Dr. Fredrickson Addresses Meeting Of Cardiologists

Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, Director of the National Heart Institute, spoke on decisions involved in planning for future Federal re­

stitute, at the 16th Annual Scientific Session

the 10th Annual Scientific Session of the American College of Cardiologists last week.

The scientists and physicians had received a complete status report on current aspects of treating, diagnosing and preventing heart disease.

The opening session featured cardiac clinics and demonstrations, including Clinical Center discus­

Aseptic DRS Animal Caretakers Provide Pathogen-Free Species for Scientists

By Kathleen Dubois

The life of an animal caretaker in Building 14G is not an easy one. Every day at work before starting his duties, he has to shower, scrubbing with a sterile brush and germicidal soap, brush his teeth, gargle, clean his nails, and change to a sterile uniform, complete with face mask, cap, rubber gloves, and canvas shoes. And when he returns to his job from lunch, he has to repeat the entire process.

Cleanliness Necessary

Why all this super-cleanliness? It's part of the routine devised by the Division of Research Services for providing the NIH medical in­

vestigator with another of today's highly refined laboratory tools: the pathogen-free animal.

At present, the Laboratory Aids Branch, under its new Chief, Dr. (See CARETAKERS, Page 1)

Animal caretaker Bessie Brown adds the new arrivals to a pathogen-free mouse production room.—Photo by Jerry Hecht.


Rep. Daniel J. Flood (D-Pa.) has been appointed Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee, which handles $16 billion for health, education, welfare and labor programs, including NIH approp­riations.

Mr. Flood, a member of the sub­committee since early 1965, succeeds John E. Fogarty (D-R.I.) who died Jan. 10. Rep. Flood's appointment was announced on Feb. 3 by House Appropriations Chairman, George H. Mahon (D-Tex.), who at the same time named four new members to the subcommittee. They are, in order of seniority, Reps. William H. Natcher (D-Ky.), Neal Smith (D-Iowa), W. R. Hull Jr. (D-Mo.) and Robert B. Casey (D-Tex.).

Flood Is From Pennsylvania

The new chairman of the sub­committee represents Pennsylvania's 11th District and makes his home in Wilkes-Barre. A gradu­

ate of Syracuse University, with A.B. and M.A. degrees, Mr. Flood also attended Harvard Law School and Dickinson School of Law, Car­liole, Pa.

He received the LL.B. degree in 1929, and was admitted to the bar of the various State and Federal Courts in 1930. In addition to prac­

ticing law in Pennsylvania, Mr. Flood also held several state ap­

pointive offices before being elected to the 79th Congress, Nov. 7, 1944. Rep. Flood served in the 81st Congress, the 82nd Congress and the 84th Congress, and was re­

elected to the succeeding Con­

gresses.

Assigments Listed

Mr. Flood is a former Vice Chairman of Special Committee to Investigate the Katyn Massacre (murder of Polish officers by Rus­sians) and a present member of the Appropriations Committee and the Department of Defense Sub­

committee. Rep. Natcher, a lawyer from Bowling Green, Ky., was elected to the 83rd Congress, Aug. 1, 1953, and was re­

elected in succeeding Con­

gresses. He is a member of the Committee on Appropriations and Chairman of the D. C. Appropriations Subcommittee.

Rep. Smith, a lawyer and farmer from Altoona, Iowa, was a former chairman of the Polk County Board of Social Welfare (a civic board whose members served without pay and distributed several million dollars per year to needy families and elderly citizens). He was elected to the 86th Congress, Nov. 4, 1958, and reelected to suc­ceeding Congresses.

Rep. Hull is a businessman from Weston, Mo., and a former mayor of that city. He was elected to the 84th Congress on Nov. 2, 1954, and reelected to the 85th and succeed­ing Congresses.

Rep. Casey, a Houston lawyer, served as county judge of Harris County.

Dr. Lipsett Appointed NCI's Breast Cancer Task Force Chairman

Dr. Mortimer B. Lipsett, Chief of the Endocrinology Branch, Na­

tional Cancer Institute, has been designated Chairman of the Insti­tute's Breast Cancer Task Force.

The Breast Cancer Task Force was formed early in 1966 to coordi­
nate an intensified program of research into the causes, diagnosis, trea­

ment, and possible control of breast cancer.

The group suc­ceeds an advisory committee ap­

pointed by the Director of the Na­tional Cancer Institute to formulate general guidelines for breast cancer investigations.

Eleven members of the Task Force are from 6 medical research institutions in addition to the Na­tional Cancer Institute, and repre­
sent a variety of disciplines includ­ing medicine, chemotherapy, surgery, radiology, virology and epidemiology.

Impetus for the Task Force ap­

proach to breast cancer research (See LIPSETT, Page 4)
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NEWS from PERSONNEL

'66 HEALTH BENEFITS COSTS

Because employers do not receive a statement of deductions with every paycheck, the '66 health benefits costs totaled below may be helpful in itemizing deductions on income tax returns.

The Blue Cross-Blue Shield (Service Benefit) Plan—Enrollment Cost, High Option: $72.12 for self only; $193.08 for self and family. Low Option: $33.80 for self only; $87.84 for self and family.

The Acta (Indemnity Benefit) Plan—Enrollment Cost, High Option: $78.19 for self only; $181.99 for self and family. Low Option: $33.80 for self only; $87.84 for self and family.

The Group Health Association Plan—Enrollment Cost, High Option: $130.36 for self only; $335.32 for self and family. Low Option totaled $79.92 for self only; $213.80 for self and family.

The '66 figures are less than the total costs for calendar year 1965 because, beginning July 1966, the Government made a greater contribution toward enrollment costs, and consequently, the cost to the employee was decreased.

OFFICIAL PERSONNEL FOLDERS

Often an employe completes a course or receives a degree which enhances his qualifications. Unless this information is included in his Official Personnel Folder, it cannot be used as promotion material.

To update his folder, an employe should obtain an SF 58 (Supplemental Experience and Qualifications Statement) from his I/D Personnel Office. He should indicate on this form any qualifications which are not already recorded in his

Files Improvement Course To Be Offered Here Soon

The Management Policy Branch, Office of Administrative Management, has arranged for a files improvement course. The course will be given by the Government Services Administration Institute at the NIH in mid-April. This workshop consists of 4 half-day sessions, all in one week, for NIH employes at any grade level responsible for organizing, arranging or maintaining official files.

For further information contact your I/D Personnel Officer.

40 New Contracts Aim At Specific Objectives

Forty new research contracts totaling $1,955,807 were let during October, November and December 1966 by the National Institutes of Health.

In addition, supplemental agreements amounting to $8,114,158 were executed during the same period on another 45 research contracts already in effect.

The contracts were let to 37 organizations including university medical schools, pharmaceutical laboratories, and similar research facilities in 18 States, the District of Columbia, Canada and Lebanon.

NIH officials pointed out that the research contract mechanism is used for research and development activities with limited, highly specific objectives which can best be performed outside the laboratories of NIH, and permit utilization of highly specialized facilities.

The 'Extra Step" to Have First Run Here March 2, 3

"The Extra Step," a new 30-minute color film on improved service to the public, will be shown in the Clinical Center auditorium March 2 and 3 at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The film was produced exclusively for the U.S. Civil Service Commission. Its aim is to increase awareness of the importance of public service both for the Government and for the employe.

The Civil Service Commission has stressed that every Federal employe should have an opportunity to see this film.

Dr. Tripp Gets Award, Retires and Assumes New Post With DBS

Dr. John T. Tripp, Special Assistant to the Director, DBS, receives the PHS Meritorious Service Medal from Dr. Stuart M. Sessions, NIH Deputy Director.—Photo by Ralph Fernandez.

Dr. Tripp has served as an Assistant Director in charge of li-
Excitement in the Lab

Exciting things are happening in Dr. Nirenberg's lab. It was he and his associates who performed the famous experiment of protein synthesis in cell-free systems that "cracked" the genetic code.

A 1963 graduate of Goucher College, where she majored in biology, Anne worked at the Research Institute for Advanced Studies in her native Baltimore for more than two years before transferring to the Plant Research Laboratory at Michigan State University. At Michigan her work involved the study of plant nucleic acids. She has been at NIH for a year.

A bride of 8 months, Anne shares her husband's avid interest in the theatre. Some day they hope to start an amateur dramatic group and try their luck at producing a play. Meanwhile, they hold weekly play readings in their Rockville apartment with a group of other drama enthusiasts.

Anne's special interest is transfer RNA, whose function in protein synthesis is to deliver individual amino acids to messenger RNA. Each species of transfer accepts one specific amino acid, of which there are 20. Then, with its amino acid in tow, the transfer "homes in" on a specific codon in the messenger RNA strand. This brings its amino acid into proper alignment for incorporation into the protein chain.

Anne's work is concerned with comparing the properties of these different transfer RNAs.

County, Texas for six years before being elected from the newly created 22nd District to the 86th Congress on Nov. 4, 1958. He was re-elected to succeeding Congresses, and during the 88th Congress served on the Science and Aeronautics Committee.

Currently the appropriations subcommittee are Reps. Melvin R. Laird (R-Wis.), appointed to the subcommittee during the 88th Congress; Robert H. Michel (R-Ill.), appointed during the 87th Congress, and Garner E. Shriver (R-Kan.), appointed during the 89th Congress.

Rep. Laird of Marshfield, Wis., began his political career as a Wisconsin State Senator in 1946. He has served in the House of Representatives since his election to the 83rd Congress Nov. 4, 1952. He is a member of the House Appropriations Committee and the Defense Subcommittee.

Rep. Michel of Peoria, Ill., served as administrative assistant to his predecessor, Congressman Harold Velde from 1949-56. He was elected to the 85th Congress, and reelected to succeeding Congresses.

Rep. Shriver, a Wichita, Kansas lawyer, served as a State Representative and State Senator before his election to the 87th Congress Nov. 5, 1960. He has served in each succeeding Congress.

Daily Mass at CC Offered At More Convenient Time

Father Armand J. Gulche, Clinical Center Catholic chaplain, announces that Mass is now offered at 11:15 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Confessions will be heard at 11 a.m. The change to a later hour than before is designed to make it more convenient for patients to attend.

The place remains the same, the 14th floor chapel of the Clinical Center. Mass will continue to be carried by the bedside communication system.

There is no change in the Sunday schedule for Mass. Hours are 7:15 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

NIAMD Co-Sponsors Conference at NIH On Digestive Diseases

A conference to evaluate the importance of digestive diseases as a national health problem and to draw plans for intensifying research and research training in this field was held at the National Institutes of Health, Feb. 5-7.

About 70 representatives of professional, scientific and industrial agencies participated in the conference, sponsored by the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, the American Gastroenterological Association, and the Digestive Disease Foundation (the voluntary agency in the field).

Disorders Widespread

Gastrointestinal disorders such as peptic ulcer, liver cirrhosis, disorders of the gall bladder, gastritis, diverticulitis and colitis, are highly prevalent among the U. S. population.

The full impact of these diseases on the productivity of our population, however, has never been fully assessed.

In spite of some remarkable examples of scientific progress in gastroenterology during the past 15 years, the sponsoring agencies both governmental and private, believe that progress in this field would be advanced more rapidly through a concerted effort.

Objectives Given

During the 3-day meeting, the conference attempted to measure the importance of digestive disease as a health problem, using all possible sources of information.

They also attempted to define the major unmet needs for further research and development; to explore the opportunities for interagency collaboration in overcoming obstacles to progress in this field, and to draw up a list of national objectives as a guide and incentive to further efforts.

A substantive report on the conference proceedings will be issued in the near future.

DR. FREDRICKSON
(Continued from Page 1)

sions on current topics in cardiovascular research chaired by Dr. John Ross Jr. of the NIH Cardiology Branch. Nine other clinical discussion panels met at various other medical facilities throughout the Capital.

The keynote of the meeting was provided by the presentation of the college's first Distinguished Service Award to President Johnson for his support of heart disease programs and the annual convocation lecture given by Vice President Humphrey.

Featured at the 5-day program was a symposium on the partnership between Federal agencies and physicians who specialize in treating cardiovascular diseases.

After opening remarks by AMA President Dr. Charles L. Hudson of Cleveland, Ohio, the FDA Commissioner Dr. James L. Goddard and Dr. Philip R. Lee, Assistant Secretary, DH EW, discussed the need for "creative federalism" and "creative public care" in the health

Members of Appropriations Subcommittee
(Continued from Page 1)
NHI Audience Participation Exhibit on Stroke Showed at Cardiology Meeting

An NHI audience-participation exhibit, recently shown for the first time at the American College of Cardiology, reviewed the findings of a 14-year study of factors positively associated with development of strokes.

The exhibit, “The Epidemiology of Stroke,” is based on the reports of Drs. William B. Kannel and B. L. Troy of the Framingham (Mass.) Heart Study.

It pinpoints possible relationships of such factors as ECG abnormalities, elevated blood pressure, impaired cardiac function, and abnormal blood cholesterol levels to increased risk of strokes.

As part of the exhibit to be shown to professional societies and meetings, the audience will actually participate in a demonstration of how Framingham data is gathered.

Blood pressure, ECG, and vital capacity determinations will be taken on the spot from visitors by Framingham and the exhibit staff members.

Prevention Stressed

The theme of the exhibit is tuned to the preventive approach to cerebrovascular disease. Since Framingham studies have shown the close similarity between factors increasing susceptibility to stroke and those increasing susceptibility to coronary heart disease, it is clear that vascular disease of the brain is merely part of the larger problem of cardiovascular disease in general.

Thus, measures indicated for prevention of stroke are generally the same as those for prevention of coronary heart disease. They pinpoint those factors associated with increased risk and correct or ameliorate them where possible.

The new exhibit was produced in a simple filter cage system or under conditions approximating those in the production colonies.

The pathogen-free program, begun in 1963 as a pilot study, is now a permanent and growing part of NAB’s activities, as more and more NIH scientists express their preference for these animals for many kinds of experiments.

Dr. Miller attributes a large measure of the program’s success to the dedication of the caretaking staff. This hand-picked staff of nine, instead of considering their restricted working conditions a hardship, take pride in their extra responsibilities of maintaining the barrier and guarding the health of their small charges.

In Framingham, studies show that “H” rats have a high incidence of stroke and “A” rats have a low incidence. The ratio of these two rat strains in the total population is the same as that in the general population. The two strains are housed in separate rooms, but they may be put together in the same room for mating purposes.

The laboratory at Framingham is not a large one. It is located in a basement area of the building where it is easily accessible to the researchers. The laboratory staff consists of two engineers, a technician, and a technician’s assistant.

The rabbits are housed in individual cages, and each cage is equipped with a food hopper, water bottle, and a paper tube for urination. The cages are cleaned twice a week, and the rabbits are weighed and examined daily.

The rabbits are fed a commercial rabbit diet and a variety of vegetables. They are exercised daily by running on a treadmill. The cages are cleaned twice a week, and the rabbits are weighed and examined daily.

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