Whedon Expresses Hope for Future Diabetes Research

Dr. G. Donald Whedon, Director of the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, was guest speaker at the annual meeting of the New York Diabetes Association recently.

Dr. Whedon spoke on developments in the study and treatment of diabetes, which indicates that a means of preventing this disorder may be found within the foreseeable future.

Underlying this outlook, he said, "recent developments such as the finding of an American Indian tribe with the highest prevalence of diabetes ever reported, which affords us an opportunity to study various facets of the disease in a stable and homogeneous population group; the development of a new method of identifying people who will develop diabetes later in life; the discovery of a natural experimental model for the disease—a (See DIABETES, Page 8)

New Portable Clinical Facility Dedicated in Arizona, Used for Long-Range Studies

A new, portable clinical facility for long-range clinical and epidemiological studies on arthritis, diabetes and diseases of the gastrointestinal tract was formally dedicated June 13 at Sacaton, Ariz., on the Gila River Indian Reservation.

At the brief dedication ceremony, Dr. G. Donald Whedon, Director of the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, called the facility "an important addition to the resources of the clinical investigator."

The new facility is a complete and portable structure which has been attached to a wing of the Division of Indian Health Hospital at Sacaton, about 40 miles south of Phoenix. It was here that scientists of NIAMD's Clinical Field Studies Unit found in a diabetes survey last year that the Pima Indians on the Gila River Reservation have the highest prevalence of diabetes ever reported.

Dr. Whedon stressed the need for continued epidemiological re-

New Ventilating Concept Being Tested In a Mock-Up Operating Room at NIH

Donald Fox (center background) looks through a window into the laminar airflow room where his mannequins are demonstrating a "smoke pencil" break.

The smoke pencils show how the new system carries smoke quickly out of the room and reveal the parallel direction of air circulation. The mannequins help simulate conditions of an operating room.—Photos by Jerry Hecht.

By Tony Anastasi

Experimental tests for keeping bacterial concentrations at minimum levels in surgical rooms and thereby significantly decreasing the chances for post-operative infections are being conducted by a sanitary engineer in the Environmental Services Branch of the Division of Research Services.

Called the "laminar airflow concept," the new procedure is being directed by Donald Fox of the Engineering Section of the Branch.

"The first experimental operation—a neurosurgical procedure—will take place in the laminar airflow unit in the near future," Mr. Fox said.

"The mock-up operating room is being used in a cooperative project with the Surgical Neurology Branch of NINDS to compare results of the two different types of air supply systems, namely, laminar airflow and the conventional ventilation by dilution."

In operation, a horizontal flow of air passing through a wall of high efficiency filters rapidly removes all dust particles and bacteria down to 0.3 microns in size from the air stream.

This ultra clean air flowing in operation and filling it from side to side and from floor to ceiling prevents the accumulation of dust and bacteria. (See NEW CONCEPT, Page 8)

SMB Names New Section Head

Lewis D. Brown was appointed Head of the Property and Supply Section, Supply Management Branch, June 6.

Thomas V. White also was assigned to the Office of the Chief of the Branch as Special Assistant.

Dr. James A. Shannon, Director of NIH, receives from President Johnson the President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service.

Dr. Shannon's career exemplifies to an exceptional degree imagination, courage and high ability to carrying out the mission of the government.

For Dr. Shannon the President's Award opens a new era in medicine and greatly improved the Nation's capability to achieve an eventual victory over the menace of disease and disability.

The President's Award, symbolized by a gold medal suspended from a blue and white neck ribbon, is granted each year to generally not more than five individuals of the career service whose achievements exemplify to an exceptional degree imagination, courage and high ability to carrying out the mission of the government.

For Dr. Shannon the President's Award
Howard Drew, Decorated Veteran, Gives 56th Blood Donation for 7-Gallon Total

Howard P. Drew, a decorated Army veteran who is now a National Library of Medicine reference librarian, recently made his 56th blood donation—for a total of 7 gallons—at the NIH Clinical Center Blood Bank.

Mr. Drew's inspiration for donating so much blood stemmed from a bus accident at Fort Devens, Mass., in 1945. A passenger on the bus, he extricated himself from the burning wreckage, entered through flames and brought out a critically injured fellow soldier.

Although burned on face, hands and arms, he tried to force his way in again but explosions drove him back. For his heroism the Army awarded him the Soldier's Medal.

Blood Aids Recovery

His recovery from severe burns was aided by transfusions of whole blood and plasma.

In 1950 Mr. Drew began donating blood. At first he gave at the District of Columbia Red Cross Chapter. For the past 2 years he has given at the Clinical Center. Mr. Drew continues in the Army Reserve service as a master sergeant. He is in the Special Forces ("Green Berets") and has made 41 parachute jumps.

New Nonporous Grafts Have Many Advantages

NHI grant-aided scientists at the University of Minnesota Medical Center report that a new nonporous vascular prosthesis of woven Teflon fabric is superior to conventional grafts of crimped dacron and Teflon with respect to formation and maturation of the grafts' inner lining or neointima.

The new material has been in experimental clinical use for 4½ years, said Drs. Robert Lee Simmons, Raymond C. Bonnabear, Randolph M. Ferlie, David M. Long and C. Walton Lillehei, in Surgical Forum.

Although the high porosity of most woven synthetic vascular grafts is a characteristic long thought essential for healing or maturation of fibrin deposits into a smooth inner sheet of endothelial tissue, it has led to occasional serious bleeding episodes in heparinized patients during or soon after graft installation.

Successful experimental trials of the nonporous Teflon fabric prosthesis have avoided this hazard and, indeed, have challenged the concept of porosity as a primary desirable characteristic of synthetic arteries.

Howard Drew, Army veteran and donor of 7 gallons of blood, displays his 56th donation.—Photo by Ralph Fernandez.

NIH Is Represented at Open Hearing

The following statement was presented to the Montgomery County Commission on Human Relations by Dr. Julius White, NIH Deputy Employment Policy Officer, on behalf of the Director of NIH at recent hearings on open housing:

"We wish to express our interest in seeing that policies and practices which constitute a positive and continuing program for equal opportunities for all citizens are adopted within Montgomery County.

Equality Stressed

"The policy of the National Institutes of Health, in keeping with that of the Federal Government, is one of promoting equal opportunities for all. As a research agency whose goals are the betterment of mankind, we strongly endorse programs which will permit individuals to avail themselves of the rights due under the laws of this country.

Effective recruitment and retention of personnel are frequently interwoven with the local availability of suitable housing. As the largest Federal employer in Montgomery County, one of our great concerns is that the limitations of housing accommodations for reasons of race, creed, color or national origin should not preclude individuals from seeking employment at the National Institutes of Health because they are denied the opportunity for housing within the reasonable commuting distance.

"The National Institutes of Health endorses any suitable action which will provide equal opportunities in all endeavors for all individuals regardless of race, creed, color or national origin."
A New Generation Comes Into Its Own
At NIH's Largest Personnel Orientation

Youth had its day at NIH on June 20 when the largest personnel orientation ever held here took place in Wilson Auditorium, Building 1.

Of the 248 new employees sworn in by Robert L. Schultheis, Assistant Chief of the Personnel Management Branch, 214 were born in the 1940s, and 101 of these are under 18 years of age. Two young recruits, John and James Scharnert, twin brothers from Rockville, Md., are just 16.

The personnel processing was reminiscent in many ways of a college registration—except that these were not students signing up for classes but a new generation of NIH employees filling out final papers before reporting to job assignments.

According to Katherine M. Ryan, Head of the Program Services Section, Personnel Management Branch, the newcomers include 82 career employees and 166 summer employees.

Youth Trainees Hired
Among the summer employees are 78 youth trainees hired under the President's Youth Opportunity Campaign, providing meaningful work for disadvantaged youths, age 16-21.

A major purpose of this program is to enable these young people to return to school or to continue their education through their own efforts.

Most of the youth trainees at NIH are employed in groups, the theory being that in this way they can more easily be given the sensitive leadership and guidance from which they will learn good work habits. This does not, of course, preclude individual assignments where the work or personal circumstances indicate such placement.

Scientific Assignments
Also numbered among the summer employees who started work at NIH on June 20 are 27 college students preparing for scientific careers of their own. Holders of Student Assistant appointments, they are assigned to work under professionals in the microbiology, biology, chemistry and medical laboratories of the various institutes.

In addition, there are 61 Office and Science Assistants working here this summer in statistical, social science and clerical fields.

Student assistants at NIH represent many different colleges and geographical locations. Typifying the variety are:

- Nancy Sauer (right) of Kensington, Md., a summer employee at NIH, pauses for refreshment provided by the R&W Association prior to the orientation. Serving her is Lillian Caraway of Government Services, Inc.—

Dr. Green Is Appointed
NIH Associate Director

Dr. Jerome G. Green has been named Associate Director for Extramural Programs of the National Heart Institute.

Dr. Green has been with Extramural Programs since he joined NIH in 1955 as a medical officer in the PHS Commissioned Corps. He was appointed EP's Deputy Chief in August 1965 upon his return to Bethesda from a special assignment at the Cleveland Clinic.

In December he became Acting Associate Director for Extramural Programs following the retirement of Dr. J. Franklin Yeager.

Dr. Murayama Helps Young Scientists Build Exhibit of Molecular Structures

Sandy Read and June Oberdorfer, seniors at nearby Sidwell Friends School, assisted by Dr. Makio Murayama of the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, recently completed an exhibit showing the structure of a myoglobin molecule.

The two girls assembled the exhibit for their science classes, with help from Dr. Murayama, who constructs molecular models as part of his research on sickle cell hemoglobin.

The project had its beginnings last fall when the girls' chemistry teacher asked for volunteers to build an exhibit that would help students understand molecular structure. Sandy, who had heard about Dr. Murayama's molecular models and his willingness to help students, contacted Dr. Murayama. He readily offered some of his time to help build an exhibit on myoglobin.

There followed for Sandy many hours of diligent reading in the library. After each period of study she would approach the NIAMD scientist with a list of questions and problems.

With specific problems ironed out, Sandy started work. She helped Dr. Murayama construct a large model of the myoglobin molecule, which he then loaned her for the exhibit.

Model Built
She then built a model of the alpha helix, held by Dr. Murayama in the picture. Eight of these alpha helical regions make up the complete myoglobin molecule. Sandy followed with a series of charts describing the molecule.

June assisted with the textual material and helped set up the display.

The secondary structure of the molecule was illustrated by her model of the alpha helix. This helix is a polypeptide chain which might resemble a right-handed screw.

A description of the molecule's tertiary structure was achieved by explaining the way in which the acid chain is folded in space.

Sandy and June believe the project has been extremely valuable because of the insight it has given them and their classmates into molecular structure.

Both girls plan to major in biology or chemistry when they enter college next fall. Dr. Murayama said he plans to keep an eye on them for future lab assistant vacancies.
Studies on Malnourished Nigerian Infants Initiated

Dr. Leon L. Hopkins Jr., a consultant to the Nutrition Section, Office of International Research, is currently initiating studies with Dr. Joseph C. Edozien, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, to determine the effectiveness of trivalent chromium in correcting disorders in the carbohydrate metabolism of malnourished infants in Nigeria.

This research is similar to studies previously conducted by Dr. Hopkins in Jerusalem, Jordan. At that time Dr. Amin S. Majaj, Chief of Pediatrics at Jerusalem's Augusta Victoria Hospital, collaborated with Dr. Hopkins.

The studies, among refugee infants who were Dr. Majaj's patients, showed the ability of chromium to raise abnormally low fasting blood-sugar levels and to improve faulty sugar uptake by body tissues. These infants were suffering from severe malnutrition and showed a marked improvement in their bodily ability to use sugar after receiving very small amounts of chromium.

Findings Presented

Dr. Hopkins presented his and Dr. Majaj's findings at the recent annual meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology.

These research studies are supported by the Advanced Research Projects Agency (Project Agile) and monitored by ORI's Nutrition Section.

Dr. Hopkins, who is a Research Biochemist in the Food and Drug Administration, previously worked with Dr. Walter Mertz and Dr. Klaus Schwarz, formerly of the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, in studies which originally identified the role of chromium in carbohydrate metabolism.

L. E. Waters Gets Award for Improving Method of Preparing Biological Samples

Lorenzo E. Waters, Technion of the Macromolecular Biology Section, National Cancer Institute, recently received commendation and a cash award for developing a more effective and economical method of preparing small quantities of biological material for electron microscopy.

Standard methods for the preparation of samples of animal tumor viruses require the recovery of visible “pellets” by centrifuging a virus suspension, and often permit loss of the smallest pellets in the process. Working on his own, Mr. Waters has perfected a small filtration apparatus which is now being used by some other laboratories as well as his own.

Process Described

With this apparatus, which uses a small, commercially available, pleated, disposable, filter paper, virus is collected under slow suctioning in the middle of a tissue paper filter. After being covered with another filter paper and closed in the capsule, the sample may be safely washed, embedded, impregnated, and sectioned before being investigated by electron microscopy.

Besides eliminating the risk of loss of samples for research, the new method has resulted in substantial savings. Animal leukemia viruses are expensive, and by markedly reducing the quantity of virus needed, Mr. Waters' method has already saved his laboratory $16,000 on one kind of tumor virus alone. The method has the added advantage of allowing the rejection of sparse biological samples which have up to now been impractical or impossible to examine.

Mr. Waters has been at NCI since July 1952. He lives and prays in Park with his wife and 5 children. Mr. Waters described his family's interest in track competition. His 14-year-old daughter, Diane, who belongs to the Frederick (Md.) Track Club, last year broke the American record for girls' high jump. In indoor meets this past winter, she piled up points which earned her the rating of the third best high jumper in the United States, Women's Division.

PHS Publication Gives Findings on Initiation Of Labor in Childbirth

The phenomena of the labor of childbirth have baffled scientists since the time of Hippocrates, and the causes for the initiation of labor remain unknown.

To identify the present state of knowledge concerning the initiation of labor, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development sponsored an interdisciplinary conference in 1963.

Proceedings of this conference, held in Princeton, N.J., are now available in a 241-page, fully indexed volume, Initiation of Labor. Research approaches and results discussed at the conference represented the work of scientists and clinicians from many disciplines: anatomy, biochemistry, endocrinology, genetics, pharmacology, obstetrics and gynecology, and neonatology—study of the newborn.

Initiation of Labor, edited by Dr. Joseph M. Time, of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, includes a summary and over 100 tables and figures.


Dr. Stewart Announces 5 Grants for Planning Regional Med. Programs

Five grants for planning Regional Medical Programs were announced recently by Dr. William H. Stewart, Surgeon General of the Public Health Service. The awards launched the program authorized last year by Congress to fund the latest advances in the diagnosis and treatment of heart disease, cancer and stroke to all Americans.

The approved applications will result in grants for planning cooperative medical programs in five regions of Hawaii, Kansas, Vermont, Connecticut and Missouri. Planning activities will include a detailed assessment of the particular health needs and present resources of the individual region for carrying out the purposes of the program.

DRMP Administrates

The five grant requests total $1,630,392. However, the final amount of each award will be determined in negotiations with the staff of the new Division of Regional Medical Programs which is administering the grant program.

The grants will also support the development of plans for such activities as continuing education of physicians and other health personnel, demonstration of the most advanced techniques of diagnosis and treatment of these diseases, more effective integration of research activities with improved patient care, better means of gathering and analyzing medical data and the introduction of modern electronic technology in the distribution of medical knowledge and the diagnosis of disease.

Concept Expounded

The concept of Regional Medical Programs was developed as a method to make more widely available the advanced capabilities now found in large medical centers. It will provide a mechanism for the effective communication of modern medical knowledge already available and for the development of new knowledge that can be applied for human benefit.

in the study of genetic diseases, in pinpointing need for research in a particular area, and in providing services to the blind. In addition, some of the registers have provided useful data for safety programs and medicare planning.

Project members work closely with ophthalmologists and optometrists, encouraging them to report new cases of blindness to the registry, so that they can follow their cooperation in providing complete data on age, sex, race, and degree and cause of visual impairment.
Harvard Investigator Discusses Study of ‘Saturday’s Children’ at NICHD Meeting

By Susan Weinberg

Dr. Mary Engel, of Harvard’s Center for Research in Careers, calls them “Saturday’s Children.” They are truck jumpers, delivery boys, snow shovellers, store sweepers—of getting away from women, “getting independence from mother’s whims, money and rage.”

Third, since many of their friends work, and have the extra dollars that working brings, peer-group influence may lead some boys to seek a job. Working brings a kind of freedom, a degree of independence based on having one’s own money, that only those who work can know.

Scheduling Difficult

The investigators are also interested in the relationship of the working environment to their work patterns. Children whose homes have no phone, no time-scheduling, and for whom work serves as the only marker of time are considered to be in the lowest socio-economic group. Dr. Engel suggests that below a critical amount of household time-scheduling, no child can show a regular work pattern.

In getting this information, Dr. Engel and her colleagues have studied over 60 Boston area working boys through sensitive clinical tests and in intimate personal interviews.

Boys Cooperate

To qualify for the study, a boy had to be younger than 14, have his mother’s written permission, and be seen at work by one of the researchers. The boys were paid a standard wage, and once they saw themselves as “working” for the researchers, they cooperated openly and interestingly.

The study will be completed this summer. Dr. Engel expects it will yield some interesting information about the relationship between “work-style,” control of anger, and intelligence in the working child. Information regarding incidence of work at different ages and socio-economic levels, and the relationship of child work to economic necessity and family size and living arrangements is also expected from this study.

Dr. Dunphy Appointed to NIGMS Advisory Council

Dr. J. Engelbert Dunphy, Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of California Medical Center in San Francisco, has been appointed to a 4-year term on the advisory council of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. The appointment, announced by Dr. William H. Stewart, Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service, will be effective October 1, 1966.

The appointment of Dr. Bertram S. Brown as Acting Deputy Director of the National Institute of Mental Health was announced recently by Dr. Stanley F. Yolles, Institute Director.

In his new post Dr. Brown will share with the director the total responsibility for the expanded NIMH activity in support of research, recruitment and training of mental health professionals, and development of community mental health programs.

Administratively, Dr. Brown will aid the director in implementing the first major reorganization of the Institute in its 18 years of existence.

The new structure, approved by Surgeon Gen. William H. Stewart earlier this year, is designed to give more emphasis to research by highlighting prevention programs, innovative training programs and special mental health problem areas.

“Dr. Brown’s career exemplifies the opportunities available to mental health professionals in the National mental health program. At 35, Dr. Brown, a psychiatrist, has earned a national reputation in the fields of mental health, mental retardation and corrections,” Dr. Yolles said.

Experience Noted

Dr. Brown joined the NIMH in 1960. As Chief of the Community Mental Health Facilities Branch, he had a major role in aiding states and communities to establish eligibility for Federal funds to finance the construction and initial staffing of community mental health centers. Earlier, he served as Staff Director on the President’s Panel on Mental Retardation.

At the time of his appointment as Acting Deputy Director, Dr. Brown held the newly created post of Associate Director for Mental Health Service Programs.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1931, Dr. Brown graduated from Brooklyn College, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and received his medical degree at Cornell University. He received his Master’s Degree in Public Health at the Harvard University School of Public Health in 1960.

Following an internship at the Yale University School of Medicine, he was Resident and Teaching Fellow at the Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts Mental Health Center.
Officials of Niger Tour NIH Facilities During Cultural Exchange Visit to U.S.

Dr. Stuart Sessoms, Deputy Director of NIH, talks to two officials from Niger during their recent visit. From left: Ibrahim Issa, Minister of Public Health; Dr. Sessoms and Zakara Moundour, Minister of Saharan and Nomadic Affairs and Minister of Post and Telecommunications.—Photo by Tom Joy.

Wearing picturesque green and white tribal robes, two high officials of the Government of Niger, Africa, recently visited NIH as part of their 30-day tour of the United States.

The cultural exchange visit of Dr. James O. Davis, Head of the Department of Physiology of the University of Missouri School of Medicine. Dr. Davis plans to initiate a program of research in experimental heart failure and hypertension during his 16 years with the National Heart Institute.

Among findings emerging from his investigation have been the important role of the adrenal cortex in the retention of sodium during heart failure, the hypersecretion of aldosterone during experimental heart failure and renal hypertension and the primary importance of the renin-angiotensin system in regulating aldosterone secretion.

Background Cited

Columbia, Mo. is familiar territory for Dr. Davis. He received his Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Missouri in 1942 and subsequently spent two years at the School of Medicine. At Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, he completed his M.D. and was later a Fellow in Cardiology.

In 1947 he joined NIH's Section on Gerontology and Cardiovascular Diseases at the PHS Hospital in Baltimore, Md. Two years later, Dr. James Shannon, then Director of the National Heart Institute, asked Dr. Davis to establish an Institute program on experimental heart failure. Dr. Davis has been with the Laboratory of Kidney and Electrolyte Metabolism since that time.

He has maintained an active interest in education while at NIH. During the past few years he has held appointments as Visiting Professor of Physiology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, the University of Virginia School of Medicine and Temple University School of Medicine.

"One of the strongest reasons for returning to a university is the opportunity to participate to a greater extent in the development of young men and women in the field of physiology," Dr. Davis says.

In addition to his teaching, Dr. Davis plans to initiate a program of research in experimental heart

Emphysema Described in New Pamphlet by NIH

Emphysema, a lung disease which strikes more than 17,000 Americans each year, is the subject of a new pamphlet from the National Heart Institute.

More widespread than lung cancer and tuberculosis combined, emphysema is still in many ways a mystery to medical science. Its exact cause is unknown, although several factors including repeated exposure to lung irritants, disease-producing organisms, allergic materials, or polluted air are suspected of playing important roles in its development.

Cigarette smoking is a prime suspect. Emphysema is about 13 times more prevalent among smokers than nonsmokers. A reversal of symptoms often takes place in persons with emphysema simply by the reduction or elimination of smoking.

Relief Possible

In one study, 44 of 66 patients who gave up smoking showed complete or nearly complete relief from coughing and had a substantially lower death rate over the next 20 years than those who continued to smoke.

The NIH pamphlet also discusses the prevention and symptoms of emphysema, as well as additional sources of information for persons suffering from the disease. Single copies of "Emphysema" (PHS Publication No. 1414) are available from the Heart Information Center, NIH, Bldg. 31, Rm. 6A04, Bethesda, Md. 20014. Multiple copies may be purchased at $6.50 per 100 from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Cancer-Inducing Potential Of Viruses Under Study

A study is presently being undertaken by investigators in the National Cancer Institute seeking a better understanding of the role of viruses in the causation of human cancer.

The possible cancer-inducing potential of hybrid viruses that combine the characteristics of virus oncogenic in newborn laboratory animals, such as Simian Virus 40, and nononcogenic strains of human virus, such as herpes or adenovirus, is a question of great importance in the search for human cancer viruses.

Previous studies have shown that single African green monkey cells (AGMK) can be infected by both human adenovirus and SV40, and there has been evidence of the formation of a "hybrid" between the two viruses. In order to determine whether mixed infection with SV40 and another type of DNA virus was possible, AGMK cells were inoculated with SV40 and herpes simplex virus (HSV).

NCI investigators report that when herpes is inoculated into cultures of African green monkey kidney cells 24 hours after SV40, the two viruses are found in the same nucleus of approximately 5 percent of the intact cells after incubation. Mixed infection is rare when the two viruses are inoculated simultaneously.

Dr. Alan S. Rabson, Dr. Gregory T. O'Connor, Frances J. Paul and Irene K. Berezesky, all of NCI, reported their findings in Science.
search, a science indispensable to the advancement of biomedical knowledge. He termed the dedication of the NIAMID faculty as symbolic of the determination of investigators and technicians in the battle against disease and suffering.

The NIAMID Director also praised the Pima Indians for their help, and thanked personnel of the Division of Indian Health for their cooperation.

The single-story, wooden frame structure is 44 feet long and 34 feet wide. It consists of a reception room, laboratory, and examination rooms for x-ray, EKG, and eye. In addition, there are two offices and two rest rooms. One entrance leads to the main hallway of the Sacaton Hospital.

Wherever the need arises in connection with field studies, the portable facility can be removed and the truck transported to another site.

In previous studies, the Clinical Field Studies Unit operated from several trailers and small trucks, which will now be used for research trips to nearby areas.

Facility Needed

The clinical facility was constructed in order to conduct more intensive studies which would include such aspects as determination of the mode of inheritance of diabetes, the natural history of the disease and its complications, the role of diet and other environmental factors, the effect of the disease on pregnancy, and the effect of therapeutic measures.

Continuing investigations of arthritides among the Pimas, begun two years ago, and new studies of gall bladder disease, will also be facilitated by the new building.

In the 1965 diabetes survey, Dr. Thomas A. Burch, Chief of the Clinical Field Studies Unit, headed the study. He was accompanied by Dr. Peter Bennett, Clinical Associate of the Unit. In their continuing studies they will be assisted by two other physicians who will soon join the NIAMID survey.

In addition, Dr. Max Miller and associates at Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, will continue to collaborate in the diabetes studies by acting as on-the-spot advisors on diabetes, and by testing specimens in their laboratories.

Meeting Held to Assure Medicare Availability

Representatives of some 30 national organizations met in Washington May 20 with officials of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to urge legislation that would help to assure that all people over 65 years of age will receive Medicare benefits at their local hospital when the health insurance program begins on July 1.

Catherine Delea Gives the Answers for NCI’s Clinical Endocrinology Branch

When a knotty problem arises in the National Heart Institute’s Clinical Endocrinology Branch, the investigators and technicians have a saying that covers every contingency: “Only God knows—and Catherine Delea.”

The Branch Chief, Dr. Frederic C. Bartter, says, “It’s fair to call her the branch’s executive secretary. She can cope with any problem I hand her, or she can start the machinery for resolving it.”

Miss Delea has worked in the branch since 1953. She serves as liaison between the clinical and laboratory activities of the branch.

Each day in the Clinical Center, samples and information are gathered from 18 study subjects. Miss Delea is responsible for logging this information and maintaining a data file for future reference.

She supervises the technicians who perform some 30 analyses each day on the samples from patients. The press of her numerous duties leaves her little time for lab work.

Catherine Delea checks the progress of one step in a steroid analysis. The hood is for protection in the use of radioactive materials.—Photo by Ed Hubbard.

Study Shows Induced Eye Pressure Rise Inherited

Further evidence has been found that a steroid-induced rise in eye pressure is inherited and appears in subjects with a susceptibility to glaucoma. This is reported in a recent study supported by the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness.

Findings Cited

The study also confirmed application tonometry as a reliable measure of the degree of response. Knowledge of the mode of inheritance of glaucoma and of a more reliable diagnostic test to detect potential sufferers at an early age will allow investigators to study the history of the development of this eye disorder. Periodic examinations of glaucoma suspects and early treatment if glaucoma develops, may prevent needless sight loss.

For 4 weeks, participants in the study applied steroid drops (dexamethasone) to the right eye three times daily. The other eye was used as a control to determine the individual’s normal pressure. Application tonometry was performed weekly. All subjects examined in the study had perfectly normal eyes and visual function.

Results Described

Fifteen subjects exhibited a low rise (5 mm. Hg or less) in eye pressure following steroid application, and a similar response was found in almost all their parents. Parents of 4 subjects exhibiting a moderate rise (16 mm. Hg or more) in eye pressure responded with a high degree of increased pressure.

This study by Dr. Mansour F. Arma, of the University of Iowa in Iowa City, was reported in Archives of Ophthalmology.

Dr. Knight Leaves NIAID To Head Medical Dept. At Baylor University

Dr. Vernon Knight, Clinical Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, will leave NIH June 30 to become Professor and Chairman of the Department of Microbiology at Baylor University College of Medicine, Houston, Tex.

He has also been named Head of the Division of Infectious Diseases in the Department of Medicine there. Both appointments are effective July 1.

Dr. Sheldon Wolf is Head of the Laboratory's Clinical Physiology section. A member of the NIAID scientific staff since 1960, he is a graduate of the University of Georgia, studied at the University of Heidelberg, Germany, and received an M.D. degree from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.

In 1961, Dr. Knight set up the NIAID study of viral respiratory diseases using normal volunteers brought to the Clinical Center from some 14 Federal prisons. In the program’s first 5 years, more than 1,000 volunteers took part in the study of some 20 different viral infections.

Recognized as an expert on viral respiratory diseases, Dr. Knight has written three chapters on the subject in Harrison’s “Principles of Internal Medicine,” a textbook now in press. He has also published 62 articles on his research in scientific journals.
Dr. Chester W. Emmons, Noted Fungi Authority, Ends 37-Year Career

Dr. Chester W. Emmons of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases will retire this week after a distinguished 37-year career in medical mycology.

During 30 years as a research scientist at NIH, Dr. Emmons became a world authority on fungi and fungal diseases, a leader in the field of experimental mycology and a frequent participant in international microbiology meetings. Dr. Emmons was Assistant Head of the Medical Mycology Section of the NIAID Laboratory of Infectious Diseases in 1961, after having been Chief Mycologist of the laboratory and its organizational counterparts since 1956.

He joined the NIH staff after 2 years at the School of Tropical Medicine in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He received his B.A. degree from the University of Iowa, an M.S. degree from the University of Iowa and a Ph.D. degree from Columbia University.

Background Given

Dr. Emmons' work included the first identification of a fungal infection in desert rodents (known in humans as Valley Fever), a serious disease problem in the Southwest; original research in establishing the importance of histoplasmosis and blastomycosis from their natural habitats; isolation and description of new fungal disease agents, and, recently, leading work on antibiotic treatment of mycotic diseases.

His laboratory reported some of the first and most conclusive evidence on the usefulness of Amphotericin B, the only antibiotic now being used for a number of systemic fungal infections.

Dr. Emmons was a professorial lecturer at the George Washington University Medical School from 1942 to 1962 and consultant in mycology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology since 1958.

He has published more than 150 papers in scientific journals and serves on the editorial boards of four journals.

A member of a number of national and international professional societies, he has been President of the Mycological Society of America, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Academy of Microbiology and Vice-President of the International Society for Human and Animal Mycology.

In August, Dr. Emmons will continue discussing the painting presented to the Clinical Center in memory of Dr. Dorothy Gates Rodgers at a recent ceremony (from left): Artist Norma Eskenazi; Philip Sapir, National Institute of Mental Health; Mrs. Ethel Cox, a CC patient; Mrs. Luther Terry, wife of the former PHS Surgeon General; and Mrs. Harriet Engleender, hospital volunteer in charge of art cart—Photo by Ralph Fernandez.

In memory of the late Dr. Dorothy Gates Rodgers, her NIH friends and associates recently presented to the Clinical Center the award-winning oil painting "Lifeguards," in a "Pictures for Patients" program.

Presentation was made by Philip Sciences Research Branch, National Institute of Mental Health.

Prior to her death in May Dr. Rodgers was Chief of the Program Analysis Section, Research Grants Branch, NIMH.

The painting was accepted by Mrs. Luther Terry, wife of the former Public Health Service Surgeon General, who initiated the Pictures for Patients program among Federal hospitals.

Program Supported

The program got off to a fast start at the Clinical Center, where reprints of more than 200 paintings from which patients may choose are available. The PHS Officers' Wives' Club and other members of the community have provided support.

The painting by Norma Eskenazi won first prize among paintings in R&W's 8th Annual NIH Art Exhibit. The artist is the wife of Soloman Eskenazi, Chief, Data Processing Section, Statistics and Analysis Branch, Division of Research Grants.

In accepting the painting, which was mounted in the CC's solarium for all patients to enjoy, Mrs. Terry noted that it conveys a spirit of outdoors and space and is the type of painting patients choose most often.

Dr. Louis A. Wiewierski, Chief, Consultation and Special Services Branch, NIMH, was chairman of the fund to acquire the picture and took part in the ceremony.

Also present were: Drs. Betty Pickett and Dorothy T. Carlson, NIMH; Betsy Popof, NIH Hospital Volunteer Program Chairman; Harriet Engleender, hospital volunteer in charge of the art cart, from which patients select paintings to hang in their rooms; Janet L. Lunceford, Cancer Nursing Service, and Ethel Cox, a CC patient from Elbert, W. Va.

The painting will bear a plate memorizing Dr. Rodgers.

DR. SHANNON

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Award follows closely his receipt of another high honor. In April he was presented with the Distinguished Service Medal, the top award given by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to commissioned officers of the Public Health Service.

Receiving the gold medal awards from the President along with Dr. Shannon were Dr. Elson B. Hedwig, chief of the Department of Pathology; Robert E. Hollingsworth, General Manager of the Atomic Energy Commission; Thomas E. Mann, Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs, and H. Rex Lee, Governor of American Samoa.

NIAID Scientists Go to Overseas Assignments

Two scientists of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases left last week for 1-year research assignments at overseas laboratories.

Dr. Ned H. Wiebenga, Acting Chief of the Laboratory of Tropical Virology, has been assigned to the U.S. Army Medical Command, 408th Medical Laboratory, near Tokyo, Japan. He will direct the Department of Viral and Rickettsial Diseases of the Laboratory and conduct a special study of Korean hemorrhagic fever.

Dr. John J. Muenoz, research microbiologist at the NIAID's Rocky Mountain Laboratory in Hamilton, Mont., will spend the year at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, France. He plans to study the digestion of antigens by tissue enzymes, collaborating with Claude LaFresle in the Pasteur laboratory.

Hemorrhagic fevers have been Dr. Wiebenga's special research interest since he joined the Institute in 1961, after 18 years of service in the U.S. Navy. He has worked on hemorrhagic fever studies in Bolivia, and last year was a member of the U.S. exchange mission to the Soviet Union.

Sacks Agent

Korean hemorrhagic fever is believed to be caused by a virus, although none has been isolated. The study in Japan will seek the agent and examine the possible role of field rodents as carriers of the disease.

Several hundred cases of a disease similar to Korean hemorrhagic fever have been noted in Japan in recent years, according to Dr. Wiebenga, and these are to be studied along with known cases of the fever in Korea.

Plans are being made for a field laboratory to be set up on the outskirts of Seoul, Korea. Some field work on dengue may be done in South Vietnam.

Dr. Muenoz, working in the Paris laboratory where much study has already been conducted on the enzymatic breakdown of protein antigens, hopes to isolate the fragments of antigens which stimulate antibody formation and produce hypersensitivity reactions. His main objective is to find the role that these fragments may play in allergic conditions.