NCI SCIENTISTS ATTEND 7th CANCER CONGRESS

Nineteen NCI investigators presented scientific papers at the Seventh International Cancer Congress in London, England, last week.

An NCI-sponsored film, designed to acquaint women with the need for cytologic tests for uterine cancer, was shown for the first time at the Congress.

Among NIH papers presented were Dr. Harold Dorn's report of the relationship between smoking and cancer (see p. 2) and William Haenszel's findings on cigarette smoking as a cause of lung cancer in women.

Other important findings were reported by Dr. Sarah E. Stewart, who told of a filtrable agent causing tumors in heterogeneous animal strains, and Dr. Abraham Goldin, who described a compound that is highly effective in increasing the survival time of mice with advanced leukemia.

Dr. J. R. Heller, NCI Director, presented a paper entitled "The American View of Cancer Control."

Twenty-six NCI scientists officially attended the Congress. Grants approved by the NCI Cancer Advisory Council enabled other investigators throughout the country to attend the meeting.

Dr. Bunim Named President Of Rheumatism Association

Dr. Joseph J. Bunim, Chief of Clinical Investigations and of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Branch, NIAMD, was elected president of the American Rheumatism Association at its recent meeting in San Francisco. He served as first vice president and president-elect of the Association for the past year.

Dr. Bunim has been at NIH since 1952 when he was appointed the first (See Bunim, Page 3)

TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY TO BE COMPLETED SOON

An aerial topographic survey of NIH's 306 acres is now under way and will be completed this summer. This is the first overall survey of the Bethesda reservation since the Clinical Center was built, according to Elroy K. Day, Chief of the Research Facilities Planning Branch, DRS.

Aerial photographs, taken last month, will be used to control plotting. Relative elevations will be determined by ground surveys. This data will be shown on the finished topographic map.

Most horizontal distances are being plotted from a triangulation station atop the CC. This exact reference point was established by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey when the CC was completed in 1953.

The new map will be scaled one inch to 100 feet, according to Mr. Day. It will be of particular value in planning NIH expansion.

DR. WILLARD WRIGHT RETIRES FROM SERVICE

Dr. Willard H. Wright, internationally recognized leader in the field of tropical diseases, retired June 30 after 22 years at NIH.

A PHS commissioned officer, Dr. Wright has served as Chief of the Laboratory of Tropical Diseases, NIAID, for 11 years. He entered Government service in 1919 at the Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Wright's research work has been primarily concerned with parasitic infections such as trichinosis, amebiasis, and schistosomiasis. As a result of his investigation of the transmission of trichinosis from swine to humans, federal regulations were established to control the feeding of swine.

Active for many years in the field of international health, Dr. Wright recently headed a PHS cooperative program that was instrumental in (See Wright, Page 4)
NCI Tobacco-Cancer Study Reported

No. 209 in a Series

In the two-and-one-half-year period between July 1954 and December 1956, more than 7,000 of the veterans died. On receipt of a claim for payment of a policy, the Veterans Administration immediately notified Dr. Dorn.

The cause of death was then verified by the physician who signed the death certificate or with the hospital where the death occurred. Almost half of the diagnoses had been established by exploratory surgery, endoscopy, and various laboratory tests. One-fifth of the diagnoses were based on physical examinations and clinical histories. Autopsies were performed for one-third of the deaths. The study was based on 7,382 deaths.

Here are selected findings from Dr. Dorn's report. (Additional data will be reported at the Chicago meeting of the American Statistical Association, December 27-30.)

- The death rate from all causes for persons who had smoked tobacco at some time was 32 percent greater than the rate for persons who had never smoked.
- The death rate from all causes for cigarette smokers was 25 percent greater than for nonsmokers; for pipe smokers it was 10 percent greater; for cigar smokers, seven percent.
- Persons who smoked two packs of cigarettes or more daily had a death rate nearly twice that for nonsmokers.
- The death rate for the heaviest cigarette smoker--persons who smoked at least nine cigars or 20 pipefuls a day--was about the same as the rate for persons who smoked from 10 to 20 cigarettes a day.
- The lung cancer rate was about 10 times greater for regular smokers of cigarettes only than for nonsmokers.
- Regular smokers of cigars or pipes had an increased mortality rate from cancer of the lung and from all forms of cancer, but the increase was much less than that for cigarette smokers.
- Death rate from coronary heart disease was 63 percent greater for cigarette-only smokers than for nonsmokers.
- Regular cigarette smokers also had greater death rates from

(See NCI Study, Page 3)
NIH SCIENTIST ELECTED TO NATIONAL ACADEMY

Dr. Dietrich H. F. A. Bodenstein, entomologist in the Gerontology Branch, NIH, was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences at its annual meeting in April.

Membership in the Academy is accorded on the basis of quality of scientific achievement, and is regarded as one of the highest honors a scientist can receive. Dr. Bodenstein is the sixth NIH scientist to be so honored.

Dr. Bodenstein, who joined the NIH staff in January 1958, has identified the hormone that controls insect development from the larval to the adult stage. At present, he is studying the interaction between activating and responding forces that determine morphogenetic patterns in the postembryonic life of insects.

Other NIH members of the National Academy of Sciences are Dr. Joseph E. Smadel, Associate Director; Dr. Charles Armstrong, NIAID; Dr. Kenneth S. Cole, NINDB; Dr. Ralph W. G. Wyckoff, NIAMD; and the late Dr. Lyndon F. Small, NIAMD.

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NIH Wardens Complete Course In First Aid

Thirty-six NIH Civil Defense wardens will receive certificates this week for completing the standard Red Cross course in first aid. The course is the first of a series sponsored by Plant Safety Branch, DBO. Fire Chief James R. Welch and Lt. Fred D. Reynolds of the Guard Section teach the course. Both men are qualified Red Cross instructors.

James B. Black, Chief Building Warden, hopes to have all of NIH's 300 volunteer wardens qualified by the end of the series. At present, 50 wardens are undergoing training that will be completed in August.

BUNIM Contd.

Clinical Director of NIAMD. He was previously on the faculty of New York University.

Well-known in the field of rheumatic diseases, Dr. Bunim is also Associate Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins University. He is founder and editor of the Bulletin on Rheumatic Diseases and has published widely. From 1949 to 1954, Dr. Bunim was a consultant to the Surgeon General of the U. S. Army.

NCI STUDY Contd.

other diseases of the cardiovascular-renal system and from such respiratory diseases as bronchitis, pleurisy, and emphysema, and from cirrhosis of the liver and ulcers of the stomach and duodenum.
DR. THELMA DUNN REPORTS ON RUSSIAN TOUR

Dr. Thelma B. Dunn, of NCI, who recently returned from a tour of Soviet medical facilities, was particularly impressed by the courtesy and friendly curiosity of her Russian hosts.

Dr. Dunn and five other American medical women were guests of the U.S.S.R. on the one-month trip, which reciprocated the visit of six Russian women doctors to the U.S. last spring.

While in Russia, the Americans toured medical schools, laboratories, and treatment centers in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Sochi, Tbilisi, and Tashkent. They were accompanied by three interpreters and a photographer from the magazine, "Soviet Woman." Sometimes traveling by jet airliner, they were greeted with bouquets of flowers at each stop and were welcomed by the local Minister of Health, often a woman.

In addition to health facilities, the Americans visited museums, cultural centers, and theaters. On several occasions, they were guests in private homes. Dr. Dunn recalls a pleasant evening at the home of the virologist, Dr. Antonina K. Shubladze, one of the six women who toured American medical institutions early this year.

A high point of the tour was a visit to the monkey colony at Sukhumi, where records have been kept on some of the animals for as long as 30 years. The fact that scientists at the colony have produced cancer in monkeys was of special interest to Dr. Dunn, who is Head of the Cancer Induction and Pathogenesis Section of NCI's Laboratory of Pathology.

Another interesting visit was to a collective farm near Kiev, where the primary health care of the farm's 3,000 people was explained to the Americans. While in Kiev they were also shown 900-year-old monastery caves, now maintained for cultural interest. Guided by monks who live in the present-day monastery, the women were impressed by the quiet dignity and the traditional long hair and beards of these men.

The Russian food was good if sometimes strange, Dr. Dunn recalls. More than one breakfast included yogurt, cucumbers, sour cream, and caviar. On another occasion the Americans were amused when they were served strawberries and champagne three times in one day by their generous hosts.

Dr. Dunn, who has three children, was delighted with Russian youngsters who greeted them with English phrases learned in school. English is also taught in Soviet medical schools, according to Dr. Dunn, but reading rather than speaking ability is emphasized.

Dr. Dunn enjoyed her unusual assignment, and believes that the Russians were as pleased with the exchange as the American women were.

"After all," Dr. Dunn says, "we are all working for a common goal - improvement of the public health."

DR. SHOCK VISITS JAPAN ON AGING RESEARCH TEAM

Dr. Nathan W. Shock, Chief of the NHI Gerontology Branch, recently returned from Japan where he was a member of a research team sponsored by the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission. The four-man team investigated possibilities of developing longitudinal studies on aging in the populations of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Two weeks spent in Hiroshima afforded the scientists a rare opportunity to study the effects of radiation on aging. They were also able to observe cultural and racial differences in patterns of aging.

While in Japan, Dr. Shock presented papers at meetings of the Gerontological Society of Western Japan in Osaka and the Japanese Gerontological Society in Tokyo.

WRIGHT Contd.

Dr. Willard H. Wright sharply reducing the incidence of schistosomiasis in the Middle East. During his long research career, he has served as a consultant to WHO, the Army, and the State Department in the international health field. He was awarded the Legion of Merit for his services to the U.S. Army investigating schistosomiasis in the Far East.

Dr. Wright will leave for Europe this month in the capacity of a consultant to NIAID. There, he will present papers at the Seventh International Congress for Microbiology, in Stockholm, and the Congresses on Tropical Medicine and Malaria, in Lisbon. He will also visit tropical disease laboratories in England, Scotland, Italy, Spain, and France.