. Francis R. DeLeo. The purpose of the course was to develop efficient and trained operators for the use of full keyboard adding machines.

Those receiving the awards were Robert Motley and Lester Sebastian of NIMH, and Elizabeth Wiehle and Mrs. Clydis A. Jones of the Fiscal Management Branch.

THOSE HAMSTERS AGAIN!

There are peculiar stirrings in the Hamster department. With the first days of summer comes word that plans are beginning to bud for the next Hamster show. No hints yet as to their variety.

Summertime Thoughts

As Season Opens

At this time of year the national favorite of summer sports is a major topic of conversation. Baseball and softball games from the sandlot to the professional diamond have a magic appeal for all ages.

NIH's own softball team has been active for about a month. A member of the District Athletic League, our team has made a good showing in the three games it has played. Although two of the games were lost in very close contests, the team shows real promise and poses a healthy threat to other teams in the League.

 Spartking the team is its manager, Clarence Israel, who has had professional baseball experience with the Homestate Grays. Clarence has high hopes for the League trophy, and his hard-hitting team will do its best to bring it home.

Members of the team include Ben Clipper, George Duvall, William Foster, Derrell Freese, Bruce Hill, Herbert Holsey, Donald Howard, Mack Israeli, Elwood Lyles, William Mills, Andrew Perry, Roy Reed, Charles Shaw, Frank Shaw, Arnold Stull, Joseph Summervour, Samuel Umberger, Eugene Washington, and William Waters.

A lot of credit should go to these players. They've practiced hard and deserve the support of NIH residents.

Games are played in the early evening at the Polo Grounds near the Tidal Basin. Notices of games will be posted in all buildings.

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