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3 NIH DIRECTORS PROMOTED



Surgeon General Leroy E. Burney (center) poses with newly promoted Commissioned Corps officers Drs. C. J. Van Slyke, John R. Heller, and Robert H. Felix, as Dr. James A. Shannon (right) looks on.

Surgeon General Leroy E. Burney presented certificates of promotion to three Commissioned Corps officers from NIH at a ceremony in his office March 11. The career officers receiving promotions were Drs. C. J. Van Slyke, John R. Heller, and Robert H. Felix. These three were among eight PHS officers who achieved or were promoted within the General rank.

Dr. C. J. Van Slyke, NIH Associate Director, who is now an Assistant Surgeon General, was advanced to the rank equivalent to that of rear admiral (upper half) or major general. Dr. Van Slyke was commissioned in PHS in 1928, and came to NIH 11 years ago as Chief of DRG. He served as Director of NHI before becoming Associate Director of NIH in 1952.

Dr. John R. Heller, Director, NCI, was appointed an Assistant Surgeon General with a rank equivalent to that of rear admiral (lower half) or brigadier general. Dr. Heller, who has been Director of NCI for nine years, entered the Commissioned Corps of PHS in 1931. Before coming to NIH he was Chief of the Division of Venereal Diseases, Bureau of State Services.

Also appointed an Assistant Surgeon General was Dr. Robert H. Felix, Director, NIMH. Commissioned in PHS in 1933, Dr. Felix came to NIH eight years ago when the Mental Hygiene Division, Bureau of Medical Services, was transferred organizationally to NIH. He was formerly with the PHS hospital at Lexington, Kentucky, and was a psychiatrist at the U. S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Connecticut.

SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH WINNERS VISIT NIH

Eleven high school seniors who were finalists in the 16th Annual Science Talent Search visited NIH March 8. The tour was part of a five-day program of visits to local scientific institutions planned for the 40 student winners, who were selected on the basis of their unusual potential scientific ability.

After a greeting from Dr. J. E. Smadel, Charles Kidd, OD, spoke to the group on "The History and Functions of NIH." Each student then visited the laboratory of an NIH scientist for discussions in the student's particular field of interest.

The winners attended a luncheon in the CC cafeteria with NIH scientists Drs. Elizabeth Frame and Koloman Laki, as well as with a former Science Talent Search winner at NIH, and Dr. Gary Felsenfeld.

The Annual Science Talent Search is supported by the Westinghouse Educational Foundation and administered through the Science Clubs of America.

(See Picture, Page 4)

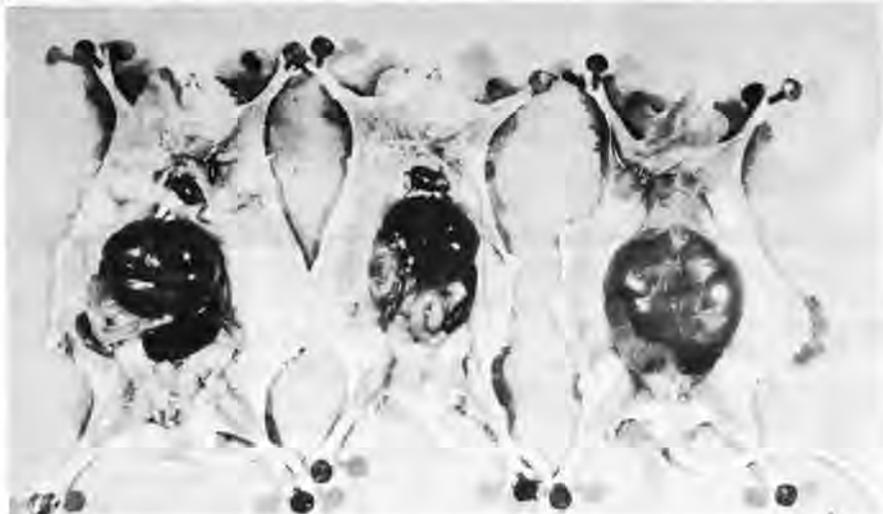
EPILEPSY CONFERENCE HELD MARCH 22, 23

An international conference of leading research authorities on epilepsy was held in the Clinical Center Auditorium, March 22 and 23. Known officially as the Second International Colloquium on Temporal Lobe Epilepsy, the conference was sponsored by NINDB, the National Advisory Neurological Diseases and Blindness Council, and the International League Against Epilepsy.

Thirty-one representatives from the United States, Canada, France, England, the Netherlands, and Italy attended the conference, as well as several hundred guest researchers in epilepsy and related fields.

Histoplasmosis

No. 182 in a Series



Characteristic enlargement of liver and spleen in mice experimentally infected with *Histoplasma*.

Recent progress in research on mycoses (fungus diseases) has focused attention on histoplasmosis. Better diagnostic techniques have recently revealed that this disease is far more frequent and widespread than was formerly suspected.

Histoplasmosis is an infectious but apparently noncontagious disease. It is ordinarily mild, but varies widely in severity. The source of infection is a mold that grows as a saprophyte in soil. This fungus is often in and around chicken houses. Persons or animals inhaling spores of the fungus may develop mild to severe pulmonary infection or severe generalized disease, which can affect almost any organ through blood transmission.

The disease has been reported in 24 countries. In the United States, there are many areas where 80 percent of the population shows a positive reaction to the histoplasmin skin test. NIAID scientists have found the disease in nine species of animals.

Because of the lack of effective therapy, there is a high mortality rate among those having the severe, generalized form of the disease. It is responsible for 10 percent of the mycotic deaths in the United States.

Medical interest, however, is presently centered on benign pulmonary histoplasmosis, because the lesion seen on the chest X-ray bears an amazing resemblance to tuberculosis. Intensive investigations are searching into the differentiation

from other pulmonary infections which the disease mimics. Researchers are also investigating its relation to pulmonary calcification and histoplasmin sensitivity, and the environmental factors that influence the occurrence and geographic distribution of the infecting organism.

The present stage of research indicates that most antibiotics are not useful in treatment and that vaccination is not practicable. Significant strides, however, have been made in diagnostic procedures. These include the histoplasmin skin test, serologic tests, and histologic examination with the use of new staining techniques.

Scientists in the Section on Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases, Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, NIAID, are conducting studies on experimental chemotherapy in collaboration with physicians in the Clinical Center. Standardized procedures for infecting mice with *Histoplasma* are used. Sulfadiazine, amphotericin-B, and mycostatin have been tried against experimental histoplasmosis in mice, and show promise for treatment of human histoplasmosis.

Since this disease does not respond promptly and uniformly to any generally available therapeutic agent, and since it presents one of the most important problems in differential diagnosis of pneumonitis, present intensified studies of histoplasmosis represent an important segment of current research in infectious diseases.

Publication Preview

The following manuscripts were received by SRB Editorial Section between February 21 and March 6.

Anderson, E. P., et al. A specific enzymatic assay for the diagnosis of congenital galactosemia.

Andervont, H. B. Genetic, hormonal, and age factors in susceptibility and resistance to tumor-inducing viruses.

Bartter, F. C. Osteoporosis.

Belleville, R. E., et al. Tolerance to some effects of barbiturates.

Benjamin, E. M., et al. Periodontal disease in rural children of 25 Indiana counties.

Braunwald, E., et al. The sequence of ventricular contraction in human bundle branch block. A study based on simultaneous catheterization of both ventricles.

Briner, W. H. Hospital pharmacy—a specialty and a career.

Burk, D., et al. Observations and reflections on manometric calibrations with air: Methods for indolent mercuriophobes.

CC Staff. Hypopituitarism.

CC Staff. Some clinical studies of schizophrenia.

Challice, C. E., et al. The fine structure of some cytoplasmic inclusions of oxyntic cells.

Davidson, J. D., et al. Action and metabolism of chlorpromazine sulfoxide in man.

Dittmann, A. T., et al. Life-space interviewing and individual play therapy—a comparison of techniques.

Dunn, T. B., et al. A transplantable most cell neoplasm in the mouse.

Eddy, N. B. Addiction-producing vs. habit-forming.

Field, J. B., et al. Oral preparations of anti-diabetic agents.

Forscher, B. K., et al. Biochemical studies on acute inflammation. II. The effect of dilantin.

Freund, J., et al. Toxic effects of fluid from the coagulating gland of the guinea pig.

Hallcroft, J., et al. Delayed effects in mice following acute total-body X-irradiation: Modification by experimental treatment.

Hueper, W. C. Newer developments in occupational and environmental cancer.

Kelly, M. G., et al. Relation of chemical structure to development of body tremors and tumor damage in a series of phenazines and related compounds.

Kurland, L. T. The frequency of intracranial and intraspinal neoplasms in a small urban community.

Ray, O. M., et al. Cancer research in the United States.

Schrecker, A. W. Meso-dihydroguaiaretic acid and its derivatives.

Shiota, T. A preliminary study of the effects of fluoride, iodoacetic acid, penicillin, sodium lauryl sarcosinate and dehydroacetic acid on certain oral bacteria of white rats receiving a diet producing smooth surface caries.

Scow, R. O., et al. Effect of hypophysectomy on the insulin requirement and response to fasting of "totally" pancreatectomized rats.

Savage, C. Parameters and interminable analysis.

Saroff, H. A. A theory for the binding of chloride ions to serum albumin based on a hydrogen bonded model.

Van Buren, J. M., et al. An hypothesis regarding the architecture of the optic radiation in the temporal lobe of man.

Wikler, A. The loci and mechanisms of action of phrenotropic drugs considered in relation to screening procedures.

Will, G. T. Psychiatric nursing administration and its implications for patient care.

Wyckoff, R. W. G. Electron microscopy.

Zipkin, I., et al. Boundary electrophoresis of human parotid saliva.

Zipkin, I., et al. The relation of salivary citrate to dental caries experience in 12- to 14-year-old children.

NIH Spotlight



Roena Bayes

Unexpected things just seem to happen to Roena Bayes, a medical technician in the Clinical Pathology Department, CC. Three years ago when Roena came to Washington to visit a friend, she had no plans to stay. But after working as a medical technician at Suburban Hospital, she was so impressed with the immensity of nearby NIH, she came to investigate and has been here ever since.

Now in the Hematology Service, on the first floor of the CC, Roena is in charge of the out-patient unit. Blood tests given to patients must be performed with meticulous accuracy, Roena emphasizes, and she finds her work remarkably stimulating and satisfying.

Roena was born in a sleepy little Ohio farm town, and grew up there with her two older brothers. After graduating from Bowling State University with a degree in education, she achieved her childhood goal of becoming a schoolteacher. Roena's first position was "keeping school" in a one-room country schoolhouse. After the school was consolidated, she taught second grade for a year in Hicksville, Ohio.

One day in 1947, Roena strolled into an Army recruitment office and

enlisted in the WAC's. Immediately things began to happen.

Roena, who had never been far from home before, was sent to Georgia, to Texas, and finally to California. After declining an opportunity to go to OCS in order to go overseas, she was soon gazing delightedly at the green hills of Scotland. During her tour of duty near London, Roena explored many parts of the British Isles. Soon she was sent to France, and then to Germany, three weeks after VE day.

After her return home and discharge, Roena settled down to teaching school in Ohio once more. Unexpectedly, she enrolled in a school for medical assistants in Cleveland. This was the beginning of the road that finally brought her to NIH.

Now Roena's love of activity keeps her busy long after working hours. Her present claim to fame is her position as president of the NIH Camera Club. She is active in Jacob Jones Post #2 of the American Legion, where she was a color bearer and is now chairman of the child welfare committee.

Roena surprised herself last year by buying a two-bedroom house, and is now busy buying furniture.

Plans for the future are hard to make, she philosophizes; I can never tell what will happen next.

ALL EMPLOYEES ASKED TO RETURN TAX CARDS

All NIH employees are required to complete and return the withholding tax authorization card sent to them March 13. This will make possible the refund of Maryland income tax withheld from D. C. and Virginia residents in 1957.

Please return the completed cards to the Payroll Unit, Bldg. 1, Room 222, as soon as possible, and not later than March 21. For further information, call Mrs. Mayme T. French, ext. 2361.

HOUSING NEEDED

Students assigned to NIH this summer under the PHS Commissioned Officer Student Training and Extern Program will require housing. The period of active duty will begin in June and last for approximately three months. If you will rent furnished rooms or apartments, or have a home you are willing to sublet during vacation time, please place these facilities on the NIH Housing Registry by calling the Employee Relations Section, ext. 2673.

Bank Closes 3 Days

The NIH branch of the Bank of Bethesda, located in the Clinical Center, will be closed March 25, 26, and 27 for alterations.

NURSES POSE IN NEW UNIFORMS



Blue uniforms now identify the Public Health nurses at NIH. Left to right are nurses Frances Wolford, Margaret Lamson, Frances Daly, Lilian Miller, Willie Nielsen, and Margaret Moffett.

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SIMIAN SUNS WHILE SCIENCE SIMMERS



"Ah, it's Spring! And I'm sittin' on top of the world!" Thus gloated Sabu, DBS research monkey, from the airy heights of Building 5.

An attic window, left open by a painter, had been Sabu's open sesame. Easing his sleek 30-odd pounds through the window, he scampered for the ridgepole, sniffing hopefully for the smell of his native Indian jungle.

Now, Sabu is fully aware of his value to the scientific world. But as

the day progressed, the full impact of his importance to the human race struck him with delighted wonder. For more than 24 hours he had top billing at NIH. While the cameras clicked, he silhouetted himself against the azure sky, but cleverly eluded any personal interviews.

Finally, overwhelmed by a consuming thirst, Sabu returned to his humdrum life to review his press clippings and ponder the curiosities of the human race.

NIH HOST TO 150 SCIENCE STUDENTS

A group of 150 students participating in the 11th Eastern Colleges Science Conference at Georgetown University were guests of NIH March 15. The conference is held annually to promote undergraduate research and discussion in science.

The program included an opening talk by Dr. Murray C. Brown, and the showing of a movie on NIH. Groups of students then visited various laboratories, while others attended lectures.

R & W NOTES

The NIH Hamsters will join with the Choral Group April 1 and 2 to bring you an exciting program featuring a one-act play "The Gamblers," and Gordon Jenkins' "Manhattan Tower." The program will begin at 8:00 p.m. in the CC Auditorium, and will cost \$.75.

Spring and the softball season are here again. The NIH softball team will hold its first practice session April 3, at 6:00 p.m., at the North Bethesda Recreation area. For information, contact George Duvall, ext. 3423.

The European Tour is organizing for its 1957 visit to eight countries, to begin August 31, and return October 4--all for \$725. For information, call Helene Schrecker, ext. 3551.

SCIENCE TALENT WINNERS VISIT SCIENTISTS



Dr. Margaret Pittman, DBS, demonstrates some aspects of laboratory work to Science Talent Search winners Dorothy A. Hollingshead, Atlanta, Ga., and Sandra L. Michael, Brooklyn, N. Y.

SPEAKERS NEEDED

The NIH Speaker's Bureau is frequently asked to supply speakers for meetings of school, civic, and business organizations in the Washington area. An increase in requests makes it necessary to enlist the aid of more staff members who are willing to give such talks. Most of the talks will concern the history and work of NIH.

Volunteers are asked to contact Special Events Office, which will assist in gathering information and obtaining slides and projection equipment for a presentation.

Dr. Elkins Named To NIAID Council

Dr. Wilson Homer Elkins, President of the University of Maryland, has been appointed to the National Advisory Council of NIAID. As a member of the Council, Dr. Elkins will advise and make recommendations to the Surgeon General regarding grant activities of NIAID.