NIH has been granted authority to proceed with the opening of the Clinical Center early in July.

The Clinical Center was originally scheduled to open April 1, starting with a small group of cancer patients. Present plans call for admission of a few cancer, arthritis, and heart disease patients during July. In August several more patients will be admitted for mental health, neurological disease, and microbiological studies.

During the next few months, all Clinical Center matters must have top priority. Certain projects have been deferred and a few employees temporarily assigned to critical areas, such as personnel and purchasing.

Tours of the Clinical Center, previously offered to employees and their immediate families, have been postponed. All employees, however, will be given an opportunity to tour the Center in a preview before patient activities begin. Plans are also being considered for an "open house" for the local community.

In commenting on the Clinical Center opening, Dr. W. H. Sebrell, Jr., said, "There is no need to point out to any of our staff the urgent importance of opening the Clinical Center properly and on schedule.

"At the same time, I feel that the necessary emphasis on Clinical Center needs for the next few months in no way modifies our intention to maintain a balanced laboratory and clinical research program. The Center represents the culmination of years of planning, building, and staffing to make this program a reality. I know I can count on the full cooperation of everyone at NIH."

Dr. C. N. H. Long, internationally famous for his research in physiology and biochemistry, will deliver the NIAMD Lecture in Wilson Hall at 8:00 p.m. Monday, May 25. In his lecture, "The Regulation of ACTH Secretion," Dr. Long will discuss nervous and metabolic factors controlling the release of adrenocorticotropic hormone from the anterior pituitary.

All NIH scientists are invited to the lecture, the fifth in a series of eight.

Dr. Long has conducted extensive research on diabetes, exercise in man, functions of the hypothalamus, physiology of the endocrine system, and metabolism of shock. He is Sterling Professor of Physiology, Yale University School of Medicine. He is a former member of the Biochemistry and Nutrition Study Section of NIH, and serves on the advisory council of the Life Insurance Medical Research Fund.

Dr. G. Milton Shy has been appointed Chief of Clinical Research of the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness. He assumed his new post May 1.

Dr. Shy is responsible for the planning and guidance of clinical research into the neurological and sensory disorders, among them muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, cataracts, and glaucoma. For these clinical studies, NINDB has been allocated 42 beds and 19 laboratories in the Clinical Center. These are scheduled for occupancy on August 1.

Prior to his appointment, Dr. Shy was at the Colorado Medical School as Chief of the Neurological Service, whose establishment and growth were largely his responsibility. At the same time, he was Consulting Neurologist at the Denver General Hospital, the Veterans Hospitals at

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Studies in Atherosclerosis
No. 94 in a Series

It is difficult to tell, in advance of a coronary attack, if a person has atherosclerosis. Some hope for predicting and measuring the development of the atherosclerotic process before it has progressed to an acute episode lies along the direction of recent studies suggesting that it is the state in which fats are carried in the blood that determines in whom the disease may appear.

Research into the ability of the body to handle fat has been conducted by Dr. Christian B. Anfinsen, Dr. Ray K. Brown, Dr. Edwin Boyle, and Dr. Joseph H. Bragdon of the Metabolic Section, NHI. Much of their work has been concerned with the transformation of lipoproteins by a heparin-induced enzyme called "the clearing factor." This clearing factor, in the presence of a second protein substance called co-protein, causes large lipoproteins to break down into smaller lipoproteins. There is considerable evidence that this is the system causing the breakdown of lipoproteins in normal animals and humans, and that the system is functioning poorly when the large lipoproteins appear in the blood.

During the past year, two members of this research group, Dr. Ray K. Brown and Dorothy L. Kauffman, have been studying how the clearing factor is formed. They have shown that a plasma lipoprotein precursor, heparin, and an enzyme found in heart, lung, and stomach mucosa are required. By incubation of these components, the clearing factor may be produced in vitro.

The research group has been trying to isolate their clearing factor and to purify the various components of the clearing system. Availability of these components will make possible a detailed study of the process and enable the investigators to examine more closely the exact role of the system in disease.

Here and There

Appointment

Dr. Joseph J. Bunim was recently appointed Acting Chief of Clinical Investigations for NIAMD.

Bloodmobile

June 3 is the date of the next visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile to NIH. Donor appointments will be scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Wilson Hall.

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

Softball

The 1953 season of the NIH Softball Team was launched on May 5 at Rock Creek diamond # 1, located near 16th and Kennedy Streets, N.W. The diamond adjoins the amphitheatre, and plenty of parking space is available. This will be the site of all of the NIH team’s league games this year, and perhaps it will be a more convenient location for supporters of the team to reach. All games will begin at 6:00 p.m., and the next one is scheduled for Thursday, May 14.

The team is entered in the District Recreation League this year, and hopes to better last year's record of 35 wins and 3 losses. Try to come out and watch the team that finished third in the city last year.

Britton Smith, president of the team and chairman of the R & W Association Sports Committee which sponsors the NIH team, announces this season’s line-up -- Elwood Lyles, P; Sam Umberger, C; Andrew Perry, 1st B; Joe Summerour, 2d B; William Waters, SS; George Duvall, 3d B; Donald Washington, LF; Charles Evans, CF; and William Foster, RF. Other members of the team are Mack Israel, Herbert Holsey, Bruce Hill, Donald Howard, William Powell, George Mitchell, Roy Reed, Hank De Leonibus, Benjamin Clipper, and Roy Pervis. The team is managed by Clarence Israel.

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HEART SYMPOSIUM TO BE HELD AT NIH ON MAY 14

The Maryland Academy of General Practice and the Heart Association of Maryland will hold a Cardiovascular Symposium at NIH on May 14. The symposium will bring to NIH a large group of visitors.

In order to avoid traffic problems, the North parking lot (between Buildings 2 and 4) will be reserved for the visitors May 14. Plans have also been made for the group to have lunch in the NIH cafeteria at 12:30 p.m. Employees who usually eat in the cafeteria at this time are asked to come earlier to facilitate service.

The meeting is for members of the Maryland Academy of General Practice and the Heart Association of Maryland.

HELEN COOKE RETIRES FROM FEDERAL SERVICE

Mrs. Helen Cooke of the Telephone Unit retired recently. Mrs. Cooke, or "Cookie" as she was better known to her NIH friends, came here from the U. S. Railroad Retirement Board in 1938. At that time, she was NIH's only telephone operator.

Cookie has served as a telephone operator for the Government since 1929. During World War I, she was a Yeomanette in the Navy.

Cookie will be missed by the many employees who got to know her so well during her years at NIH. We wish her happiness.

1953 CANCER CRUSADE LAUNCHED AT NIH MAY 1

The 1953 Cancer Crusade was launched at NIH May 1. Dr. Gordon Seger, NCI Executive Officer, who is in charge of the current campaign, asks that NIH employees contribute whatever they can to the fight against this disease. The 1952 cancer death rate for the District of Columbia is the highest on record. Money collected last year was used for research, professional and community education, and professional service, including nursing care and clinics.

The U. S. Government quota has been set at $117,000.

Keymen appointed for the various Institutes include Audrey Hess, OD chairman; Betty Davidson, CC; Virginia Drayer, NCI chairman; Catherine Beane, NIAMD; Mort Cox, NIDR; Helen Field, NIMH; Ethel Butts, NINDS; John Beadle, NMI; and Dr. Max Halperin, NIH.

HAMSTERS TO PRESENT THREE PLAYS IN JUNE

"Fumed Oak," the Noel Coward play from the series "Tonight at 8:30," has been chosen to complete the trio of one-act plays to be presented by the Hamsters in Wilson Hall June 10, 11, and 12.

"Fumed Oak," one of Mr. Coward's more disrespectful commentaries on superficial respectability, will stand in sharp contrast to the other two frothy farces, "The Florist Shop," directed by Tod Triem, and "Dots and Dashes," under the direction of Rosalie Kasaba. Both of these productions are now in rehearsal. Sue Oliver, who will direct the Coward comedy, has not yet announced the results of her casting.

This presentation of one-act plays has been scheduled as an interim performance to bridge the gap in time until the usual production of the Hamsters is presented sometime in the autumn. The Hamsters hope to have their autumn show serve as an opener for the Clinical Center auditorium. As in the past, the autumn production will be an original Hamster script dealing with the lighter aspects of life at NIH.

If the one-act play presentations prove sufficiently popular, they may establish a Hamster precedent which will lead to a schedule of two productions a year in the future.

APPOINTMENT Cont'd

Denver and Grand Junction, Colorado, the Veterans Hospital at Albuquerque, New Mexico, and the National Jewish Hospital at Denver.

In addition to his clinical, teaching, and administrative duties, Dr. Shy has been able to carry out his own research in neuroanatomy and neuropathology. He has made special contributions to the knowledge of neuromuscular diseases and the understanding of the functional role of various areas of the brain.

of Newton, Iowa. Born on a farm a few miles from the town, Bob grew up and went to school in Newton.

The Wyatt family - Bob, his wife, a son 13, and a daughter 10 - lives in Gaithersburg, Md. Bob says he's been busy lately fixing up his house. He says that if he had time and money he would do a home workshop. How better can a man prove he's satisfied with his vocation?
R & W NOTES

The Recreation and Welfare Association announces that the musicians who will participate in the R & W Musicale on Friday evening, May 29, are Ellinor Benedict (cello), Margaret Wright (violin), Mark Ellsworth (violin and viola), Paul Marsh (clarinet), and Charles P. Huttrer (piano). With the exception of Mr. Ellsworth, all of these musicians played at the musicale December 5. Mr. Ellsworth, who recently moved to Washington, is a former member of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. He is now co-director of the Bethesda Music and Art Center.

The program will comprise a Vivaldi sonata for two violins, cello, and piano; a Mozart trio for clarinet, viola, and piano; a Hindemith cello sonata; and a Beethoven trio for violin, cello, and piano.

It is through the cooperation of Dr. Charles P. Huttrer of DRG that the R & W Association is able to make this program available to NIH personnel. Blanks for use in requesting tickets will be distributed about May 15.

Another division representative of the R & W Association was elected recently -- Mrs. Clydis Jones, who will represent the Office of the Director along with Mrs. Clara Lebling on the Executive Council. Only NMI remains to select their division representative.

The Recreation and Welfare Association has established a Welfare Committee to aid the Association in the administration and promotion of its welfare activities. Dr. Robert H. Felix of NIMH will serve as Chairman, and Miss Mary Bertha of the Personnel Branch as Executive Secretary. Other members are Ernest Allen, DRG, Warren Lamson, NIMH, and Miss Elizabeth Walker, CC.

Dr. Gordon Seger, President of the Association, announces the appointment of a committee representing the Association to explore the possibility of financing the building and maintenance of a swimming pool at NIH. This committee is composed of William Payne, NCI, Chairman, Mrs. Lillian Rankin, DRG, and Harold Curran, OD.

NIAM D Employees Honored at Awards Ceremony

Dr. Russell M. Wilder, NIAM D Director, congratulates William Pricer (left) and Dr. Bernard Horecker.

SURVEY SHOWS HOW EMPLOYEES RATE NIH

Employees rate NIH as approximately as good a place to work as the best universities, according to a preliminary finding of the human relations study of NIH.

In the survey, three different categories of personnel were asked how NIH as a place to work compares with the best universities, the best industrial organizations, the best other Government organizations, etc. Among the professional and office personnel, half consider NIH "about the same" as the best universities, with the remainder divided about evenly between those who consider NIH "generally better" and "generally not as good." Among the laboratory technicians and assistants, over 40 percent view NIH as "about the same," while roughly one-third consider NIH "generally better."

Dr. Donald C. Pelz, the study director, pointed out that it will be necessary to see whether the same opinions are found among those who have actually worked in universities.

Initial findings of the survey are now being discussed with three NIH committees, in preparation of a first "working paper" which will be issued in a few weeks to any employees who are interested.

In ceremonies held April 27, Dr. Bernard Horecker, Chief of the Section on Enzymes and Metabolism, NIAM D, and William Pricer, a Physical Science Aide who works with Dr. Horecker, were honored by receiving Outstanding Efficiency Ratings as well as Superior Accomplishment Award salary increases.

Dr. Horecker received the Superior Accomplishment Award last year, making this the first occasion that an NIH employee has received the honor for two successive years.

The awards were presented by Dr. Russell M. Wilder, NIAM D Director, and Dr. James M. Hundley, Chief of the Laboratory of Biochemistry and Nutrition. Among those present at the ceremony were Dr. Horecker's and Mr. Pricer's colleagues in the Section, Margaret Eurich, and W. G. Baylis of NIAM D.

NEW INTERN PROGRAM

The Civil Service Commission has announced the Fifth Junior Management Intern Program for Federal employees in grades GS-7 and below. The purpose of this program is to discover and train those who possess outstanding potentialities for development in the field of management.

Nominations for this program should be submitted to the Personnel Branch no later than May 18.