2,500 Scientists To Meet, Discuss Nutrition Needs

An estimated 2,500 nutrition scientists from almost every country in the world are expected to attend the Fifth International Congress on Nutrition at the Sheraton-Park and Shoreham Hotels in Washington, September 1-7.

This congress, first to be held in the United States, is expected to produce the most important exchange of knowledge in recent years on current nutrition research. Major problems of nutrition throughout the world will be reported and discussed during the meetings.

Symposium Featured

An all-day symposium on "World Food Needs and Food Resources" will be one of the main features of the scientific program. The remainder of the program will consist of seven half-day discussions by invited participants, and special sessions of ten-minute papers reporting unpublished research.

The congress is being arranged under auspices of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences, the American Institute of Nutrition, and the U.S. National Committee (See NUTRITION, Page 3).

1,500 Request Glaucoma Test Within First Two Days

Employee Health Service reports that the response to its recently inaugurated campaign against the common sight-destroying disease, glaucoma, is "excellent" and "most gratifying."

Within two days following distribution of cards to NIH employees over 35, offering them appointments for a glaucoma-detection test, more than 1,500 of the cards were returned requesting such appointments.

Since then the cards have been coming in at a rate gradually declining from about 100 per day. Approximately 4,000 cards were distributed. NIH employees over 35 who are members of the Commissioned Officers Corps did not receive them because the glaucoma-detection test is included in the regular physical examination they receive at the Outpatient Clinic of the PHS, located in the South Building, at 4th and D Sts., S.W.

At the present time, EHS is allotting an hour each day for conducting the scheduled tests, which with brief chart reading and record keeping require about 10 minutes each.

The Service points out that at this rate the scheduled tests will take many months for completion. Also, employees with a family history of glaucoma are being tested first.

Because of these factors there will be a considerable delay in the scheduling of appointments for large numbers of those who have applied.

EHS therefore suggests that failure to receive notification of appointment is not a cause for concern. However, if any one entitled to the test has not received a card offering the opportunity to make an appointment, the Service asks to be notified by phone.

The extension is 4411.

Glaucoma is an insidious condition of the eye that occurs most frequently in persons over 40, and if not detected and treated can lead to blindness.

The test is simple and painless. All positive and suspicious cases will be referred to private ophthalmologists.

Hundley Group Recommends Revision Of PHS Organizational Structure

The Study Group on Mission and Organization of the PHS, appointed by Surgeon General Burney last December, has issued its final report in the form of a 66-page booklet.

The group, under the chairmanship of Dr. James M. Hundley, formerly NIH Special Assistant on International Affairs, has made recommendations for the revision of the organizational structure of the PHS, including additions at the Divisional level of NIH, Legislation to provide authority for carrying out the proposals has been introduced into Congress.

The report is being distributed by Dr. Hundley's office, Rm. 5077, North Bldg., DHEW. Copies may be obtained at NIH through the Public Information Branch, ORI, Ext. 895.

Among its recommendations, the group has proposed the creation of a Bureau of Environmental Health and a National Center for Health Statistics. These changes, according to the report, are in accordance with PHS's specific obligation "to anticipate and prepare to play its proper role in meeting the health needs of the American people."

NIH Remains Bureau

A Bureau of Community Health will replace most of the functions of the present Bureau of State Services. The National Institutes of Health and the Bureau of Medical Services will remain as Bureaus with certain functional modification.

Proposals for NIH include the establishment of a Division of Grants Management, a Division of Research Facilities, and a Center (See REVISION, Page 5).

Science Section Omitted

The Science Section of the NIH Record is "on vacation" for this issue. It will reappear in the issue of August 16.
The NIH Record

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Editor E. K. Stabler
Associate Editor Elizabeth D. Mok

Staff Correspondents
Elaine Johnson, NCI; Robert Hinkel, NHI; Kathryn Main, NIAID; Lillie Bailey, NIAMD; John Kley, NIDR; Lucille Furman, NIMH; Pat MaxPherson, NINDS; Elsie Fahrenthold, CC; Mary Henley, DSR; Corinne Graves, DGS; Phyllis Snyder, DRG; Jean Torgerson, DRS.

NEWS from PERSONNEL

As a result of the Federal Employees Salary Increase Act of 1960, the starting salaries for positions in the biological and physical sciences at grades GS-9 and above are now the same.

Prior to the Act, special increased hiring rates existed for positions in the physical sciences to enable the Government to compete more favorably with non-government employers.

At grades GS-9 and above, the Civil Service Commission has determined that the special minimum rate that previously existed for chemists, engineers, and other physical scientists is still competitive for recruitment purposes. Therefore, these positions will be filled at the first step of the grade under the new pay schedule. This adjustment eliminates the salary differential that previously existed between positions in the biological and physical sciences.

Graph-Reading System Available in September

A graph-reading system has been designed and built for NIH use and will be available as a central service to laboratories and offices in September.

The system combines various components which will read and rapidly convert the coordinates of graphs recorded on opaque paper or film into a form that can be used as input for digital computers and electric accounting machines. The system will also automatically plot the output of such devices to any desired scale.

New Booklets Describe Recent Aging Research

DGMS has announced the issuance of two new publications on aging:

- Activities of the National Institutes of Health in the Field of Gerontology, January 1960, is a listing of all of the 58 NIH research and training grants active on January 31, 1960, that are related directly or indirectly to the problems of aging. The publication also listed intramural NIH research projects in aging prior to the calendar year 1959.

- Research Highlights in Aging, NIH is a review of selected scientific papers on research projects in aging which were carried out in the intramural program or supported by the extramural program during 1959. Fifty-one scientific papers are covered under the main headings of "Aging at the Level of Individuals and Populations," "Aging at the Level of Organs and Organ Systems," "Aging at the Level of Cells," and "Aging at the Level of Subcellular Structures and Activities."

Recently purchased by the newly formed Commissioned Officers Club for use as a clubhouse, this attractive stone house is located on 1.8 acres fronting on Old Georgetown Road, across from the NIH reservation at the intersection of Cedar Lane. Alterations are expected to be completed in time for late fall use.

Correction

In the July 19 issue the Record incorrectly stated that Dr. Sum Silbergold, formerly staff assistant to Dr. Roderick Murray, Director of DRS, had transferred to DRG. His transfer was to the Research Grants Branch of DGMS.
Cancer Institute Issues Two New Publications

Two new publications prepared by the Office of Information and Publications, NCI, were issued recently.

Treating Cancer, a 16-page booklet, describes in lay language the uses of surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy against malignant diseases.

Chemotherapy, the booklet explains, has produced no cures but holds great promise for the future, especially against leukemias or cancers that have spread beyond their point of origin.

Treating Cancer is listed as Public Health Publication No. 690.

Progress Against Cancer, 1959, Public Health Publication No. 573, includes the statement by Dr. John R. Holler, Director, NCI, to the Appropriations Committees of the Congress, and a selection of Items on research and related programs conducted and supported by NCI.

Single copies of both publications may be obtained from NCI.

13 Vocalists from NIH In Watergate Opera

Thirteen vocalists from NIH sang with the 100-voice chorus of the romantic opera "Der Freischutz," presented by the Washington Civic Opera Association at the Watergate on Wednesday, July 27.

Among the group were the following from NIAMD: Dr. Nelson K. Richtigmyer and Dr. David F. Johnson, Laboratory of Chemistry; Dr. Gerald M. Shean and Dr. Margaret L. Keister, Laboratory of Physical Biology; Dr. Makio Maruyama, Laboratory of Pathology and Histochernistry; Dr. Russell J. Hillme and Millicent Tomkins (wife of Dr. Gordon M. Tomkins), Laboratory of Biochemistry and Metabolism; and Carol Brault, Information Office.

Others from NIH were Dr. Robert A. Pouty, Clinical Pathology Department, and Carol Long, Office of the Director, CC; Elizabeth O'Toole, Office of the Director, Supply Management; Elizabeth Mihalyi (wife of Dr. Elmer Mihalyi), Laboratory of Cellular Physiology and Metabolism, and Dr. Joseph E. Hayes, Jr., Laboratory of Technical Development, NHI.

NUTRITION

(Continued from Page 1)


Financial support for the congress is being provided by several Federal agencies as well as Ameri-
Charles E. Mills Dies; Was EO in NIH

Charles E. Mills, 52, Executive Officer of NIH since May of 1956, died in the George Washington University Hospital July 23 after a long illness.

Immediately prior to his appointment to NIH he had served here as a consultant, conducting a workload statistics survey for the Buildings Management Branch (now Plant Engineering Branch), which resulted in establishment of a new workload reporting system.

During his years at NIH Mr. Mills was an active member of the American Society for Public Administration, serving as a member of the Executive Committee of the District of Columbia Chapter and as its vice president from 1958 to 1969.

Served in Athens

Mr. Mills entered the Federal service in 1929, specializing in personnel, budget, and management assignments before joining the Navy during World War II.

After the war he served with the State Department for six years, including a tour of duty as Administrative Officer at the American Embassy in Athens.

In 1951 he joined the staff of the Economic Stabilization Agency as Deputy Administrator for Operations, and two years later was appointed manager of the Washington office of George Fry & Associates, consulting management engineers.

Native of Arkansas

Mr. Mills was an native of Chicot, Ark., and a graduate of the University of Illinois. He received his Master's degree from the University of Wisconsin, where he was an instructor of political science.

His health apparently improved after surgery, he was hoping to return to NIH and had changed his residence from Washington to 4521 Dorset Ave., Chevy Chase, Md., only a few days before his death.

He is survived by his wife, Frances, and three sons; his mother, two brothers, and a sister.

Dr. Ferguson Appointed Head of DGMS Section

Dr. Frederick Palmer Ferguson, formerly professor of physiology and acting head of the Department of Physiology, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, has been appointed Chief of the Research Fellowships Section of the Research Training Branch, DGMS.

Dr. Ferguson's appointment is part of a move to consolidate the administration of the Division's various fellowship programs.

European Laboratories Visited by Dr. Cole During 5-Week trip

Dr. Kenneth S. Cole, Chief of the NINDB Biophysics Laboratory, recently returned from a five-week visit to European laboratories which are conducting research on electrical potentials in nerve fibers.


Dr. Cole spent most of the time at Uppsala University, Sweden, where he discussed comparative results of analogue computer studies of clamped nerve fibers with Dr. Torsten Torell.

Biochemistry Professor Named to DGMS Post

Dr. Herbert Bowen Pahl, formerly assistant professor of biochemistry at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tenn., has been appointed Executive Secretary of the Biochemistry Training Committee, DGMS.

Dr. Pahl succeeds Dr. George M. Briggs who has accepted a professorship with the University of California at Berkeley.

In his new post, Dr. Pahl will supervise committee review of applications for research training grants in the basic specialties related to biological chemistry.

Dr. Pahl was a Fellow at the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research from 1954 to 1955 and a postdoctoral Fellow with NCI from 1955 to 1957.

He has published independent research papers on chromatographic fractionation of ribonucleic acid from yeast, and nucleic acid metabolism studies of nuclear and cytoplasmic RNA in rats.