CLINICAL CENTER
CHIEFS ARE NAMED

Since July 1, several key personnel of the Clinical Center have come on duty at NIH. Among them is Dr. Robert T. Hewitt, who is the Assistant Director in charge of the Professional Service Departments. He will serve as coordinator of the nine departments which will supply medical services to the Clinical Center.

Four of these department heads have been named. All are newcomers to NIH except Dr. Ralph D. Lillie, who serves as Chief of the Pathological Anatomy Department. Dr. Theodore F. Hilbish is Chief of the Diagnostic X-ray Department; Dr. Ralph S. Lloyd, Chief of the Dental Department; and Mr. Milton W. Skolaut, Chief of the Pharmacy Department.

Mr. Daniel E. O'Keefe, formerly of NIMH, was named Chief of the Social Service Department. This department provides social services for Clinical Center patients such as recreation, volunteer and chaplain services.

Miss Doris S. Bresnahan is an addition to the Nursing Department staff announced in a previous issue of the Record. She is the Assistant Chief of Nursing in charge of in-service training programs for non-professional personnel.

Four of the section heads within the framework of the Business Operations Branch have been named. Only one of them is a newcomer to NIH -- Mrs. Patricia M. Boyer, the Executive Housekeeper. The others are Jack Beecher, Chief of the Management Analysis Section; Michael A. Wieneck, Chief of the Personnel Section; and Milton F. Hefferman, Chief of the Financial Management Section.

NIH TEAM TO PLAY IN CITY FINALS

Kneeling, left to right: Back Israel, LF; Andrew Perry, 1st B; John Summerour, 2d B; George Duval, 3d E; Donald Howard, SS; Samuel Ursberger, C; Frank Shaw, EF; Elwood Lyles, P. Standing, left to right: William Powell, 3d P; Clarence Israel, manager; Roy Reed, P; Eugene Washington, CF; William Foster, C; Britton Smith, president; William Waters, SS; Bruce Hill, 2d P; George Mitchell, CF; and Robert Wilkerson, general manager.

AUSTRALIAN SCIENTIST TO GIVE DYER LECTURE

Sir Frank M. Burnet, M.D., world-famous for his research in the field of infectious diseases, has been named recipient of the second annual R. E. Dyer Lecture award. He is the Director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne, Australia.

The lecture will be delivered Wednesday, October 29, in the main auditorium of the National Naval Medical Center.

The Dyer Lectureship was established in 1950 to honor the former Director of NIH. Proceeds of the fund, subscribed by Dr. Dyer's friends and colleagues, are being used for this lectureship, to be awarded periodically to a scientist who has made an outstanding contribution to knowledge in a field of medical science.

The NIH Softball Team has rolled up a series of impressive victories during the current season. Out of a total of 34 games played, the team has won 32.

Regular season play was culminated with an outstanding record of 5 wins and no losses in the second half play of the District Athletic League. NIH's team, along with the Department of Agriculture's, was selected to represent the league in the city-wide softball championship tournament. Thirty-four leagues will compete in this contest.

Because of their outstanding season record against all competition, our team must be considered one of the favorites for the city crown. Notices will be posted in all the buildings as to our schedule in the city championships.

These games will be played at the softball diamonds, 23d and Constitution, Washington, D. C.

September 8, 1952 - Vol IV, No. 17
The Laboratory of Tropical Diseases, NMI, now has seven staff members assigned to field stations abroad. Three of these scientists are stationed in Liberia and a fourth will be assigned there in the near future.

The project in Liberia actually had its origin in 1948, when LTD, at the request of the State Department, prepared an outline for a 15-year medical research program in Liberia. Due to lack of funds, this ambitious program was never implemented, and activities at that time were restricted to a three months' medical survey of the country by Dr. Martin Young.

By 1950, the American Foundation for Tropical Medicine had completed at Harbel, Liberia, a large, well-designed laboratory building and adequate housing facilities, but it had neither laboratory equipment nor scientific personnel to operate this newly established Liberian Institute of Tropical Medicine. LTD, having the necessary personnel available and believing that the required appropriation for equipping and operating such a project could be obtained from sources outside NHI, proposed a cooperative research project to be carried out in Liberia.

Under the President's Point Four program, the State Department was financing at that time the Public Health Service Medical Mission to Liberia. Eventually, arrangements were effected for similar financial support of a medical research program to be operated at the Liberian Institute. Today we have in operation a project financed by and under the administrative supervision of the State Department, technically directed and staffed by NHI, utilizing the physical facilities of the Liberian Institute provided by the American Foundation for Tropical Medicine, and cooperating with the Liberian Government on a joint medical research program. The chief of our research team, Dr. Thomas A. Burch, is also serving as Director of the Liberian Institute.

Studies are now being carried out on malaria, schistosomiasis, filariasis, and African sleeping sickness. The habits of the various disease vectors are being studied and methods of control are being evaluated.

Efforts are also being made to devise better diagnostic procedures and more effective treatment regimens. Recently, Mr. John Bozicevich of LTD spent three months there conducting field tests on a new diagnostic method which he developed here in Bethesda.

This Liberian program goes far toward filling a long recognized need in the studies on tropical diseases being conducted by NMI. It provides ample opportunity to study these diseases in their natural environment, to develop in the field fundamental findings stemming from bench research, and to collect data necessary to the future development of adequate control programs.

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Field and There

Bloodmobile Visit

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will visit NIH for the third time this year on Wednesday, September 24. Donor appointments will be scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Wilson Hall.

Appointments will be made as usual through the Personnel Branch by filling out the forms distributed in the mail.

During its last visit in June, the Bloodmobile collected 95 bottles of blood from NIH donors.

College Courses

Special college night courses at the National Naval Medical Center will be offered this fall by the College of General Studies, George Washington University. NIH employees are invited to enroll for these courses.

Courses offered are Psychology of the Physically Handicapped, Spanish II, Personnel Management, and English II.

Classes will run for fifteen weeks and will carry three hours of college credit. First sessions of these classes will meet the week beginning September 15.

Dr. Bunim at NIH

Dr. Joseph J. Bunim, who was appointed chief of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Branch, NIAMD, on July 1, has now reported for duty at NIH. Dr. Bunim, leading authority on rheumatic disease, will conduct investigations on arthritis and rheumatism at the Clinical Center. Until his transfer to Bethesda, Dr. Bunim was conducting arthritis research at the Bellevue Medical Center, New York City.

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INGENUITY MARKS THE PLUMBING SHOP AT NIH

Henry Pahlow and his ten assistants in the Plumbing Shop, Buildings Management Branch, are frequently called upon to solve difficult technical problems.

For example, a few years ago when the Laboratory of Tropical Diseases needed to keep alive large numbers of snails for schistosomiasis studies, it was found that a more natural and healthful habitat could be simulated by circulating a current of air through the aquarium. However, technical difficulties were encountered when it became necessary to supply a constant and uniform amount of air for a large number of aquaria. Air conduits, either purchased or constructed, proved unsatisfactory.

The problem was presented to the Plumbing Shop and solved by Mr. Pahlow, whose method was so simple to operate and control that other laboratories engaged in similar research have duplicated the design.

Some assignments given this shop are more routine. The shop installs and maintains equipment at NIH, such as water stills, sterilizers, ultracentrifuges, steam baths, hot water heaters, and special water connections. It takes a good deal of mechanical know-how and skill to work with such a variety of scientific equipment.

The Plumbing Shop is also responsible for installing plumbing and heating systems in special buildings at NIH, such as the altitude chamber and the explosion chamber.

Some water stills in the laboratories have to be taken apart, cleaned, assembled, and adjusted every three months. Others require more constant care and are cleaned every 30 days.

Men from the Plumbing Shop are on call 24 hours a day, and they are one of the few groups that have access to all buildings on the NIH campus. Special precautions are taken when the men are called upon to work in areas where infectious or dangerous materials are handled.

When the Clinical Center and its service buildings are completed, the Plumbing Shop will be responsible for the maintenance and repair of all the new water and sewage systems.

NIH Spotlight

Betty Wiehle

If you saw the Hamster production last March, you may remember Swanhilda, Dr. Bigbrain's hilarious secretary, Betty Wiehle gave an outstanding performance in this role, her second effort for the Hamsters. A charter member of the Hamsters, Betty is enthusiastic about plans for their next show, to be given in April in the Clinical Center auditorium.

Betty is also enthusiastic about working at NIH. She came here about six years ago and joined the staff of the newly established Division of Research Grants. Three years later, Betty transferred to the Financial Management Branch and within a few months was assigned by the Branch to NIMH as a budget examiner.

Betty assists the administrative officers of the Institute in preparing budget estimates. She also reviews these figures in line with NIH policies and guidelines of the Financial Management Branch.

The bulk of Betty's day-to-day work consists in managing the current appropriation. Part of her job in this respect is to stay abreast of program developments in order to keep operating officials currently informed about the financial status of the Institute.

Betty has been in Federal service since 1935, when she worked for the Central Accounts Office of the Treasury Department. In 1940, she transferred to a job at the PHS Dispensary. Betty went to work in 1943 for the accounting office of the War Relocation Authority. The job of this wartime agency was to take care of the 110,000 Japanese-Americans who were evacuated by the Army from the Western Defense Command. These people were moved to areas where they were able to secure jobs and resume normal lives.

A native Washingtonian, Betty lives with her parents in Rockville, Maryland. She is a graduate of Western High School and took special training in accounting at Columbus University.

A cocker spaniel fancier, Betty has a small hobby kennel. She breeds and shows cockers and is an active member of the Capital City Cocker Club.

Always a dog lover, Betty became acquainted with show people and breeders after she purchased a 6-month-old female to replace a pet that had been run down by a car. This puppy was the granddaughter of the recent outstanding cocker in the country -- Stockdale Town Talk. Some day she hopes that one of her cockers will be a bench champion, win an obedience certificate, and take ribbons in field trials.

STUDY SECTION MEETINGS


Betty Wiehle
COLLIER'S MAGAZINE

ARTICLE FEATURES NIH

NIH is featured in the August 30 issue of Collier's magazine. The story, "They're Adding Years to Your Life," by Frank Holeman, is well written and colorfully illustrated. Based on material gathered here, the article describes the research activities of the Institutes as well as the grants program.

Nearly 240 of the 400 copies available for NIH employees were sold in the cafeteria. Additional copies of the magazine can be obtained by calling the Scientific Reports Branch, Extension 2103.

HEAD OF NEW NIAMD BRANCH IS NOW AT NIH

Dr. G. Donald Whedon, Chief of the newly established Energy Metabolism Branch, NIA MD, has reported for duty at NIH. During the next few months, Dr. Whedon will be preparing for the role his branch will play in Clinical Center studies.

Most of the work of the Energy Metabolism Branch will revolve around a respiratory chamber, a unique device for measuring continuously the total metabolism of human subjects. This is done by analysis of their oxygen consumption and carbon dioxide production, together with precise determinations of caloric intake and excreted metabolic products.

The first studies of the branch will probably deal with obesity. Diets needed for such studies will be prepared in the specially designed "Wilder kitchen." Later, various other conditions, such as osteoporosis, a brittle bone disease, will be investigated. The branch will determine basal metabolism rates for patients of all the Institutes.

Dr. Whedon comes to NIH from Cornell University Medical College, where he was an assistant professor of medicine. Throughout his career, he has carried on metabolic and physiologic research. He is the inventor of two instruments—one for measuring accurately the circumference of the extremities, the other for measuring the strength of muscle groups.

Dr. Whedon received his M.D. from the University of Rochester School of Medicine in 1941. He is a member of several scientific societies and the author of numerous publications.

LATEST SHOT OF CLINICAL CENTER

LIBRARY OBTAINS NEW BOOKS BY NIH AUTHORS

Since the beginning of the year, a number of PHS and NIH scientists have written books on medical research.

In January, Dr. R. C. Williams' monumental history, "The United States Public Health Service 1798-1950," was published. This was followed by two scientific monographs by NIH researchers.

Dr. W. F. Von Oettingen wrote a new treatise, "Poisoning," released in May by the Hoeber Company. In August, Academic Press published Dr. Theodor Von Brand's work, "Chemical Physiology of Endoparasitic Animals." The month of August also saw the publication of Dr. John R. McGibony's "Principles of Hospital Administration."


The Library has or will acquire all these works by PHS-NIH staff members. The books will be on display and featured in the monthly accession list. Many of our authors have presented the NIH Library with autographed copies of their books.

TICKETS ON SALE FOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

A special season ticket to the National Celebrities Open Golf Tournament is being offered to NIH employees through the Federal Golf Association. This ticket is priced at $5 and offers a saving of $6.50. The season ticket is good for admission to a golf clinic, all practice rounds, and four days of tournament play. A limited number of tickets are available through Dr. Gordon Seger, Extension 531.

The tournament will be held September 18-21 at local golf courses. In addition to the "Celebrities" from government, sports, radio, and theatre, the tournament will attract the ten greatest amateurs and the ten greatest professionals in American golf today.

USDA PLANS MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY COURSE

A course in Medical Terminology will be offered during the fall semester of the Department of Agriculture Graduate School. The course is designed for people without medical training who are in jobs where knowledge of medical terms will be useful. The class will learn to analyze the vocabulary of medical diagnoses and disease classification by basic roots, prefixes, and suffixes.

The class, beginning September 25, will be held on Thursday evenings from 6:10-8:00 p.m. Tuition for the course is $18.00. Registration will be held at the school from September 13-20.