



## CREDIT UNION CALLS JAN. 16 MEETING

The annual meeting of the NIH Federal Credit Union will be held in the Clinical Center Auditorium January 16, 1957, at 1:30 p.m. All members are urged to attend this important meeting.

The nominating committee, having accepted recommendations from the various organizations at NIH, has provided the following slate of candidates for election to office for the 1957 calendar year.

**Board of Directors:** Elizabeth Wiehle, Budget Examiner, NHI, 10 years at NIH; Bernice Storrer, Grants Assistant, NIAMD, six years at NIH; Dr. Roger Cole, Physician, NIAID, seven years at NIH; John Beglin, Supervisory Accountant, FMB, seven years at NIH.

**Credit Committee:** Nellie McLeish, Employee Relations Officer, Personnel Office, NIH, one year at NIH; Zella Boetler, Office Manager, NIH Credit Union, four years at NIH.

**Supervisory Committee:** Clydis Jones, Budget Analyst, FMB, 15 years at NIH; Robert Motley, Administrative Assistant, NINDB, eight years at NIH.

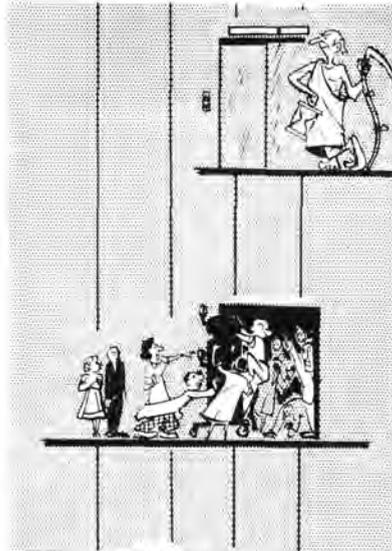
## CONTRACT LET FOR CC ADDITION

A \$73,000 contract has been awarded to the architectural firm of York and Sawyer of New York City for final plans and specifications for the new surgical wing of the Clinical Center.

The new wing will be located on the south side of Building 10, between the auditorium and D Corridor. The surgical facilities will be located on the basement level and will consist of four operating suites devoted to heart and neurological

(See Contract, P. 4)

## Daddy Discharged Junior Admitted



## NIMH CHEMIST RECEIVES AWARD

The first outstanding performance rating award to be given at NIH under a new HEW program was presented to Mrs. Virginia K. Weise, Chemist, NIMH, at a Christmas ceremony on December 21. Dr. Joseph E. Smadel, Associate Director of NIH, presented Mrs. Weise with a certificate of recognition.

This award is very rarely given, because of the high standards that must be met. It is a prestige award that was created under the new awards program instituted at HEW in November 1954, and is issued by the Secretary of HEW, M. B. Folsom.

Mrs. Weise received the award on the basis of the initiative, zeal, and interest she invests in her job, far exceeding the normal requirements of her position.

(See Picture, P. 4)

## 3 APPOINTMENTS MADE AT NIH

Dr. Robert B. Livingston was recently appointed Scientific Director of the combined research programs of NIMH and NINDB by Dr. James A. Shannon, NIH Director. Dr. Livingston succeeds Dr. Seymour S. Kety. Dr. Kety leaves the Scientific Directorship at his own request to devote full time to heading the NIMH Laboratory of Clinical Science, and to concentrate on cerebral blood flow investigations.

Dr. Livingston is on leave of absence from the University of California Medical School, where he has been professor of physiology and anatomy. In recent years he has been engaged in studies on the neurophysiological basis of behavior, especially in relation to the function of reticular formation.

(See Appointments, P. 3)

# Role of Hamsters in Dental Research

No. 177 in a Series



The molar teeth of this hamster are being examined under a low-power dissecting microscope.

Although the problem of dental caries, or tooth decay, is being reduced through fluoridation, the search for the causes and better means of prevention remains an important research activity of medical science.

Since animal research is helpful in understanding many of the inter-related factors associated with caries, the need for methods of inducing a predictable amount of tooth decay in animals has been keenly evident. Unfortunately, many of the animals used in the laboratory--cats, guinea pigs, rabbits, and mice--have teeth that are unsuitable for such studies.

While various strains of rats have been used for about 35 years, work with hamsters dates from 1942. Dr. Francis Arnold, Director, NIDR, was the first to report the successful induction of caries in hamsters. This early work was confirmed by Dr. Paul Keyes and others at the University of Rochester, using hamsters raised from animals furnished by NIH. Dr. Keyes is continuing this work in the Histology and Pathology Laboratory, NIDR.

Although hamsters have presented many problems, certain advantages have encouraged their use as laboratory animals in dental caries research. For example, the mouths of unanesthetized hamsters can be opened easily and the molar teeth examined in detail. Thus the course of decay can be followed from day

to day in the living animal. This permits the scientist to work with a higher degree of precision in the mouths of hamsters than in those of any other small rodents.

A major problem presented by hamsters has been the lack of uniform response to experimentally induced caries. Since susceptibility to caries has varied so widely, there has been a need to develop methods that would establish a predictable basis for bioassessments.

An effort is being made by Dr. Keyes to isolate one or two homogeneous lines of golden and albino hamsters that have a high degree of consistency in their susceptibility to caries, as well as the ability to reproduce. Although the reasons are not yet clear, hamsters produced outside of Dr. Keyes' laboratory do not develop dental caries easily and are not satisfactory.

Particular attention is being directed to a group of hamsters that develops rampant decay in 35 days in all of the molar teeth. In some of these animals, single molars are completely destroyed in 21 days. This rate of caries induction is higher than is usually found in laboratory animals. The lesions are produced by placing 20-day-old hamsters on a high-carbohydrate, low-fat diet, which contains, among other things, 59 percent sugar and 27 percent skim milk powder.

(See *Hamsters*, P. 3)

## Publication Preview

The following manuscripts were received by SRB Editorial Section between December 7 and December 12.

Andervont, H. B. General summary of Conference on Subcellular Particles in the Neoplastic Process.

Cramblett, H. G., et al. Herpes simplex: A case report of a primary facial lesion with discussion of laboratory diagnosis.

Emmatt, E. W. Observations on the absorption spectra of fluorescein, fluorescein derivatives, and conjugates.

Gaffney, G. W., et al. Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> serum concentrations in 528 healthy human subjects of ages 12-94.

Hayaishi, O., et al. N-formimino-L-aspartic acid as an intermediate in the enzymatic conversion of imidazoleacetic acid to formylaspartic acid.

Hughes, J. R., et al. Post-tetanic changes in the human neuromuscular system.

Luttermoser, G. W., et al. Anthelmintic activity of the fruits of *Diospyros mollis* (Maklua) and tests for activity of other persimmons.

Mann, G. V. A short history of lipoproteins.

Mehler, A. H. Histidine.

Mehler, A. H. Metabolism of sulfur containing amino acids.

Mehler, A. H. Oxidases and oxygenases.

Mehler, A. H. Oxidation of fatty acids.

Mehler, A. H. Phenylalanine and tyrosine.

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## R & W NOTES

The annual R & W meeting held December 31 was well attended by members who elected the following officers for the 1957 year: Hazel W. Rea, president; Robert H. Grant, vice president; Catherine C. McGhee, recording secretary; Alberta O. Jarvis, corresponding secretary; and Jean F. Whitt, treasurer.

Accomplishments of the past year were reviewed by the retiring president, Dr. Daniel E. O'Keefe, and reports by other officers were given. Five recommendations were passed including the suggestions that a business manager be employed who will also act as assistant treasurer, that a fiscal committee be formed, that the present fidelity bond be extended, and that the Ways and Means Committee be reactivated.

R & W membership cards for the 1957 year may now be obtained from Marge Lamb at the CC information desk until all division representatives are elected. New representatives are: Francis Mills, DBO; Janice Cooper, DBS; Dr. John Scigliano, CC; Joe Albrecht, NCI; Marjorie Melton, NMI; Ruth K. Ganley, NIDR; and Elsie Hoffmeister, NIMH.

## HAMSTERS Contd.

Many factors, not formerly considered important, apparently influence the caries susceptibility of hamsters. Therefore, considerable time and effort have been necessary to discover those dietary and hereditary factors, as well as numerous other laboratory conditions, that are essential for satisfactory results.

These developments may make it possible not only to test the effects of drugs and other agents that influence tooth decay, but also to do this in a short time and under very favorable conditions of observation.

The indications suggest that the current procedures for inducing consistent caries in hamsters will make possible wider use of these animals for bioassaying factors related to human dental caries and possibly to diseases of the gums and related tissues.

## NIH Spotlight



Jane L. Soban

A decision to come to Washington was the beginning of a new and exciting life for quiet, pretty Jane Soban, a chemist in the Laboratory of Oral and Biological Chemistry, NIDR. Jane's interest in science brought her to NIH four years ago from her home in Emporium, Pennsylvania, and she has been doing laboratory work at NIDR ever since.

Jane's current project is testing the chemical composition of pure parotid saliva as it relates to dental caries. She recently completed an extensive study on the deposition and retention of fluoride in all bones of the rat skeleton.

Laboratory work has been Jane's primary interest ever since her college days at Villa Maria College in Erie, Pennsylvania. She received her B.S. in chemistry in 1952, and was elected to "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities" on the basis of her high grades and many activities.

Jane has lived most of her life in Pennsylvania with her family and three younger brothers. She has always loved music and has studied clarinet and piano for many years. At school she played in the orchestra and still prefers classical music.

Since coming to NIH, probably the most important event in Jane's life was joining the NIH bowling team. She met her future husband at a bowling session 10 months ago, and they were married last July. Her husband "Hap" is in the Development Physiology Laboratory of NCI. They still bowl at least twice a week, and with the steady practice her scores have improved greatly.

Jane and her husband enjoy spending their free time on camping trips. They both are enthusiastic about

## APPOINTMENTS Contd.

A native of Portland, Oregon, Dr. Livingston received his A.B. and M.D. degrees at Stanford University. He has served on the faculty of the Yale University School of Medicine and recently returned from Sweden where he conducted studies under a special NINDB fellowship.

Edward M. Glick has been appointed Information Officer of NINDB, effective December 10. He comes to NIH from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, HEW, where he was assistant chief of the division of publications and reports.

Mr. Glick received his B.A. degree from Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, and his M.A. from Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. He has also done advanced graduate work at Ohio State. Before coming to HEW, Mr. Glick had wide journalistic experience as a writer and editor in both private industry and Government.

Taft S. Feiman, former managing editor of Public Health Reports, the official journal of PHS, assumed his new position as Chief of the Scientific Reports Branch, DRS, on December 17.

Mr. Feiman joined PHS 10 years ago. He was previously with the Office of Price Administration in press information activities, and during World War II served with the Army. Before entering Federal service Mr. Feiman was a newspaperman and served as a member of the board of directors of the Milwaukee Post.

In 1955 Mr. Feiman received an award from the American Medical Writers Association for service to medical journalism and was cited several times in his journalistic career for special feature series. He is active in the Federal Editors Association and has served as vice president. Mr. Feiman is well known to many NIH scientists for his work on PHR.

hiking, although they have recently had bad luck with rain and cold on their trips. They are also boxing fans and never miss a match on TV. In the future Jane hopes to remain in Washington and eventually to raise a large family.

## RED CROSS AWARDS CERTIFICATE TO NIH

A Certificate of Appreciation for the employees of NIH was presented to Dr. James A. Shannon, Director, NIH, by Commander Arthur D. Robertson, USNR, chairman of the Montgomery County Red Cross, on Friday, December 28th.

This award was given to the employees of NIH for their participation in the Red Cross Blood Program.

Commander Robertson and Mrs. Ben T. Merchant, also of the Montgomery County Red Cross, thanked the employees for the part they have taken in this program and expressed the hope that these contributors would encourage others to become blood donors.

## NIAMD EMPLOYEES RECEIVE AWARDS

Howard Brubach and Theodore Perrine, NIAMD, received Christmas checks in the form of supplemental awards from the Agricultural Research Service. The \$20 awards were given under the interdepartmental system in effect under the Incentive Awards Program.

The supplemental awards were made for a desiccator cover remover and sleeve wrench designed by Mr. Brubach, and a stopcock plug with a needle valve control designed by Mr. Perrine.

## NIMH CHEMIST RECEIVES AWARD



Virginia K. Weise is congratulated by (left to right) Dr. Robert Felix, NIMH Director; Dr. Joseph Smadel, Associate Director of NIH; and Dr. Roger McDonald, NIMH.

## FIRST "GUARD OF THE YEAR" SELECTED



Dr. James A. Shannon, NIH Director (center), presents a certificate of commendation to Lt. Paul Bankard, as Guard Captain J. L. Craumer looks on.

## Info Center Moves

The Information Center of NHI has moved to a new location. Their new address is 8002 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, although mail will still be received through NIH facilities. The new phone number is OL 6-8836.

The newly established Guard of the Year award was presented December 21 to Lt. Paul Bankard. He was selected as the outstanding recipient of the Guard or Fireman of the Month award for 1956.

Dr. James A. Shannon, Director of NIH, presented Lt. Bankard with a commendation at a Christmas ceremony sponsored by the Plant Safety Branch. Lt. Bankard was honored because of his outstanding abilities and leadership. In addition to his regular duties, he has been appointed officer in charge of parking and traffic. He is a member of the 1000-Hour Sick Leave Club and has a perfect attendance record.

## CONTRACT Contd.

surgery. The suites will be somewhat larger than standard operating rooms because of the quantity of equipment required. An observation gallery will be located on the first floor, and storage and equipment facilities will be at the subbasement level.

The estimated cost of the project is \$1,630,000, and includes renovation of present surgical facilities, and acquisition of X-ray and other special equipment for the new wing.

The architects estimate that the plans and specifications can be completed in approximately four months.