Dr. Jack Masur, Chief of the Bureau of Medical Services, will become Director of the Clinical Center, effective November 1.

Dr. Masur is well known at NIH, having served as Director of the Clinical Center Project from 1948 to 1951. He is a native of Augusta, Georgia, and a graduate of New York University and Cornell University Medical School. He interned at Bellevue Hospital and served a residency in internal medicine at Montefiore Hospital, New York City. He entered hospital administration as Assistant Director at the Montefiore Hospital, where he served for four years. Next he became Executive Director of the Lebanon Hospital, New York City.

Entering the Commissioned Corps of PHS in 1943, Dr. Masur was assigned to the Office of Civilian Defense as Hospital Officer. Since 1951 he has been Chief of the Bureau of Medical Services.

As Chief of the Bureau of Medical Services, Dr. Masur directed the broad medical care program of PHS by administering its Marine Hospitals and other hospital facilities, including Freedman's Hospital in Washington, D.C. He also took part in developing hospital planning and construction, and headed programs involving dental, nursing, and medical resources, quarantine services, and other medical services for the public health.

Dr. Donald Patrick, present CC Director, will be reassigned in the near future, according to an announcement by Surgeon General Leroy E. Burney. Dr. Patrick became CC Director in 1954 after serving as Medical Officer in Charge of the Baltimore PHS Hospital. He is a native of Denver, Colorado, and received his M.D. from the University of Colorado in 1930. He was commissioned in PHS in 1931.

NIDR Employee Receives Award

An award for $250 was presented to Thornton W. Purvis, Medical Biology Technician, Clinical Investigation Branch, NIDR, for his invention of a safety device for the Spencer rotary microtome.

Dr. Francis A. Arnold, Jr., Director, NIDR, made the presentation at a ceremony on October 17.

The new device provides technicians with an increased measure of safety against cutting injuries, but does not interfere with the normal operation of the microtome.

Operation of the Spencer rotary microtome for cutting tissue sections necessitates the use of the hands over a razor-sharp, 12 cm. microtome knife. Since only a small portion of the knife edge is used at any one time, the remaining area of the knife edge is unnecessarily exposed.

Mr. Purvis's invention is constructed of aluminum. It covers the exposed portions of the knife, and can be freely moved in and out of position.

Dr. Porterfield Assumes New Post

Dr. John D. Porterfield, a career officer of the PHS since 1939, was named Assistant to the Surgeon General of PHS, effective October 16.

During his PHS career, Dr. Porterfield has had a variety of assignments, including duty in Service hospitals in San Francisco; Lexington, Kentucky; and Fort Worth, Texas. He has directed Service programs in regional offices in Chicago and Puerto Rico. He also served at NIH, where he had a part in the early development of the Research Grants Program. At one time he was venereal disease control officer for Wayne County, Michigan, and later for the State of Ohio. In 1947 he was named Director of the Ohio State Health Department, and in 1954, Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Hygiene and Correction.

Dr. Porterfield was born in Chicago, Illinois, and later attended the University of Chicago, and the University of Notre Dame. He received his medical degree from Rush Medical College of the University of Chicago, and his master's degree in public health from the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health. He interned at the San Francisco Marine Hospital and was commissioned in the Regular Corps of PHS in 1939.

He is chairman of the Editorial Board of the American Journal of Public Health and of the Mental Health Section of the American Public Health Association. He was formerly secretary and later chairman of the Association's Health Officers Section. He was also secretary and later vice president of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers, and a member of the Scientific Study and Planning Committee of the Joint Commission on Mental Illness and Health.

(See Picture, Page 4)
Role of Aldosterone in Edema

No. 172 in a Series

Scientists in NIH have found that the adrenal glands of dogs with edema secrete excess aldosterone, the body's major salt and water regulating hormone.

Studies have implicated the adrenal hormone aldosterone as an important factor in this "waterlogging" of tissues which afflicts millions of persons with heart, kidney, and liver diseases. Aldosterone is known to function in the normal regulation of fluids and salts in the body, and excess quantities of the hormone have been found in urine from patients with edema.

Prior to the present findings, it was not known whether this excess of aldosterone is due to its overproduction by the adrenals or to its accumulation because of some defect in the normal mechanism for destroying it in the body.

The new results strongly suggest that overproduction by the adrenals is largely responsible for the excess aldosterone of congestive heart failure, a common late phase of many heart disorders.

The researchers collected blood for aldosterone measurement directly from the veins draining the adrenal glands of three normal dogs and five dogs with circulatory disorders which had resulted in edema.

They found that aldosterone appeared in the adrenal vein blood from the normal dogs at an average rate of 2.7 micrograms (millionths of a gram) per hour, while the average aldosterone secretion rate in the dogs with edema due to heart disease was 14.5 micrograms per hour.

The studies were conducted by Drs. Wilmot C. Ball, Jr., James O. Davis, Maurice M. Pechet, and M. Jay Goodkind, all of NIH. They presented their findings on September 6th, at the fall meeting of the American Physiological Society in Rochester, New York.

Dr. Shimkin to Speak

Dr. Michael Shimkin, NCI, will deliver a lecture for NIH employees and families on November 7th at 8:00 p.m. in the CC auditorium. The subject is "A Mission to the Soviet Union."

Publication Preview

The following manuscripts were received by SRB Editorial Section between September 26 and October 1.

Adler, R. et al. Effects of chlorpromazine on the acquisition and extinction of an avoidance response in the rat.


Andervont, H. B. et al. Effect of discontinued estrogenic stimulation upon the development and growth of testicular tumors in mice.


Bayley, N. (Question-answer quiz) for the National Parent-Teacher Magazine.

Birren, J. E. University of Michigan Conference on Aging, July 9-11, 1956.

Bittner, J. J. Activity of the mammary tumor agent in mice of different ages and their progeny.


Burton, R. M. et al. The anaphylactic reaction of histamine and d-aminodiphenylamine on reserpine-treated mice.


Contioni, G. L. et al. Activation of methionine by transmethylation. II. The methionine activating enzyme: studies on the mechanism of the reaction.

Cram, E. B. Stepping stones in the history of the American Society of Parasitologists.

Davies, J. O. Some aspects of the physiology of aldosterone.


DeWitt, W. B. Experimental schistosomiasis mansoni in mice maintained on nutritionally deficient diets. I. Effects of a Torula yeast ration deficient in Factor 3, vitamin E, and cystine.

Eisenberg, F. Jr. et al. A direct method for the determination of glucuronic acid in the presence of conjugated glucuronides.


Evans, V. J. Probable future trends in the nutrition of tissue culture.

Evarts, E. B. et al. The relation of posttetanic potentiation to subnormality of lateral geniculate potentials.


Virginia Greenwood, known as "Ginny" to her friends, owns one of the best known telephone voices at NIH. As Reservoir Clerk in the Office Service Branch of DBO, Virginia makes an average of 75 reservations a week for scientific meetings, social events, and R & W movies, and for use of projection equipment. She not only keeps her finger on the pulse of NIH activities, but must also constantly use diplomacy and good judgment.

Virginia is a proud native of Bethesda, where she grew up, received her education, married, and began raising a family. She was graduated from Bethesda-Chevy Chase high school, where she concentrated on home economics. Virginia has always felt that imaginative and studied homemaking is vital in turning a house into a home. While her husband was in the service, Virginia decided to get a job. In 1944 she joined NIH as a clerk-typist in what is now the Plant Engineering Branch. Although she left NIH from 1949 to 1954 to devote more time to an expanding family--she has two sons, aged 7 and 13--Virginia has experienced at firsthand much of the tremendous growth of NIH since World War II.

During the years of full-time homemaking, Virginia's interests and vitality carried her into such activities as schoolroom-mother, secretary for a cub scout pack, and member of the PTA. The Greenwoods always like to have a number of projects going to absorb the family interests. Perhaps one of their most revealing projects is "Hilltop View," their home in the wide-open spaces of Potomac, Maryland. Here is a living example that the pioneer spirit in America is not dead, for with their own hands they built a six-room house in the winter of '53-'54, despite severe and discouraging weather conditions.

Virginia channels much of her creative spirit into her expanding flower garden. Although she now has hundreds of plants, she plans to extend her garden to create a "frame of enchantment" around her house.

Virginia finds that although rearing a family and working full time require a tremendous amount of time and energy, she still manages to bowl with the Budgeteers in the NIH league.

October 11 marked Virginia's 15th wedding anniversary.
DR. BLAYNEY NEW COUNCIL MEMBER

Dr. J. R. Blayney has been appointed to serve on the National Advisory Dental Research Council. He is Emeritus Professor of Dental Surgery and former Director of the Walter G. Zoller Memorial Dental Clinic, University of Chicago.

Dr. Blayney received his B.S. from Lewis Institute, Chicago, his M.S. from the University of Chicago, and his D.D.S. from Northwestern University.

J. B. Black Appointed To Safety Council

James B. Black, NIH Safety Officer, has been appointed Chairman, Health Committee, Chemical Section of the National Safety Council, for 1956-57. He attended the annual meeting of the Chemical Section at the National Safety Congress, October 22, and led a discussion on laboratory and pilot plant safety.

Mr. Black is also a member of the American Hospital Association Committee on Safety, and he is Chairman, Apparatus and Devices Committee of the Federal Fire Council.

Guard of the Month

Henry Blankenship, Guard, has been selected Guard of the Month because of the prompt, efficient, and competent manner in which he performs his duties.

Mr. Blankenship joined NIH in 1953 after serving as Guard at the National Naval Medical Center. He was born in Ingleside, West Virginia, and served as an MP in the U. S. Army.

THORNTON PURVIS RECEIVES $250 AWARD

Thornton Purvis (center), Medical Biology Technician, NIDR, receives a check for $250 from Dr. F. A. Arnold, Jr. (left), while being congratulated by Dr. H. R. Stanley, Jr.

Visiting Scientist Joins NIMH Staff

Dr. Horace W. Magoun, Professor of Anatomy, University of California at Los Angeles, recently joined NIMH as a Visiting Scientist in Basic Research for six months.

While here, Dr. Magoun will work with Drs. Wade Marshall and John Lilly in the Laboratory of Neurophysiology, and with Dr. H. Enger Rosvold in the Laboratory of Psychology. Dr. Magoun will also conduct conferences and seminars for members of the NIMH staff. He received his Ph.D. from Northwestern University Medical School. Before joining the University of California at Los Angeles in 1950, he held appointments at the Northwestern and Johns Hopkins Universities.

Dr. Murray Attends WHO Conference

As an advisor to the World Health Organization's Expert Committee on Biological Standardization, Dr. Roderick Murray, DBS Director, attended the conference at Geneva, Switzerland, October 6-13.

NIMH PAMPHLET BEST SELLER

GPO reports that NIMH's "Looking Forward to the Later Years" is one of their best sellers. Over 37,000 copies of this pamphlet have been sold in the past three years.

In order to meet the continuing demand, GPO is printing 10,000 more copies.

PHOTOGRAPHY SECTION, SRB, RECEIVES PERFORMANCE AWARD