Nutrition Experts Discuss Problems Of Asian Diets

Food—how much and what kinds are available in Southeast Asia to meet the needs of its millions of people—was the chief topic at the Far East Symposium on Nutrition held in Saigon, Viet Nam, March 11-17. The symposium attracted representatives from 14 countries who met for the first time to discuss common nutrition problems and the new methods that have been devised to improve and enrich local food supplies. The symposium was co-sponsored by the International Committee on Nutrition for National Defense—and the Republic of Viet Nam, and was also attended by representatives of three United Nations agencies, FAO, WHO, and UNICEF.

A well balanced diet has always been a serious problem in Southeast Asia, and other parts of the Far East where malnutrition and disease combine to take a heavy toll in human lives. Rice is the chief food and source of energy. (See NUTRITION, Page 6)

NIAMD Scientists Report Visit-to-Moscow Impressions

By Mary Henley

"You are a proud nation—proud that you are great, and that the world recognizes your accomplishments. But you Americans refuse to respect us as a dynamic nation! We, too, are proud of what our country has achieved."

The speaker might have passed for a prominent personal representative of his country—Soviet style—from Siberia. Only the non-Savile Row cut of his suit, accentuating a stocky frame, betrayed his Western veneer.

Vacationing in Kiev, he and his wife had joined two NIAMD biochemists at dinner in a restaurant where separate table accommodations were at a premium. They were dinner companions whose disarming ease left the scientists quite unprepared for the hostility implicit in the man's remarks.

First Time Visit

This episode was one of a series of impressions described by NIAMD biochemists after a first-time visit to Russia where they attended the Fifth International Congress of Biochemistry as members of an official delegation from NIH.

Their first exposure to the paradoxes of 20th century Russia came in Copenhagen where the delegates emplaned for Moscow on a Soviet TU-104. Pure jet, the scientists thought the trip the way in which funds are awarded to medical schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, and other scientific institutions to support research, training, and the construction and equipping of new and modernized research facilities. The booklet, "NIH Grants and Fellowships Review and Approval Procedures," also lists the various consultant and advisory groups associated with the grants review and approval process, including the National Advisory Councils, study sections and training grants committees.

OSB Reminds Employees In-Dialing No. 496

The Communications Section, Office Services Branch, reminds NIH personnel that whenever an office telephone extension is given to outsiders, the in-dialing number—496 plus extension—should be used rather than the old OL 6-4000 number plus extension.

Since the telephone switchboard is no longer staffed to handle calls coming through the old exchange, service will be greatly expedited by use of the in-dialing system.
Committee Named to Plan Foundation ‘Faculty Center’

The Board of Directors of the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences and members of the four NIH Assemblies of Scientists, representing five Institutes, have announced the appointment of a Joint Committee to plan for the construction and operation of a Foundation ‘Faculty Center’ in the vicinity of NIH.

This building, according to the announcement, will be one of those planned to house a Center for Advanced Education in the Sciences. The Foundation is a non-profit Maryland educational corporation founded by a group of outstanding biomedical scientists. Its aim is to foster scientific research and education by facilitating communication among scientists and conducting organized instruction in the sciences.

The Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Hewitt Fletcher, Jr., NIAMD, and Dr. Herbert Sober, NCI, will have responsibility for planning the design of the proposed building, for financing its construction and developing an organization to conduct operations of the Center.

The Committee is launching a campaign to raise the money needed—in addition to “an appreciable amount” from the Foundation’s building fund—for acquisition of land adjacent to NIH.

To provide this additional capital, the Foundation is issuing $100 bonds bearing interest at four percent per annum, repayable in five years or less.

Secured by Assets

These bonds, the announcement said, are secured by the general assets of the Foundation, which will repurchase all bonds at par value from holders who terminate their employment in the Washington area.

The Center is planned “to fill an urgent need for a retreat where scientists working or visiting in this area can exchange ideas and information pertinent to the processes essential to the continuing evolution of science,” the announcement stated.

It will also serve the scientific community in the Northwest Washington area as a “university faculty club,” it was said.

Other members of the Committee include Dr. Murray C. Brown, CC, representing the Foundation; and Drs. Michelangelo Puortes, NINDS; Dan Bradley, NIMH; U. Weiss, NIAID; Leon Levinsohn, NIBIB; and Peter Morn, NCI, representing the Assemblies of Scientists.

Committee members representing areas not affiliated with the Assemblies of Scientists are Drs. Ronald Sackett, LJB; Sidney Udenfriend, NCI; K. A. Piez, NIDR; Dale Lindsay, DRG; Caspar W. Hirsch, NIDR; and C. G. Brewer, DGMS.

Also appointed to the Committee are Scott Adams of the National Library of Medicine and Dr. Leonard Laster, NIAMD, member-at-large.

DISTRIBUTION

(Continued from Page 1)


table for its preparation.

The Management Policy Branch, OAM, will assume responsibility for assuring that Policy and Procedures Memoranda are consistent with existing statements of policy, law, and regulations; numbering and classifying issuances by appropriate subject; and arranging for printing and distribution in accordance with instructions provided by the preparer.

The MPB is prepared to carry out this responsibility quickly. Where there is an urgent need for immediate issuance of a proposed policy, the MPB has arranged to have Policy and Procedure Memoranda processed and distributed within 24 hours of receipt in the Branch.

No change in the way NIH policy is formulated will be made, Dr. Shamoon said. The issuing system, he added, is specifically designed to be compatible with present operating arrangements, which provide a maximum degree of flexibility in policy formulation and preparation.
Dr. Price Will Discuss Conflict of Interest As Panelist April 5

Dr. David E. Price, Deputy Director of NIH, will be one of the panelists participating in a roundtable discussion of "Implications on Government Research and Development Programs of the President's Memorandum on Conflicts of Interest," to be held Thursday, April 5, 7:30 to 9 p.m., in the auditorium, 1775 Massachusetts Ave., Northwest Washington.

The public is invited to attend and to participate in the discussion. The President's memorandum of February 9 interprets the conflict-of-interest statutes with respect to consultants and advisors to the Government, sets forth ethical standards of conduct, and prescribes administrative steps to be taken by Government agencies to prevent conflicts-of-interest problems.

Typical Queries Cited

The discussion will consider questions such as: "What problems was the memorandum designed to meet?", "How do the agencies propose to implement this instruction?", and "What effect will these regulations have on the willingness of competent scientists and engineers to consult with the Government?"

Prior to the round-table discussion, U.S. Assistant Attorney General Nicholas de B. Katzenbach will speak.

In addition to Dr. Price, panel members are Walter D. Sohier, Deputy General Counsel, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Adam Yarmolinsky, Special Assistant to the Secretary, Department of Defense; and William H. Mautz, Assistant Director, Applied Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University.

The program is jointly sponsored by the American Society for Public Administration, the Society for Advancement of Management, the Armed Forces Management Association, the Metropolitan Washington Science Bureau, the American Institute of Chemists, and the American Society for Mechanical Engineers.

Concert Given Tonight

The American Light Opera Company will give a concert in the CC 14th floor assembly hall tonight (March 27) at 7:30 p.m. to benefit NIH employees, their families and friends. The concert, which is primarily for CC patients, will feature music from "Kiss Me Kate."

Ketcham Named Chief of NCI's Surgery Branch

Dr. Alfred S. Ketcham, a member of the staff of the National Cancer Institute since 1957, has been named Chief of the Institute's Surgery Branch. He has been Acting Chief the last two months, since the retirement of Dr. Robert R. Smith.

Dr. Ketcham holds the rank of Medical Director in the PHS Commissioned Corps, which he joined after serving as a medical officer at the National Naval Medical Center. He has served tours of duty as a surgeon in Public Health Service hospitals in San Francisco, Seattle, and Tallahassee, Oklahoma.

In addition to his responsibilities as a surgeon at the Cancer Institute, Dr. Ketcham is engaged in numerous research activities. He has published studies concerning the mechanisms of metastases, the use of interferon to control cancer growth in surgical wounds, the control of infectious complications following extensive cancer surgery, and ways of accurately determining the blood loss of patients during and after radical surgery.

A native of Newark, N.Y., Dr. Ketcham received his B.S. degree from Hobart College, Geneva, N.Y., in 1945 and his M.D. degree in 1949 from the University of Rochester.

He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery, and a member of the Southwest Surgical Congress.

Dr. Kreshover Installed As President of IADR

Dr. Seymour J. Kreshover, Associate Director in Charge of Research, NIDR, was installed as President of the International Association for Dental Research at the recent meeting of the Association in St. Louis. He will serve a one-year term of office.

Dr. Kreshover has held his present position with the Dental Institute since 1956. Prior to that he was Professor of Oral Pathology and Diagnosis and Director of Dental Research at the Medical College of Virginia, Richmond.
terior of the plane warranted its renown as a trailblazer. The jet age vanished, however, within the passenger section where the decor was that of a railroad parlor car of the 1930s.

Although any picture of Russia includes incompatible opposites, its effect seemed most bizarre to the new visitors arriving in the Soviet capital. Crowding the city skyline, historic structures and modern construction projects vied for attention. The sheer mass of these projects, built under considerable pressure, reflected an urgent need for housing.

Contrasts Evident

In contrast to the shoddy finish of the public housing projects, Soviet architectural and engineering skills were impressively evident in such monumental structures as the University of Moscow and the city's subway system. On the broad, well-kept thoroughfares, pedestrians far outnumbered motor traffic; other than the frequent and punctual public transportation traveling these arteries, vehicular traffic was limited almost entirely to taxis and other State-owned cars.

"When I commented on the ample parking space," said one scientist, "my cab driver told me to come look again in 10 years."

The Americans noted that the drive and aggressiveness of Soviet citizens in the aggregate were agreeably subdued in individual Muscovites-in-the-street. With few exceptions, and despite a difficult language barrier, they were courteous and friendly in usual contacts with foreigners. Moreover, they accorded a special degree of respect to Russian-speaking Westerners. In the streets, appreciative onlookers frequently surrounded such linguists found chatting with Russians.

Brawl? No! Argument!

"One night we saw a crowd converging on what looked like a street bazaar near Lenin's Tomb in Red Square," said one delegate. "Surprisingly, it turned out to be only a friendly, if loud, argument between a Russian-speaking Argentinian and a Muscovite."

Though eager to discuss political generalities, most Russians were reluctant to debate Communist ideology with foreigners. Questions on Soviet censorship of news from the outside world were, of course, taboo. But while shirking off specific questions such as why censorship was needed, many Russians admitted it had an arid effect on their news media.

This censorship vividly illustrated for the NIAMD scientists who learned of the East-West Berlin barricade only after leaving Russia. Although this incident began while the biochemists were meeting in Moscow, it was inadequately reported on radio, TV, and in the Soviet press during that time.

Ruble Is Pegged

In Moscow, the delegates learned of another form of Soviet control. The rate of exchange for the ruble was pegged more favorably for non-Communist nations then basing in Red favor. "Any one planning a trip to Russia should find out which country rates this privilege before making final monetary arrangements," one delegate observed.

After cutting his finger severely while shaving, one NIH scientist was rushed to a Moscow hospital for emergency treatment. He not only received prompt and efficient first aid but, when discharged from the hospital, found that his blood-splattered shirt had been freshly laundered and was ready for immediate wear.

Two delegates saw a view of Soviet life rarely shown to visitors. With a reluctant Russian acquaintance, they ventured into a workers' cafeteria in an old apartment house. Unlike Moscow's comfortably appointed dining spots, which catered to tourists and Red elite, the dimly-lit interior of this cafe offered only bare essentials. Its utilitarian furnishings and sparse menu were not designed to entice outsiders, and patrons greeted the strangers' intrusion with cool reserve. "Our 40-cent dinners satisfied our curiosity," said one scientist, "but it seemed almost a Pyrrhic victory."

Unofficial participants in the scientific meetings held at the University of Moscow included many alert young Russian students. Products of the Soviet educational system, they were competing in the University's entrance examinations.

The delegates found the students eager to avail themselves of all sources of information. They were particularly attentive to the Westerners whom they questioned exhaustively. In fact, the students' attentiveness contrasted oddly with the welcome accorded the guest scientists by their Russian collegues. As hosts, the latter were properly cordial, but their cordiality was reserved.

An NIH biochemist who gave his scientific paper in Russian at one of the sessions commented: "During the discussion period afterwards, I was questioned only

(Continued from Page 5)

Categorical Fund Use Of Training Grants Analyzed by DRG

Expenditures under NIH training grants awarded in Fiscal Year 1959 have been analyzed in terms of funding institutes, types of grantee institutions, grant sizes, and grant durations. The study offers the first extensive body of data on categorical uses of training grant funds.

Personnel and trainee costs were found to absorb the largest proportions (41.8 and 55.7 percent, respectively) of training grant funds awarded. Other cost categories were: permanent equipment (6.6 percent), indirect costs (8.9 percent), consumable supplies (4.6 percent), travel (2.2 percent), miscellaneous costs (2.1 percent), and fringe benefits (1.6 percent).

Variations Revealed

The study, conducted by the Statistics and Analysis Branch, Division of Research Grants, revealed considerable inter-institute variation in percentages of training grant funds expended for personnel and trainees, ranging from 88.2 percent for NIMH to 66.6 percent for NIADD.

Variations in percentages of funds spent for permanent equipment and consumable supplies were also considerable. The range for permanent equipment was from 12 percent for DGMS to two percent for NIMH; and for consumable supplies, from nine percent for NIAID to 1.1 percent for NIMH.

Analyzed by Grant Values

Analysis of expenditures by grant values revealed a general tendency for the proportion expended for personnel to decrease and for trainee expenditures to increase as grant sizes increase.

When grant durations were examined, percent expenditures in the categories of personnel and trainees were smallest for the most recent grants. Grants in their first year were found to have the greatest percentage expenditures for permanent equipment and travel. (Continued on Page 2)
in this area, supplying approximately 85 percent of the total calories eaten.

In its natural state, rice has good nutritional values, comparing favorably with wheat and other major cereals, but by the time it is milled and polished, then washed and cooked, it has lost many of them.

Beriberi, a disease due to thiamine (vitamin B₁) deficiency, dates largely from the introduction of steam-powered deep mills in the 19th century, which produced abundant quantities of highly polished rice. Milled rice has considerably reduced the incidence of beriberi.

Republic of China nutritionists in Taiwan have acquired a thorough knowledge of rice enrichment and have developed effective ways of adding nutrients during the milling process. Similarly, Japan has made considerable advances in diversifying its national diet, last year becoming the world's leader in deep-sea fishing.

Progress Noted

During the past few years many of the countries of the Far East have made considerable progress in improving the nutritional health of both their military and civilian populations. In Korea, for example, the processing and use of 80 percent milled rice (which retains a good proportion of the nutrients present in the unmilled grain), instead of 100 percent milled rice has considerably reduced the incidence of beriberi.

Two From NIMH Win Performance Awards

Bertha B. LeCompte, an Administrative Aide in the Child Development Research Branch, National Institute of Mental Health, received a Superior Performance Award in the amount of $100 at a recent NIMH ceremony.

In presenting the award, Dr. John C. Eberhardt, NIMH Associate Director for Intramural Research, commended Mrs. LeCompte for her contributions to the Branch's child research programs.

At the same ceremony, Robert R. Cox, an Electronic Development Technician, Clinical Investigations, at St. Elizabeths Hospital, received a Superior Performance Award of $255.

Information Exchanged

The Far East Symposium on Nutrition presented these nutrition experts with the opportunity to exchange information about their methods and programs, and learn new techniques for solving widespread nutrition problems. Also under discussion was the prevalence of various nutritional deficiency diseases such as beriberi and kwashiorkor - a disease of protein malnutrition in children - and current forms of treatment.

All reports were made in English with simultaneous translation into French, and the proceedings of the conference will be published in the world medical literature as quickly as possible. Participating countries included the Republic of China, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Japan, the Philippines, Laos, Thailand, Burma, India, Indonesia, Malaya, Cambodia, the Republic of Viet Nam and the United States.

The symposium was the fifth international nutrition conference co-sponsored by ICNND as part of its program to improve nutritional health in developing countries throughout the world. Preceding ones were held in Iran in 1956, Turkey in 1958, Pakistan in 1958, and the U.S. in 1960.

The ICNND has assisted many of these countries in the past and continues to assist them, at their request, by organizing teams of nutrition specialists to carry out extensive surveys of nutritional problems within the country and to develop self-help programs to solve them. It is composed of representatives from six departments and agencies of the U.S. government, and operates administratively through the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases.

It will ordinarily be to your advantage to itemize your deductions on your 1961 Federal income tax return, if you are a homeowner paying interest and taxes, or if you made large contributions to qualified charities, or if you had unusually large medical expenses during the year.

ICNND Food Composition Table to Aid in Latin American Nutrition Programs

Diet-conscious Latin Americans and calorie-counting travelers now can determine which turkey egg rolls or tortilla chips are providing the best nutritional value, comparing favorably with wheat and other major cereals, which derived from coconuts and pineapples to mangoes and papayas - have been compiled into a Food Composition Table for use in Latin America by the Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition (ICNND) and the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama (INCAP).

Aim Is Self-Help

Although of interest to the traveler, the 145-page text was designed primarily to aid in translating results of food research in the U.S. and Latin America into self-help programs in nutrition for areas of Latin nations.

Through the U.S. Public Health Service, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and five other government agencies cooperate in the ICNND, which is administered by the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases.

"This publication fills a need which has been recognized among inter-American nutritionists for more than 20 years," Surgeon General Luther L. Terry said.

"Much of the information on common Latin American foods in this text was compiled some time ago," he said, "but it had been used as a manual by a number of tables prepared in different countries. It was a big job to bring it together, bring the information up to date, include unpublished data, and put it in language that food specialists of both hemispheres can understand."

Using this text, nutritionists will be able to translate established food requirements developed in the United States into readily available resources of the Latin American countries. Proper use of local resources is particularly important in Latin America, where rising economic problems may limit the country's ability to import food.

Editions of the Food Composition Table are available in both English and Spanish and include charts consisting of a 10-part chemical breakdown of the edible portions of individual items. An example of an entry is Nabo (local Spanish name), which is also listed as Brusico rapa (scientific name), and by its English name - turnip.

Local Foods Valuable

The comprehensive work, which summarizes and expands previous information, points up the excellent nutritional value of many local South and Central American foods. Some of these foods, although virtually unknown outside of limited areas, are as nutritionally valuable as many American staples which would be too expensive in some areas.

Copies of the text in English are available from the ICNND, National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, Bethesda 14, Md. The Spanish edition is available through INCAP in Guatemala City, Guatemala, C.A.
Serious Public Health Threat Seen from Staph Infections

Prior to the fall of 1960 there was no generally satisfactory drug treatment for a patient badly infected with penicillin-resistant strains of Staphylococcus. Although there are now several greatly improved drugs, these do not constitute the complete answer to the serious public health problem caused by staphylococcal infections, according to a special report by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, presented at the House hearing on appropriations for Fiscal Year 1963.

Staphylococci are abundant in our society. The report presents pages of data on the treatment and control of these organisms, which are known to be responsible for disease in many individuals. The report states that disease caused by this microbe can range from a simple carrier state to general "blood poisoning" and death.

Staphylococci stimulate very few measurable defense mechanisms in the body, and those which are stimulated, and can be measured, are difficult to assess with regard to their importance in aiding the host to eliminate the bacteria. Of these three characteristics alone, the report states, make it virtually impossible to design a predictably successful therapeutic regimen.

During the past year, NIAID scientists studied to obtain good clinical results from the administration of dimethoxyphenyl penicillin. They also initiated clinical trials of another experimental penicillin resistant to the enzyme--penicillinase--which constitutes the major factor in the mechanism of drug resistance.

Treatment Effective

In addition to offering the distinct advantage of oral administration, this as-yet unnamed antibiotic appeared five to 10 times more effective than dimethoxyphenyl penicillin when tested in vitro in the laboratory. Treatment of 15 difficult cases of staphylococcal infection, NIAID clinicians have obtained cures or marked improvement and have observed only minimal side effects.

Such drugs are necessary for treatment of intractable staphylococcal infection and make continued development and testing obligatory, but only long usage can prove their absolute value, there is always the possibility that bacteria will develop resistance against these new drugs and that individuals will develop allergic reactions to them.

Meanwhile, basic studies are making gains. Laboratory observations make probable the identification of penicillinase as a cyclic peptidase. Such an identification is necessary for even a partial answer to the question of the role and function of penicillinase in nature, and, more simply, to explain why a staphylococcal cell should possess such an enzyme.

An NIAID scientist this year reported an efficient method for preparing cell-free extracts of staphylococcal penicillinase. The method should prove useful wherever this substance is under extensive study.

Lab Discoveries Promising

Important beginnings have been made in the understanding of the biology of staphylococcal laboratory investigations of these organisms have made it possible to obtain good clinical experience from the administration of the dimethoxyphenyl penicillin. The NIAID team is now working on the development of a rapid and specific test for the detection of staphylococcal infection. The test should be ready for clinical use within the next year.

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Caroline Chandler Joins NIMH as Consultant in Community Health

Dr. Caroline A. Chandler, Chief of the Office of Mental Health and Child Health of the Maryland Department of Health, has joined the staff of the Community Services Branch, National Institute of Mental Health, as a Consultant in Community Mental Health.

In her new position Dr. Chandler serves in an advisory capacity to local and State mental health organizations throughout the country in the fields of mental retardation and pedriatric-psychiatric services.

Written Professionally

Well-known for her work in child health, Dr. Chandler received her A.B. degree from Bard College and her M.D. degree from the Yale University School of Medicine.

She was on the faculty of the Harvard Medical School for five years and later joined the faculty of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. She still retains her association with Johns Hopkins as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and is a member of the Baltimore Pediatric Society.

Dr. Chandler has been a member of the PHS Commissioned Corps since 1944 and at present holds the rank of Senior Surgeon in the Inactive Reserve.

Dr. Plaut Will Address History Group Tonight

Dr. Alfred Plaut, Senior Pathologist at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, will be the speaker at the Washington Society for the History of Medicine's spring meeting tonight (March 27) in Wilson Hall, Building 1, at 8 o'clock. Visitors are welcome.

Dr. Plaut's topic is "The Folklore of the Uterus." The talk will be illustrated with slides.

Dr. Plaut, considered one of the outstanding general pathologists in this country, came here from Germany after World War I. He has been associated with the AFIP of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center since 1963.
Miss Quinn Commended
For 20 Years Service
As Red Cross Driver

Dorothy Quinn of the National Institute of Mental Health was publicly commended for 20 years of service as a volunteer driver with the American Red Cross (D.C. Chapter) Motor Service at an Awards Ceremony in the Departmental Auditorium on Thursday evening, March 20. She was received a Certificate of Recognition and a 20-year pin.

Miss Quinn, who prefers to be called "Dottie," has responded to a call at that time to help out during the war," she said. "Afterwards no war."

Referring to herself as a "glorified truck driver," Miss Quinn said that operating Red Cross station wagons, bloodmobiles, clubmobiles, canteens, and ambulances, isn't the only chore she is called upon to perform. Sometimes she transports hospital patients to sports events, concerts or parties.

On these occasions she stays with the patients until it is time to take them back, often doubling as a dance partner, sometimes serving only as a sympathetic listener.

Miss Quinn, who is presently secretary to Dr. Robert A. Cohen, Director of Clinical Investigations, NIMH, came to NIMH in June 1950. She was formerly at Walter Reed General Hospital.

A native Washingtonian, Miss Quinn purchased in February an acre of land in the foothills of the El Yunque Mountains in Puerto Rico where she plans to live with her two French poodles, Cindy and Misty, following retirement from Civil Service.

CLINICAL
(Continued from Page 1)
be presiding officer at a general session; Dr. Seymour J. Kreshover, Acting Director, NIDR, presiding officer of a dental session; and William H. Briner, Director of the Radiopharmaceutical Service, CC Pharmacy Department, presiding officer of a pharmacy session.

In addition, participants in a panel on "Research in the USBH Hospital," on Saturday, April 7, will include Drs. Dorland J. Davis, Associate Director for Intramural Programs, NIAID; David E. Price, NIH Deputy Director; Stuart M. Sessoms, Associate Director for Collaborative Research, NCI; and Charles G. Zuhod, Director of Intramural Research, NCI.

The official meeting will close with a Headquarters session in the CC auditorium on Saturday morning, April 7. At this time Dr. Luther L. Terry, NIH Surgeon General, will present the second annual John D. Lane, Jr. Award of $150 to an as yet undetermined winner.

The award, presented in honor of the Society's founder, will be given to a regular member of the Society—working primarily in the clinical care of patients—for excellence in clinical research.

Dr. Terry will also present several monetary awards to the authors of the best papers read at the meeting.

Registration for the meeting will be held in the CC lobby April 4, from 1 to 5 p.m.; and April 5 and 6, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Delegates may also register at the Woodner Hotel on April 4, from 1 to 9 p.m., and on April 5, from 9 to 11 a.m.

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(Continued from Page 6)
from a compendium of successful individual experiments. From such a pooling of research intelligence it should be possible for institutions with refractory problems to draw upon the techniques which brought staphylococcal infections under control in similar circumstances.

Projects in this category, therefore, are attempting to identify and control the sources of infection and the means by which patients become infected.

Colonization Eliminated

Drs. Louis Gluck and Harrison F. Wood, Yale-New Haven Medical Center, recently reported they virtually eliminated staphylococcal nasal colonization of newborn infants by following a carefully designed method of hexachlorophene washing. Their study was intended to challenge the findings of a similarly successful grantee experiment at Palo Alto-Stanford Hospital with which Dr. Gluck was associated.

Dr. Gluck and Wood report that of 965 infants washed according to the method at the Yale-New Haven Center, only three percent were found colonized by staphylococci. In another group of 500 babies subject to the same environmental conditions, 51 percent were colonized.

In addition to pragmatic findings, the study suggests a new epidemiological route by which nasal colonization of infants by staphylococci may occur. Staphylococci are introduced into the nursery by the many environmental factors described by previous investigators, but, according to the Yale scientists, staphylococci colonize the umbilical cord and skin of newborn infants first. They may then be borne into the nose chiefly by the infant's own random hand movements.

In other words, the study indicates the individual infant's greatest danger is himself. The Yale investigators interpretation of the marked effectiveness of their hexachlorophene washing technique is that it prevents first step of skin and cord colonization.

Medical Schools Cooperate

One of the larger NIAID staphylococcal projects—a long-term cooperative study by five medical schools to test the efficacy of ultraviolet radiation in preventing post-operative wound infections—is entering its final year. George Washington University, Hahnemann Medical College, University of California, University of Cincinnati, and the University of Pennsylvania are submitting data to the National Academy of Sciences for statistical analysis.

A most important by-product of this study is the accumulation of vitally important information relative to surgical wound infections in general.

Soviet Surgeons Cite Advantages Of Cooperation

By Ernest Miner

Four Soviet heart surgeons visited NIH this month, observing surgical and diagnostic procedures of the National Heart Institute's Surgery Branch.

Members of the Russian delegation are Dr. Fedor M. Romashov of the Institute of Cardiovascular Surgery, Moscow; Drs. Gleb M. Solovyev and Valerie I. Zubitovskaya of the First Moscow Medical Institute, and Dr. Valerie N. Zubtsovsky of the First Leningrad Medical Institute.

Under the terms of a cultural and scientific exchange agreement between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R., the Soviets are engaged in a 6-month tour of American cardiovascular surgical facilities.

NIH is "Very Good"

At NIH—which impressed Dr. Shumakov as "a very good scientific and clinical medical center"—the Soviet surgeons were asked to provide specific examples of how cardiovascular surgical practice and research in the U.S. and U.S.S.R. might benefit by scientific exchanges.

Dr. Romashov replied that although cardiovascular prostheses of various kinds are available in Russia, the more widespread clinical application of these devices—especially artificial heart valves in the United States—was of special interest to Russian surgeons.

Information exchanges in this field, he said, could enhance the further development of artificial cardiovascular prostheses in Russia.

Cites Russian Superiority

American surgeons, on the other hand, could benefit from Russian advances in instrumentation, Dr. Zubitovskaya said. He cited as examples of Russian superiority in this field the various automatic suturing and stapling devices invented in Russia for joining blood vessels, bronchi, and gut segments.

Dr. Andrew G. Morrow, Chief of the NIH Surgery Branch, said that the Russian surgeons quickly adapted to NIH operating-room and ward routines and displayed a great interest in our techniques, especially those relating to the use of our heart-lung machine.

Prior to their departure for Moscow, the four Russian scientists will also visit heart surgery centers in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia.

Today 50 percent of Government employees are engaged in work that was unknown prior to World War II.
NIH Exhibit Illustrates Clinical Studies, Shows Need for Cooperation

Participants and others attending five major medical meetings this spring will have an opportunity to see an exhibit prepared for the NIH Clinical Center, titled, "Selected Current Clinical Studies of the National Institutes of Health."

The exhibit presents illustrations representative of the types of clinical studies under way, and spells out NIH's need for the cooperation of practicing physicians in referring certain categories of patients to the Clinical Center as possible participants in the studies.

Emphasized are current clinical studies on general anesthesia, systemic fungal infections, temporal lobe seizures, cystic fibrosis, plasma cell myeloma, cardiac shunts, and familial factors in mental disorders.

Information concerning the nature of the studies and the types of patients required, as well as patient referral procedures will be available from attendants at the exhibit. In addition, technical details pertaining to specific studies will be provided in leaflets prepared especially for distribution at the meetings.

The exhibit was designed by Walter Ashe of the Medical Arts and Photography Branch, DRS, and constructed by the Shops Section of the Division's Plant Engineering Branch.

The schedule of exhibit showings:
- April 4-6, Baltimore: Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of State of Maryland.
- April 29, Atlantic City: American Federation of Clinical Research.
- May 10-13, Roanoke: Virginia Academy of General Practice.

NIH Basketball Team Finishes Season With Impressive Record of Games Won

The NIH basketball team has ended its first year of extramural play with an impressive record of games won and the potential for a championship team next season.

Grants for Research, Fellowships in February Exceed $18 Million

The Public Health Service announced the award of 787 research grants and 135 fellowships totaling $18,286,663 during February.

The awards, which include 91 of the research career type, are made by two of the Service's operating bureaus, the National Institutes of Health and the Bureau of State Services. NIH's Division of Research Grants acts as coordinator.

Applications are reviewed by two separate panels, one concerned solely with scientific merit, and the other with program relevance as well. All awards are made on a competitive basis.

Of the total, $4,458,360 was allocated to support 191 new research grants, fellowships, and research career awards. The remaining $13,806,363 was for the continuation of 666 previously approved research grants totaling $13,517,772, and 65 fellowships totaling $288,591.

CC Receptionists Need Information Concerning Scheduled Meetings

NIH is a popular place in terms of visitors. More than a thousand scientists, physicians, and related professional and lay persons visit here each month, according to records of the Special Events Section, CC Information Office.

Many of these visitors come to NIH to attend a meeting, conference, or seminar in the Clinical Center, and a large percentage stop at the Reception Desk in the CC lobby to ask for information.

Margaret A. Badger, CC Administrative Officer, points out that the receptionists are always happy to provide information concerning the time and location of specific meetings. Frequently, however, Mrs. Pay Peverich and her assistant receptionists are handicapped because NIH staff members responsible for scheduling meetings fail to notify the Reception Desk about the upcoming event.

VIPs Kept Waiting

Consequently the receptionists must keep important visitors waiting while phone calls are made to obtain the needed information.

During evening hours and weekends, when offices are not staffed, lack of advance notification concerning conferences, classes, and social functions on the reservation may result in serious delays and disappointments for these visitors.

Miss Badger requests those responsible for planning meetings involving attendance by people from more than one Branch or Section notify the CC Reception Desk by phone (Ext. 3111) or by transmitting a copy of the announcement or memorandum prepared for participants.