Plans for Survey of TV Effect on Children Revealed

Plans for a series of conferences leading to research into the effect of television upon children were announced recently by the then Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Abraham Ribicoff, prior to his resignation.

"We expect these conferences to outline research projects which will be designed to provide greater knowledge of the impact of television on children and to make this knowledge available in a practical way as material for consideration by those having responsibility for the presentation of television programs," Mr. Ribicoff said in announcing plans for the conferences.

Project Hailed by NAB

The project was hailed by the president of the National Association of Broadcasters, LeRoy Collins, former Governor of Florida, who said:

"We are pleased to see the undertaking of such broadly based planning of research. The television industry welcomes the development of authoritative information regarding the effects of television on children which should prove helpful in serving their needs."

Anthony Celebrezze Heads DHEW

Succeeding Abraham A. Ribicoff

President Kennedy confers with Anthony J. Celebrezze of Cleveland (center) and Abraham A. Ribicoff at the White House following his appointment as Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to succeed Mr. Ribicoff who resigned to campaign for the Senate.

President Kennedy's appointment of Anthony J. Celebrezze, five-time Mayor of Cleveland, Ohio, as Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, was confirmed by the Senate July 20.

Mr. Celebrezze succeeds Abraham A. Ribicoff, former Governor of Connecticut, who resigned July 16 to become a candidate for nomination to the U. S. Senate from that state.

In making the surprise announcement of Mr. Celebrezze's appointment July 14, the President said that he “... brings to the Cabinet a wealth of experience gained from having worked through the years with the problems of people, particularly those in the areas of health, education and welfare."

"He therefore brings to this great Department," Mr. Kennedy added, "an intimate knowledge which will prove invaluable in making the Department an effective instrument for the general welfare." Mr. Celebrezze has been prominent in Ohio politics since 1950, when he was elected to the State Senate. He was reelected in 1952, and while still serving in the Legislature he was elected Mayor of Cleveland in 1953. He was reelected in '55, '57 and '59, and in 1961 won an unprecedented fifth term.

He is President of the United States Conference of Mayors and in 1958-59 was President of the National League of Cities.

New NIH Division Begins Operation With 5 Branches

The new Division of Research Facilities and Resources commenced operation July 15 under the direction of Dr. Frederick L. Stone, formerly Acting Chief of the Division of General Medical Sciences, in accordance with plans announced in April by Surgeon General Luther L. Terry.

In addition to the Office of the Chief, the Division consists of five branches: the Health Research Facilities Branch, headed by Dr. Francis L. Schmelz; the Animal Resources Branch, headed by Dr. Willard H. Eyestone; the General Clinical Research Centers Branch, headed by Dr. Sam Silberberg; the Special Research Resources Branch, headed by Dr. J. Harold Upton Brown; and the General Research Support Grants Branch, whose head was to be announced later.

Branches Transferred

The functions and responsibilities of three previously existing departments have been transferred to the new Division as follows: Health Research Facilities Branch, DRG, to Health Research Facilities Branch, DRFR; Regional Primate Research Centers Branch, NHI, to Animal Resources Branch, DRFR; and General Research Support Grants Branch, DRFR.

Gonzales and Co. Display Tennis Skill

In Exhibition for NIH, NMC Patients

Patients from the NIH Clinical Center joined patients from the nearby Naval Medical Center and exhibition of top-flight tennis on the courts of the Naval Medical Center on Thursday, July 19.

Participants in the 2-set exhibition match were Pancho Gonzales, former amateur tennis great and subsequently king of the pros, who paired with Pauline Betz Addie, former women's national singles champion, against Gardner Mulloly, former U. S. Davis Cup star, and Allie Ritzenberg, pro of the nearby St. Albans Tennis Club.

Playing under perfect weather, the quartet displayed a blend of tennis that drew exclamations and frequent applause from the gallery.

Mulloly and Ritzenberg, off to a fast start, won the first two games and the fourth. With his competitive dander up, Gonzales then applied the pressure, and backed by the flawless play of his blond partner, came from behind to win the first set 8-6.

Mulloly, the shot master, was steady throughout and at times

An example of a table providing data on the performance of different tennis players.
NEWS from PERSONNEL

SUMMER STUDENT EMPLOYEES

Several hundred students have temporarily swelled the ranks of NIH employees again this summer. The annual influx began in early June, and now nearly 500 high school, college, and professional school students are "on board" and functioning in a wide variety of positions in the professional, technical and clerical areas.

Three hundred and twenty-two students are working in scientific and technical fields, and 114 are in clerical and related positions. In addition, 51 students are serving in the Commissioned Officer Student Training Extern Program (COSTEP).

Fosters Student Interest

The summer employment program is designed to aid NIH scientists and administrators in accomplishing essential work, and to foster the interest of students in pursuing a career in science.

The Personnel Management Branch has announced that this year two questionnaires in relation to the summer program will be distributed—one to supervisors and one to students. These questionnaires are designed to assist in an evaluation of the over-all effectiveness of the summer program and will be used as the basis for effecting changes in next year's program.

MANAGEMENT INTERN PROGRAM

Kenneth Brown, Executive Officer, NIAID, and Chairman of the NIH Administrative Training Committee, has announced that the recruitment of nine new management interns during the month of June has increased the number of interns currently undergoing training to 20—the largest group in the history of the program.

Mr. Brown said that the commit-

Mr. Clown, Balloons, Pennants Enliven Picnic for the CC Children Patients

About 30 Clinical Center children patients participated in their first NIH outdoor picnic on the afternoon of July 13 in the beautiful shaded area west of Building 20. Brightly colored banners strung between trees, and balloons for everyone added a festive note to the scene.

Antics by "Mr. Clown," as the children called him, were the entertainment hit of the picnic. He is Mr. Joseph Silva of 515 Quincy Street, Washington, who belongs to an amateur group known as Clowns, Incorporated, whose members devote their spare time to the entertainment of others.

The children also participated in a variety of games, and there were prizes for winners of the relay races.

At the picnic for children patients of the Clinical Center, a clown provided entertainment and balloons added color. Left to right: Frank Bulte of Brussels, Belgium; Sharon A. Whitener of Silver Spring, Md.; Rodzick M. Stotler of Greenbelt, Md.; Joseph Silva of Washington, D. C., as "Mr. Clown"; and David Schuler of Parma, Ohio.—Photo by Sam Silverman.

4 NIH Training Films Available from CDC

Four training films prepared by or for the National Institutes of Health are available for loan to medical schools and other appropriate audiences. They are:

- Eaton Agent Pneumonia — 16 mm, color, sound, 22 minutes, depicts studies which confirmed the role of the Eaton agent in primary atypical pneumonia.
- Germfree Animals in Medical Research—16 mm, color, sound, 19 minutes, shows the kinds of equipment necessary to carry on germfree research and demonstrates the usefulness of germfree animals as research tools; techniques are explained.
- Neurological Examination of the Newborn—16 mm, color, sound, 30 minutes, depicts testing methods for assessing the condition of the nervous system at birth, and presents some of the normal and abnormal responses to these tests.
- Neurological Examination of the One Year Old—16 mm, color, sound, 30 minutes, illustrates similar techniques for use with this age group.

All of the films are available from the Audio Visual Section, Communicable Disease Center, Public Health Service, Atlanta 22, Ga. Requests for loans should reach CDC at least two weeks in advance of the preferred showing date. Loans are for short periods, not to exceed one week. The two neurological films are also available from the American Medical Association Film Library, 535 North Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.
Correlation Seen Between FFA Levels, Structure of Norepinephrine Analogues

Recent studies of analogues of norepinephrine show their effect on free fatty acid (FFA) mobilization in many depends on their chemical structure at specific molecular sites. A correlation was not found between chemical structure and blood glucose level. The changes in plasma FFA and blood glucose levels during the infusion of ten analogues of norepinephrine, all sympathomimetic amines, were studied by Peter S. Mueller, Laboratory of Clinical Science, National Institute of Mental Health, and David Horwitz, Experimental Therapeutics Branch, National Heart Institute, to determine those specific molecular structures and sites associated with changes in the plasma FFA level in man.

Nine males, none of them normal volunteers, received infusions of these analogues, structural derivatives of phenylethylamine, in doses producing equivalent blood pressure changes. The changes in FFA levels, glucose levels and heart rate were recorded and compared with the change which occurred after a similar infusion of saline solution.

From their observations the investigators showed the fatty acid effect depended upon the presence of particular chemical groups at predetermined sites on the amine molecule. They demonstrated that the change in plasma FFA level does not always correlate with the effect of blood glucose level or with physiological changes such as blood pressure and pulse rate. No consistent differences in effect was noted between those amines with predominant constrictor and those with predominant dilator effects on blood vessels.

This systematic study of the ability of the analogues of norepinephrine to mobilize FFA and blood glucose in man was reported in the Journal of Lipid Research.

Dr. Kety Resigns Post at Hopkins To Return to NIH

Dr. Seymour Kety, for the past year Henry Phelps, Professor and Chairman, Department of Psychiatry, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, has returned to the National Institute of Mental Health as Chief of the Laboratory from 1966 until he accepted the Hopkins appointment last year.

In announcing his resignation, Dr. Robert H. Felix, Institute Director, said, "We are delighted to have him back at NIH and look forward to the remainder of his association with us which has resulted in so much productive research."

As Laboratory Chief, Dr. Kety will be responsible for the direction of an NIH program investigating the biological aspects of schizophrenia.

Joins NIH in 1951

With the exception of his year at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Kety has been with NIH since 1951, when he was named first Scientific Director of the National Institute of Mental Health and the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, a post he held for six years.

A physiologist, Dr. Kety has sought an understanding of how the processes of the mind are influenced by the structure and function of the brain.

He first became widely known for developing a method of measuring cerebral circulation and oxygen consumption in the human brain. This finding led to new possibilities for studying brain circulation in coma, anesthesia, and sleep and under varying conditions of consciousness, including anxiety.

The more than 100 scientific papers of which he has been author or co-author have dealt chiefly with cerebral circulation and metabolism, and with the biological aspects of mental diseases.

Among Dr. Kety's many honors

(See KETY, Page 4)

Chief of the new Special Projects Branch, DRS, Dr. Fournelle from the Environmental Services Branch of DRS, has been appointed Executive Secretary of the Microbiology Fellowships Review Section. He succeeds Dr. Irving Delaporte, who transferred to the Extramural Programs Branch, NIAID.
First Results of Birth Study Link Prematurity & Smoking

The first important results of the nationwide long-range collaborative Perinatal Research Project link prematurity, stillbirths, and brain damage with some previously unsuspected events of pregnancy and delivery.

These findings on the study, which is coordinated by the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, were revealed recently by Dr. Edward L. Masland, NINDB Director, at hearings before Congressional appropriations subcommittees.

Although these are preliminary findings of continuing research and therefore should be viewed with caution," Dr. Masland said, "they may prove to be promising leads for future investigation."

Now in its fourth year, the collaborative project has compiled data to the present time on more than 23,500 expectant mothers and 17,000 children enrolled at 15 participating medical centers. Analysis of the data has revealed the following early findings:

- Premature births—an important cause of brain damage and death—occur more frequently among mothers who smoke than among nonsmokers. (In infants weighing 2,500 grams or less were considered to be premature.) In addition, birthweight was found to be inversely proportional to the reported amount of smoking.

- Findings confirm the results of previous studies which have shown a relationship between cigarette smoking during pregnancy and prematurity.

- More than 40 percent of a group of study infants diagnosed as abnormal at the 8-month psychological examination had suffered from breathing difficulties at or soon after birth.

In addition, Dr. Masland reported to Congress that individual investigators at the collaborating hospitals have published the following findings of special related studies:

- In efforts to identify mothers who run a high risk of losing their babies, investigators confirmed the finding of a previous study that there is a close relationship between fetal deaths and certain alterations in the concentration of blood proteins of expectant mothers.

- Premature birth rates, which are considered to be inversely proportional to the amount of smoking, were found to be significantly lower among women who participated in the project. In addition, birthweight was found to be inversely proportional to the reported amount of smoking.

These findings are consistent with earlier reports from other investigators and have led to the identification of potential risk factors for prematurity and perinatal mortality.

Additional evidence was uncovered to show that premature births may be caused by a symptomless urinary tract infection which cannot be detected by routine methods. Scientists at one of the collaborating institutions have devised a simple, sensitive test for detecting this infection.

- Investigators confirmed that infants of diabetic mothers weigh more than infants of nondiabetic mothers. However, postmortem studies showed that the brains of infants of diabetic mothers were comparatively smaller in weight and volume.

- High rates of prematurity and infant death were found to be associated with findings suggestive of inflammation of the placenta, fetal membranes, and umbilical cord. In some 50 percent of cases where such inflammation occurred, inflammation of the brain was also present, a discovery which emphasizes the importance of careful treatment of these infections during pregnancy.

- In studying the effects of an Asian flu epidemic on pregnancy outcome, scientists reported that the discovery that nearly 40 percent of cases had no symptoms and could be diagnosed only by blood test.

- A possible basis for early detection of brain damage in young children was provided by studies showing that prolonged lack of oxygen is followed by an increase in the permeability of the blood-brain barrier to certain enzymes. Brain damage may then be diagnosed by measuring the increase in these enzymes in the spinal fluid.

- Improved techniques were developed at one of the collaborating hospitals to detect brain damage in infants by means of brain wave recordings (electroencephalograms). Moreover, the use of visual stimulation in conjunction with these recordings is providing new insights into determining brain maturation at birth.

- A new pamphlet published by NINDB describes in detail the purpose and operation of the collaborative project. Single copies of the leaflet, "The Fateful Months
Following their exhibition doubles match at the Naval Medical Center, the three male participants conduct a brief “post mortem” for the benefit of NIH Clinical Center patients (seated), four of whom are visible in this picture. The players, left to right: Pancho Gonzales, Allie Ritzenberg, and Gardner Mulloy. Children (right), daughters of Novol personnel, are waiting to request autographs.—Photos by Jerry Hecht.

Two PHS Scientists Win ACS Scholarships

Two Public Health Service scientists were awarded Postdoctoral Research Scholarships recently by the American Cancer Society.

These grants, two of four made in the country, are a new category of research grants aimed at preparing young physicians and doctors of philosophy for careers in clinical investigation of cancer.

Dr. Alexander L. Kisch, Senior Assistant Surgeon in the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, received a 1-year scholarship of $10,140. Studies in Scotland

He will begin study at the Institute of Virology, University of Glasgow, Scotland, later this summer. Dr. Kisch received his M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School in 1956.

Dr. Lyman A. Page, Associate Director, Poison Control Branch, Bureau of State Services, received a 3-year scholarship of $36,190. He began study at Dartmouth College Medical School, Hanover, N.H., on July 1.

Dr. Page, who is also a junior associate at Children’s Hospital, Washington, D.C., received his M.D. degree from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1957.

These are the first of a new category of grants which seeks to cut down the lag between the research scientist’s laboratory and the clinical application of the scientists’ findings by practicing physicians.

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This closeup of Pancho Gonzales, poised for a return at the net, reveals the tiptoe balance and steel-spring leg action that led sportswriters to dub him “the Big Cat.”

DIVISION

(Continued from Page 1)

Responsibility for the administration of two programs previously administered by DGMS has been transferred to DRFR, as follows: General Research Support Grants to General Research Grants Branch, and Special Research Resources Grants to Special Research Resources Branch.

Prior to appointment to the new Division, Dr. Schmehl was Chief of the Health Research Facilities Branch, DRG; Dr. Eyestone was Chief of the Regional Primate Research Centers Branch, NIH; Dr. Silbergold was Chief of the Clinical Research Centers Branch, DGMS; and Dr. Brown was Executive Secretary of two DGMS Training Committees—Physiology and the Biomedical Engineering Training Program.

Gerald Sparer, Assistant Executive Officer of the PBS Division of Radiological Health, is the DRFR Executive Officer; Helen Schroeder, Chief of the Grants Administration Section, Research Training Branch, DGMS, has been named Special Assistant to Dr. Stone; and Herbert B. Nichols, Information Officer of DGMS, is the Information Officer of DRFR.

It is expected that all five branches of the Division will be located soon in the Plaza Building at the corner of the Rockville Pike and Wall Lane.
USSR Congress Attended by 24 NCI Scientists

Twenty-four members of the staff of the National Cancer Institute were scheduled to present reports at the Eighth International Cancer Congress held at the University of Moscow, July 22 through 28. The International Union Against Cancer, a worldwide organization promoting international cooperation in the fight against cancer, sponsored the meeting.

Presenters Listed

William Hanhszel, Chief of the Institute’s Biometry Branch, was chairman of the panel presenting the first data gathered under a new international program of cooperative cancer registries. Each of five representatives from countries participating in this program (England, France, Denmark, Finland, Norway, and the United States) planned to present an analysis of data on cancer of a single site gathered from all six countries.

Dr. Sidney J. Cutler, Head of the Clinical Biometry Section of the Biometry Branch, was scheduled to report from the six participating nations on cancer of the large intestine. Reports were also given on leukemia and cancer of the tongue, breast, and testis.

Abstracts Published

Abstracts of papers by Drs. Maurice Landy, Laboratory Chemical Pharmacology; William Mohler, Medicine Branch; and Lloyd W. Law, Laboratory of Biology, will be printed in the official proceedings of the congress.

Eighteen NCI scientists were scheduled to present original papers on various aspects of cancer problems. They are: Dr. J. Robert Andrews, Chief, Radiation Biology; Dr. E. Henson, Chief, Laboratory of Biology; Dr. John Weisburger, Carcinogenesis Studies Branch; Dr. Julius White, Chief, Laboratory of Physiology.

NINDB Scientists Share ‘Fight for Sight’ Award

The second annual “Fight for Sight” citation has been presented to Dr. Sjoerd L. Bonning, Head of the Section on Cell Biology, Ophthalmology Branch, National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, and his associate, Dr. Kenneth A. Simon, for their paper, “Sodium-Potassium Acti­vite" in Adenosine Triphosphate and Aqueous Humor Formation.”

The award, which consists of $500 and a scroll, was presented by the National Council to Combat Blindness, Inc., at an awards dinner on June 26.

The citation, which was also awarded to NINDB scientists last year, is presented for the most significant paper given at sectional meetings of the Association for Research in Ophthalmology.

The report presented by Drs. Simon and Bonning will be published in this summer’s Experimental Eye Research and the Archives of Ophthalmology.

Dr. Wilhelm C. Huerper, Head, Environmental Cancer Section; Dr. John B. Moloney and Frank J. Kauscher, Jr., Laboratory of Viral Oncology; Dr. Thelma D. Burn, Robert W. Gara, Catherine M. Herrold, and Willis M. Morgan, Laboratory of Pathology.

Also Dr. Abraham Golden, Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology; Dr. Harold F. Morris, Dr. Helen M. Dier, Dr. Pietro M. Gullino, and John C. Hunter, Laboratory of Biochemistry; Dr. Harry V. Gelboin, Diagnostic Research Branch; and Dr. John H. Edgecomb, also presented a paper at the congress.

Sorority Gives Award to CC Dietetics Chief

Miss Jones

Edith Jones, Chief of the Nutrition Department of the Clinical Center, received the Alpha Chi Omega Award of Achievement at the closing banquet of the sorority’s national convention, held recently in Miami Beach, Fla. The award, established in 1955, is given to alumnas members who have distinguished themselves in their chosen fields.

This is the third such honor Miss Jones has received during her Clinical Center tenure, which began in 1953 when the center opened.

In 1967 the Association of Military Surgeons presented her with the McLeister Award for distinguished service in the field of applied nutrition and dietetics, and she received a Distinguished Service Award from the University of Alabama in 1966 for professional leadership in dietetics and exceptional ability in organizing hospital dietary departments.

Graduates with Honors

Graduates with honors from the University of Alabama and an initiate of the Alpha Chi Chapter there, Miss Jones received her M.S. degree, also with honors, from the University of Tennessee, and completed dietetic internships at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

During World War II she gained experience in therapeutic and administrative dietetics in Army hospitals in both the United States and the European Theatre.

Miss Jones joined the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service in 1950 and was assigned to the Bureau of State Services prior to her appointment here.

She is active in a number of professional organizations in the field of nutrition, and is now President-elect of the American Dietetic Association. She will assume this office in October at the annual meeting in Miami.

White, Research Communications Branch. Dr. Ray is the only member of the U.S.A. on the U. S. C. Committee and the United Nations Social Congresses. Dr. Shear is Chairman of the U.N.A.C. Finance Committee and the Committee on Chemistry.

The International Union Against Cancer sponsors international congresses every four years. The Union also publishes an international journal, establishes committee to work on such problems as tumor nomenclature, and stimulates and encourages national efforts for cancer research, therapy, and control. It is affiliated with the World Council for International Organizations Health Organization and the Council of Medical Sciences.

CC Investigators Need Referrals of Patients for 2 Current Studies

Clinical investigators at the Clinical Center are requesting the cooperation of physicians. They are referring patients with Reiter’s syndrome and chronic myelogenous leukemia for current studies.

Renewed efforts are being made to recover and identify the causative agent of Reiter’s syndrome. This disease is characterized by a triad of arthritis, urethritis, and conjunctivitis. Cases lacking conjunctivitis would still qualify for this study. The presence of gonococci and urethral discharge would not preclude acceptance of a case provided this organism is not present in the synovial fluid.

Confirms Diagnosis

The appearance of cutaneous manifestations (balanitis, kerato­derma blennorrhagica, maculo­ papular rash, hard pap­ ulles on soles) help confirm the diagnosis. Reiter’s syndrome lasts for an average of six weeks and recurs in about 50 percent of the cases.

Most desirable are cases within the first two weeks of onset. Accepted patients will be studied for several weeks. Upon completion of study, patients will be returned to the care of their referring physicians who will receive a complete narrative summary.

Physicians wishing to have patients considered for this study may write or telephone Dr. Joseph J. Bunin, Clinical Director, National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, Bethesda 14, Md. Telephone: 496-4181 (Area code 301).

Studies Leukemia

The study of chronic myelogenous leukemia, conducted by the Chemotherapy Service of the National Cancer Institute, requires, particularly, patients in the 20 to 40 age group with high white blood cell and platelet counts for studies of new chemotherapeutic agents and a source of white cells and platelets for in vitro and in vivo studies. Physicians wishing to refer patients with this disease may write or telephone Dr. Paul B. Carbone, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda 14, Md. Telephone: 496-4251 (Area code 301).

Referrals of Patients

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ARC Youth Group Aids in Patient Activities

This summer for the first time, Gray Ladies of the American Red Cross on duty at the Clinical Center have members of the Red Cross youth group to assist them with their volunteer services.

Twenty-five of the 60 teenagers who recently completed the Montgomery County Red Cross training courses for volunteer services are now assigned to the Gray Ladies Office of the Clinical Center for duties in the Patient Activities Section.

Four of the group are serving as assistants in the Patients Library, and the others are assisting with recreational activities arranged for both children and adult patients.

Arnold Spelling, Chief of the CC Patient Activities Section, reports that these young people are doing outstanding work. “I am delighted,” he said, “to have them here for the summer months when so many outdoor events are being planned for the patients.”

Surgeon General Names Dr. Wallace Lane Chan To Investigations Post

Dr. Wallace Lane Chan of the immediate Office of the Surgeon General has been named Director of Investigations for the Public Health Service, Surgeon General Luther L. Terry recently.

Dr. Chan and his staff will be responsible for receiving, investigating, and making recommendations with regard to grievances which, in the opinion of the employee concerned, cannot be properly handled under established procedures.

Still in effect will be the established procedures for both Civil Service and Commissioned Officer personnel for dealing with complaints about conditions of employment, promotions or demotions, reductions in force, and similar matters.

Reports Directly

The Director of Investigations will report directly to the Surgeon General.

A native of San Francisco and a 1952 graduate of the Stanford University School of Medicine, Dr. Chan has had extensive experience with several Federal Government agencies.

He has served on the medical faculties of Stanford University and George Washington University, and as medical director of private research organizations. He came to his new position from an assignment as Special Assistant to the Deputy Surgeon General, Public Health Service.

Environment and Cancer

Not Linked in Study

The National Cancer Institute has completed a detailed study of causative environmental factors in cancer in the Hagerstown area of Maryland, but will continue to observe evidence of geographical or family clustering of cases on a population-wide basis.

The studies recently concluded were started about five years ago in 20 election districts of Washington County. They combined laboratory analyses of soil, rocks, water, air and vegetation with a review of county health records dating back several scores of years and the gathering of new information on cancer illness in the study area.

An analysis of the mortality rates from all causes of cancer over a 30-year period in each of the 20 election districts showed that, contrary to previous impressions, the variation in the rates from one district to another was attributable to chance and could not be correlated with specific environmental conditions. These detailed studies have therefore been discontinued, and in the future, clustering of cases by family or geographic area will be given intensive study to relate cancer to environment.

The laboratory work has been conducted in a building donated to the Washington County Health Department by Andrew K. Coffman of Hagerstown. A staff of six National Cancer Institute employees will remain in this building to continue the field studies.

Other divisions of the Public Health Service will now share the resources of the project for studies on different disease problems.

Six Psychotropic Drugs Studied for Effects On VMA Excretion

A National Institute of Mental Health study of the effects of six psychotropic drugs on urinary excretion of vanillylmandelic acid (VMA), show that only two caused changes in VMA excretion, indicating altered catecholamine metabolism.

The study was made by Dr. Roger K. McDonald and Virginia Weise, Laboratory of Clinical Sciences, NIMH, using a highly specific method developed by these investigators.

The six drugs consisted of three tranquilizers, reserpine, chlorpromazine and meprobamate; a narcotic, morphine sulfate; a hypnotic, pentobarbital sodium; and a cerebral stimulant, d-amphetamine sulfate.

Affects Excretion

Administration of these drugs in single doses to 16 normal volunteers at NIH revealed that only two, reserpine and chlorpromazine, were associated with a consistent and unequivocal effect on VMA excretion. Reserpine caused an increase and chlorpromazine, a decrease in VMA excretion. These effects were independent of any related change in kidney function as determined by endogenous creatinine excretion.

Morphine sulfate caused a decrease in VMA excretion followed by an increase. These changes, however, were paralleled by changes in endogenous creatinine excretion indicating the effect of morphine on VMA excretion was not a manifestation of altered catecholamine metabolism.

Through measurement of urinary tryptamine excretion, these investigators have shown that d-amphetamine causes no monoamine oxidase inhibition, thus disproving a widely held theory that this is the mechanism by which amphetamine causes cerebral stimulation.

In conclusion it is evident that there is no consistent relationship between the rate of catecholamine metabolism and the observed clinical effects of the psychotropic drugs tested.

These findings are reported in The Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.
SURVEY
(Continued from Page 1)
needs and interests. Our association stands ready to assist in whatever ways it can. Preceding actual research will be planning, conducted by professional educators, specialists in child welfare, mass communications researchers, and representatives of the television industry.

Purposes of these conferences are:

- To devise ways of conducting research on this subject.
- To recommend specific research projects on the relationship of television to children.
- To recommend research projects that would be of aid to the television industry in its exploration of techniques to be used in programs for children.

Directing the planning conferences will be a steering committee, under the chairmanship of Bernard Russell, Deputy Special Assistant to Secretary Ribicoff, and consisting also of the following representatives of education and television:

Howard H. Bell, Vice President for industry affairs, National Association of Broadcasters; Hugh M. Biville, Jr., Vice President for planning and research, National Broadcasting Company; Glenn Chester, Vice President in charge of daytime programming, American Broadcasting Company television network; Dr. Ralph Garry, College of Education, Boston University; Donald H. Mcgannon, President, Westinghouse Broadcasting Company, and Frank Shakespeare, Vice President and Assistant to the President, Columbia Broadcasting System television network.

This steering committee will meet shortly to prepare the schedule and invite participants for the planning conferences, which are expected to be held early this fall.

The Foundation for Character Education will contribute funds and services to the planning conferences. HEW will publish results of the conferences.

Financing for or sponsorship of research growing out of the planning conferences may be undertaken by a number of different organizations.

The project originated from a recommendation by Senator Thomas J. Dodd of Connecticut, suggested by Governor Collina during the course of hearings held by Senator Dodd's subcommittee on juvenile delinquency, that the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare sponsor the planning of research.

Commenting on the project, Secretary Ribicoff said:

"There are a great number of factors which influence the lives of children—their families, schools, communities, books, movies, and television. Much has been said of the influence of television, good and bad, on the behavior and lives of children. Since children spend a great deal of time in watching television, it is our hope that we can separate fact from fancy in the variety of claims and counterclaims that surround this medium.

"We are sponsoring this project with no preconceived ideas but with a sincere desire to find out what we can do about the relationship between television and the behavior of children in relation to the various other influences on their behavior.

"Out of this project, we hope, will come a better understanding of the effects of television upon young people and data indicating how its rich potentials can best be utilized to help fulfill the special needs of children in this complex and changing world.

"The steering committee, according to Chairman Russell, will select the projects to be undertaken, attempt to arrange necessary financial support, and establish the appropriate mechanism for supervising the research work.

"We recognize, of course, that the responsibility for determining the content of programming lies with the broadcasters, and it is not our intention to interfere with that responsibility," he said.

"On the contrary, we expect the results of this work to be an aid, additional resource, to the broadcasting industry."

A Message From Social Security

This is the third in a series of articles prepared by the Silver Spring, Md., office of the Social Security Administration for publication in Government and industrial newspapers.

George is 6 feet 2 inches tall. He probably weighed over 200 pounds before he got sick. He played football and was a top bowler.

But George won't ever bowl again. He has multiple sclerosis. George won't even work again, either. Two and half years ago, he had to quit his job at the steel company—a good job—that was helping him pay for a new home for his wife and two children.

George lost his home because he could no longer meet the payments. Two months ago, his bank account showed $92— all he had left in the world.

Out of desperation, George's wife Grace visited the county welfare department. Once there, the caseworker said, "What's the amount of your Social Security check?" Grace looked blank. Her family received no Social Security check.

"Let me explain," offered Grace. "My husband is still alive, and he's only 40. We can't collect Social Security."

Patiently the caseworker explained that Social Security payments are not confined to old-age and survivor's payments. "You

Instrument Symposium And Equipment Exhibit

The 12th Annual Instrument Symposium and Research Equipment Exhibit sponsored by NIH will be held here October 8-12.

Dr. James A. Shannon, Director of NIH, will welcome the symposium participants at the opening session, Monday, October 8, at 8 p.m., in the Clinical Center auditorium.

Presiding officer at the first session will be Dr. Alan J. Sheppard of the Division of Aid, Health, PHS Food and Drug Administration.

The subject of the meeting will be thin film and gas chromatography. During the 5-day scientific meeting—with 10 sessions daily, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.—noted investigators will report on recent trends and developments in research methods and instrumentation.

Discussion topics will cover new ion sources for mass spectrometers, nuclear magnetic resonances, optical masers, vacuum ultraviolet, x-ray microscopy, automation in chemical and biological research, physiological monitoring, and x-ray diffraction studies of protein.

Representatives Speak

Speakers on the scientific program will include representatives of universities, medical institutions, industrial firms, and Federal agencies engaged in research in the life sciences.

The research equipment exhibit, displaying the latest developments of 68 of the leading scientific apparatus manufacturers, will be held concurrently with the symposium in Building 22. Exhibit hours will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., October 9 through 12, with the exception of Wednesday, October 10, when it will remain open until 9 p.m.

Last year more than 7,000 visitors attended the combined Instrument Symposium and Research Equipment Exhibit. Visitors, including 24 from foreign countries, came from colleges and universities, hospitals, research institutions, and public and private organizations active in public health and medicine.

The exhibit and symposium are open to all professional and technical workers interested in research instrumentation.

and George and the children will probably qualify for disability benefits, if you apply," she said.

We now pay George and his family $254 a month. But he has done himself out of more than $5,000—enough to have salvaged his home.

Three employees of NIAID's Rocky Mountain Laboratory at Hamilton, Mont., who won cash awards for Beneficial Suggestions are pictured at a recent informal awards ceremony at the RML. George Tallent, a physical scientist technician (second from left), receives a check from Dr. Herbert G. Stoomer, RML Assistant Director (left); while Bryan Happen, a bacteriologist (center), and Edward Oerlit, a machinist (second from right), receive their awards from Dr. Cornelius B. Philip, Director of the Laboratory. Mr. Tallent and Mr. Oerlit are codesigners of a portable apparatus for continuous agitation of serum-antigen mixtures, and Mr. Hesitken is the inventor of a device for restraining groups of mice while their temperatures are taken and recorded over long periods.