SCANTLEBURY NAMED CHAIRMAN OF THE NIH CIVIL SERVICE BOARD

Dr. Ronald E. Scantlebury, Chief of the Research Fellowships Branch, DRG, was recently appointed Chairman of the Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners at NIH. Dr. Scantlebury succeeds Dr. Byron C. Brunstetter, DRG, who was killed in an airplane crash September 16, 1953.

In the informal ceremony advising Dr. Scantlebury of his appointment, Dr. W. H. Sebrell, Jr., NIH Director, expressed his appreciation for Dr. Scantlebury's willingness to serve in this position. He also commended Board members for their assistance in the examination and recruitment program for the Clinical Center during the past year.

The Board of Examiners was established at NIH in 1947, with Dr. Murray J. Shear of NCI as Chairman. Dr. Brunstetter served as Chairman from 1951 until his death. In conjunction with panels of specialists from the various Institutes, the Board participates in setting the standards for Federal employment in the areas under its jurisdiction.

The Board is the primary source of recruitment for Civil Service personnel to fill professional, scientific, technical, custodial, and protective positions at NIH. It is also the source of recruitment for certain positions at other Federal agencies in Maryland and the District of Columbia, such as the National Naval Medical Center, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, the Naval Ordnance Laboratory, and the National Zoological Park of the Smithsonian Institution.

Present members of the Board are Drs. Eloise B. Cram, NMI, Bernard L. Horecker, NIAM, John M. Lynch, Employee Health Service, Sanford M. Rosenthal, NIAM, and Mark W. Woods, NCI.

DR. J. PAPPENHEIMER GIVES NHI LECTURE

Research on capillary membranes which help regulate the volume of circulating blood and the blood pressure and influence the abnormal collection of fluid in heart failure and other conditions was discussed January 14 by Dr. John R. Pappenheimer, NHI guest lecturer.

Dr. Pappenheimer, a career investigator of the American Heart Association, is currently associated with the Department of Physiology of Harvard Medical School. He is presently seeking to map the normal pattern of filtration in order to provide a new basis for understanding the abnormal passage of chemical substances and fluid in some form of disease.

The talk, entitled "Ultrafiltration and Diffusion through Biological Membranes," is the first of the 1954 series of guest lectures, and will be published later in one volume with the other lectures in the series.

The lecture was attended by the scientific staff of NIH and other medical, teaching, and research institutions in the Washington area.

AWARD PRESENTED TO DR. SAM R. HALL, DRG

Dr. Sam R. Hall, Executive Secretary of the Endocrinology Study Section, DRG, recently received an award for his efforts in promoting the Study Section program for the synthesis of radioactive cortisone. The award was presented by Mr. Ernest M. Allen, DRG Chief.

The Study Section, under the direction of Drs. Hall and Charles B. Huggins, Chairman, has administered a program which has made limited supplies of radioactive cortisone, hydrocortisone, and more recently corticosterone available to qualified investigators free of charge, through funds supplied by NIAMD.

The preparation of these steroids was guided by a committee composed of Drs. T. F. Gallagher of the Sloan-Kettering Institute, Gregory Pincus of the Worcester Foundation, and Max Tischler of Merck and Co. The compounds were synthesized by the Atomic Energy Commission, Charles E. Frosst and Co. of Montreal, the Upjohn Co., Tracerlab, Inc., and the Worcester Foundation.
Among the nonbacterial acute respiratory illnesses affecting the population, influenza is an etiologic entity which, with recently established laboratory methods, is now amenable to epidemiologic study. Its importance lies not only in the ever-present threat of a catastrophic pandemic such as occurred in 1918-19, but also in the amount of incapacitating illness produced by minor epidemics which occur almost every year. Recent progress in the development of effective vaccines, particularly the adjuvant type, necessitates their evaluation as a potential public health measure for the general population. The adjuvant vaccines are prepared from virus grown in embryonated eggs and emulsified with a light mineral oil.

In 1951, long-range studies on influenza and other acute respiratory illnesses were initiated in the Epidemiology Section of NMI's Laboratory of Infectious Diseases by Drs. Joseph A. Bell and Dorland J. Davis. During various years, Drs. Robert N. Phillip, Paul M. Beigelman, Marc O. Beem, and Joseph I. Engler, and nurses Ruth E. Anderson, Patricia A. Geiser, Virginia M. Worsley, Anne C. Hodges, Jean C. Martin, Helen V. Burns, and Emma M. Cugle, together with a number of lay investigators and laboratory technicians, have been full-time associates in the study.

Previous studies of influenza have been confined largely to selected populations such as military or institutional groups. The NMI studies in general population groups began in the fall of 1951 with a group of colored and white families in the Norfolk, Va., area.

In the first year, 2,700 persons were given a dose of one of four different monovalent vaccines, each prepared from a single strain of influenza. These were assigned in rotation to the first member of a household attending the clinic, and again in rotation to other members. In December 1952, 1,000 additional persons were vaccinated in Norfolk and 1,200 in Arlington County, Va. The NMI staff has just completed vaccinating 1,600 more individuals in Arlington and 2,000 in Montgomery County, Md., with both the adjuvant and fluid vaccines. These volunteers were selected on the basis of elementary school districts.

These individuals are followed by regular visits or telephone calls to secure information on the occurrence of illness. Those having an influenza-like illness are visited by a medical officer and nurse for more definite clinical observation and for the collection of throat swabs and serum samples for specific diagnostic tests.

Laboratory tests are essential for an etiologic diagnosis of influenza. This involves the examination of throat swabs or throat washings to isolate the virus, and the examination of paired blood samples for a rise in specific antibody titer. All specimens are examined in the NMI laboratory at Bethesda.

A sharp outbreak of influenza B occurred in the Norfolk study area (See Influenza, Page 3).
The following Study Section meetings are listed for the convenience of NIH people who wish to arrange visits with out-of-town members while they are here.


MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSN. OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Medical Library Association is offering four scholarships of $150.00 each for summer school courses in medical library work--two at Columbia University and two at Emory University. Further information may be obtained by writing Anna M. Sexton, Librarian, Division of Laboratories and Research, New York State Department of Health, New Scotland Avenue, Albany 1, N.Y.

INFLUENZA Cont'd

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The long-range study, supported in part by the Commission on Influenza of the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board, will continue to concentrate on the epidemiology of disease, a comparison of the relative merits of adjuvant and fluid vaccines, improvement of laboratory techniques, and a general study of minor respiratory illnesses.

NIH Spotlight

Leora C. Rabb

To Mrs. Leora C. Rabb belongs the responsibility for turning out seven million pages of duplicated copy per year for NIH. Leora is head of NIH's only printing plant--the Duplicating Unit of the Administrative Services Section of DRG.

Petite and attractive Leora brings twelve years of experience in duplicating work to her present job. She first started work as a mimeograph machine operator for the Office of Price Administration in 1942. She was promoted to head of the Direct Mail Unit, which handled the mailing of all rationing information and material to the regional and district offices all over the country.

When Leora first came to NIH in 1947, the Unit, which was created for the purpose of reproducing research grant applications for DRG, consisted of two employees and three duplicating machines. Today the shop provides duplicating services for all of NIH and has nine full-time employees. It is equipped with six direct-image offset machines, four mimeograph machines, and an automatic punch and stapling machine. In addition, the Unit boasts three mechanical collating machines, and one electric collator which can assemble up to eight pages of copy. There are no facilities for copy preparation, but the Unit attempts to give a 5-day service on prepared mimeograph stencils or collitho paper plates. The shop can handle up to 25,000 pages on a single job. Leora estimates that the Unit completes about 10,000 jobs per year.

Leora was born and grew up in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. After

NEW ARTIST TO SERVE CLINICAL CENTER NEEDS

Mr. William E. Loechel has recently reported for duty with the Medical Arts Section of the Scientific Reports Branch. He is assigned primarily to clinical illustration, and is available for services in the Clinical Center. He will be located temporarily in Room 6S239, Building 10, and can be called on ext. 3078.

Mr. Loechel became known to many PHS officers when he worked in the Baltimore PHS Hospital.

she completed high school, the family moved to Washington. Here she attended the Cortez W. Peters Business School, where she received extensive training in the operation of business machines.

The working day starts early for Leora. She and her husband make a 50-mile round trip from their home in southeast Washington to work each day. Her husband, an aeronautical engineering draftsman, is stationed at the Navy's David Taylor Model Basin in Carderock, Md.

Outside of working hours, Leora keeps busy with a variety of activities. In addition to keeping house, she enjoys raising flowers and is always ready for a game of pinochle or bridge. From Friday night to Sunday night in the summertime, the Rabbs may be found at their summer cottage in Deale, Md. There they enjoy their favorite pastimes of fishing, crabbing, and boating.

LOST AND FOUND

The following items have been found on the NIH reservation:

Automobile keys
Knife
Fountain pen
Lady's gloves

The above articles may be seen in the Guard Office, Room 119, Bldg. 1, and those listed below, in the Guard Office, Room 1A06, Bldg. 10.

Man's wallet
Bracelet
Lady's gloves
Man's gloves
Umbrella
Keys
Earring

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The newly opened Barber Shop in the Clinical Center provides an opportunity for NIH employees to save both time and money. The price of haircuts is $1.00 for employees and visitors.

Appointments may be made at any time from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, by calling extension 3019. Visiting the Barber Shop may be a convenient way to use that odd hour of compensatory or annual leave.

POST REPORTER WINS AWARD FOR NMI SERIES

Nate Haseltine, science reporter for the Washington Post, was recently named the Nation’s outstanding newspaper science writer for 1953 for his series of three articles on NMI malaria and serum hepatitis studies involving the use of prisoner volunteers.

The award, which consisted of a citation and $1,000, was presented by the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the George Westinghouse Science Foundation.

P & S EMPLOYEE DIES

Mr. James M. Hennigan, Purchasing Assistant in the Purchase and Supply Branch, died at his home on December 26. He had been employed at NIH since July 31, 1953.

After coming to this country in 1905 from his native Scotland, Mr. Hennigan lived in Pittsburgh. He later moved to Monessen, Pa., where he was paymaster with the local branch of the Pittsburgh Steel Company. He came to Washington in 1939, and held administrative and personnel posts with the War Production Board and the former Federal Security Agency.

Mr. Hennigan is survived by his wife, nine children, two brothers, and a sister.

USDA GRADUATE SCHOOL ANNOUNCES CLASSES

Registration for classes in the U. S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School will be held in the Patio of the Agriculture Administration Building from January 30 through February 6.

More than 190 courses are offered by the Department, including ones in the biological, physical and social sciences, speech, mathematics and statistics, Federal Government procedures, shorthand, public administration, photography, interior decoration, languages, and literature.

A copy of the schedule of classes may be obtained from the Personnel Branch, Bldg. 10. For detailed information, call the Graduate School Business Office, RE 7-4142, ext. 6337.