3 Sections Established
In NICHD's Laboratory
Of Biomedical Sciences

Dr. Gerald D. LaVeck, Director, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, has announced the establishment of three sections within the Institute's Laboratory of Biomedical Sciences.

Section Aims Explained

The Section on Developmental Enzymology, headed by Dr. Joseph C. Robinson, will identify and characterize pregnancy-associated enzymes and carrier proteins in maternal and fetal interactions, and will analyze fetal enzyme induction.

Dr. Gordon Guroff heads the Section on Intermediary Metabolism, which will develop laboratory analogs of mental retardation through chemical agents and enzyme inhibitors. This section will investigate the biosynthesis and degradation of macromolecules in the placenta.

Enzymology, headed by Dr. Joseph C. Robinson, will identify and characterize pregnancy-associated enzymes and carrier proteins in maternal and fetal interactions, and will analyze fetal enzyme induction.

Dr. Gordon Guroff heads the Section on Intermediary Metabolism, which will develop laboratory analogs of mental retardation through chemical agents and enzyme inhibitors. This section will investigate the biosynthesis and degradation of macromolecules in the placenta.

Classic Concepts of Nature of Diabetes Being Challenged, Press Briefing Reveals

"New and exciting research in diabetes is challenging the classic concept that this disease is primarily one of the pancreas," Dr. Jesse Roth reported at the NIH press briefing at the DHEW in February. Dr. Roth is Chief of the Section on Diabetes, Clinical Endocrinology Branch, National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases.

Dr. Roth cited the work by NIAMD grantee, Dr. Marvin D. Siperstein of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, whose studies suggest that diabetes is primarily a disease of the vascular system, and not simply a disorder of carbohydrate metabolism. It has been generally accepted that abnormal carbohydrate metabolism, as evidenced by elevated blood sugar levels and abnormal glucose tolerance tests, is the initial sign of clinical diabetes, and that small blood vessel disease develops as the diabetes progresses.

Dr. Siperstein, however, has shown widespread small blood vessel disease in diabetes in the form of marked thickening of the basement membrane of capillaries. Dr. Roth said. This thickening, which is found in essentially all overt diabetes, also appears in at least

(See PRESS BRIEFING, Page 7)

Dr. Parran, SG in Historic Era, Dies

Dr. Thomas Parran, who was Surgeon General of the Public Health Service from 1936 to 1948, died February 17. He is shown (right) observing the placing of the cornerstone of the National Institutes of Health Administration Building (Bldg. 1) on June 30, 1938 with Mrs. Luke Wilcox, whose husband donated the site. Kneeling is Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr.
Robin Popof First Montgomery County Red Cross 'Youth Volunteer of the Year'

Robin Popof (seated), "Youth Volunteer of the Year," is congratulated by (1 to r) CC Nurses Donna Yantz, Elaine Ciacciotta, and Heddy Hubbard.—Photo by Thomas Joy.

Robin Popof, who has assisted child patients at the Clinical Center as a volunteer since she was 14, was recently named "Youth Volunteer of the Year" by the Montgomery County chapter of the American Red Cross. The 18-year-old aid is the first to receive such an award by the chapter.

Miss Popof has worked in children's occupational and physical therapy in the CC's Rehabilitation Department, and has assisted nurses on the CC's Nursing Unit 2E, where she currently serves on Saturdays.

Socks Nursing Career

A senior at Walter Johnson High School, Bethesda, she hopes to enroll in college in the fall to pursue a B.S. degree in nursing. She is vice president of the high school's Medical Careers Club and secretary of the Maryland Future Nurses Club.

She says her interest in nursing was inspired by the example of her mother and that of CC nurses. Her mother, Mrs. V. G. (Betsy) Popof, has served as a Red Cross Hospital Volunteer at the CC for the past 7 years and is former chairman of the volunteer unit. About the nurses, Robin says, "They have such a close personal relationship with patients. They care so much about people."

The Popof family lives in Rockville. Mr. Popof is an aerospace engineer with the U. S. Navy Bureau of Weapons.

Harriet Martin Retires With 31 Years Service in Federal Government

Harriet R. Martin, Program Officer in the Nutrition Program, National Center for Chronic Disease Control, retired from the Public Health Service recently with almost 31 years of Federal service.

Until August 1967, the Nutrition Program was part of the Office of International Research at NIH.

Worked for ICNND

Mrs. Martin joined the National Heart Institute in December 1958, transferring the following year to the Secretariat of the Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition for National Defense (then a unit in the Office of the Director, NIH). She has been with the program since that time, becoming a Program Officer while the ICNND was under the administrative direction of the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases.

In May 1963 Mrs. Martin received a Sustained Superior Performance award.

Her retirement plans include a continuing, active interest in the field of nutrition as well as the pursuit of hobbies such as gardening, travel, and bridge.

CC Blood Bank Relaxes Some Eligibility Rules

The Clinical Center Blood Bank has relaxed some of its eligibility rules on who may give blood. The new rules affect those at both the upper and the lower donor age limits.

Age Limit Extended

Dr. Paul J. Schmidt, Blood Bank chief, said donors may now give blood up to their 65th birthday. This extends by one year the former maximum age limit.

Also, anyone who has reached the age of 18 and who is self-supporting and living away from home may give blood without written consent of his parents.

The new rules were recommended by a national medical advisory board to the American Red Cross and were thereafter adopted by the CC Blood Bank.

Included in this category are identified in the regulations.

This provision, however, does not apply to the appointment of a "preference eligible" to a competitive position when an alternative selection cannot be made without passing over his name on a certificate of eligibles and selecting someone who is not a preference eligible.

The one exception to the prohibition against hiring relatives is that during certain emergencies, which pose "an immediate threat to life or property," the employment of relatives for a temporary period not exceeding one month is permitted.

During 1966 there were 2,606, 274 live births registered in the United States, 4 percent fewer than in 1965.—Vital Statistics Report.
Grantee Bibliographies Ready, for Limited Use

The Research Documentation Section of the Division of Research Grants has compiled cumulative bibliographies of Public Health Service grantee publications for each institute of the National Institutes of Health. The lists include names of principal investigators holding research grants by the awarding institute for fiscal years 1961 through 1966.

Author Listing Available

Cumulative Author Listing, a companion booklet and addendum to the cumulative bibliographies, has also been published by the section.

A limited number of the bibliographies and Cumulative Listings are available for administrative use only from the Research Documentation Section, Statistics and Analysis Branch, DRS.

Dr. Thomas W. Clarkson Named To NIGMS Review Committee

Dr. Thomas W. Clarkson, associate professor of pharmacology and of radiation biology and biophysics at the University of Rochester, has been appointed to the review committee for pharmacology-toxicology research program project and center applications, according to an announcement by Dr. Frederick L. Stone, Director of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

Dr. Clarkson's major research interests include the biochemical aspects of heavy metal poisoning; the mechanism underlying the selective accumulation of metals and chemicals; and the effects of poisons on the cell membrane.

AFTER WORKING HOURS

Kathleen Summa Has Special Rapport With the Animals in Her 'Noah's Ark'

Kathleen Summa, president of Noah's Ark Animal Society, Inc., founded her "shelter" for pets 10 years ago, and dedicates her life to this work when she is not working as a secretary to Dr. Max Heinrich, Jr., Head of the Research Career Section, Research Fellowships Branch of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

All Animals Checked

Noah's Ark in Bethesda is a haven for animals that need homes—some are abandoned animals, but most are turned over by owners who are moving into apartments, leaving the country, or have no fenced yards. A complete history is on record of those received from owners, and the abandoned ones are checked by a veterinarian before coming in. No animal is ever "put to sleep" unless it is a terminal case.

There are no cages at the Ark, only a number of screened rooms. Animals are housed according to compatibility. Even though they cannot get outside, they seem perfectly contented romping around to the sound of continuous music. All are well fed, bathed, immunized, and get the best of medical treatment if necessary. Those animals not immunized against contagious diseases are immediately inoculated and isolated for one week before being placed in the appropriate room.

Dedicates Long Hours

Arriving at the shelter at 5:30 p.m., Mrs. Summa feeds all the animals, returns the 30 to 40 telephone calls that come in during the day, and before leaving late at night, checks that every pet is comfortable, turns night lights on and leaves soft music playing.

Mrs. Summa's devotion to her animals was recently recognized by a Distinguished Service Award from the Bethesda-Cherry Chase Chamber of Commerce.—Photos by Montgomery County Sentinel.

Noah's Ark is subsidized by its membership, donations, placement and adoption fees. Animals have been placed all over the United States, Europe, and South America.

Recently the Bethesda-Cherry Chase Chamber of Commerce presented a Distinguished Service Award to Mrs. Summa for her devotion to homeless animals.

The society hopes some day to have a place in the country where it can work both with children and animals. Mrs. Summa feels that children and animals belong together and that the basic character of a child can be shaped by the affection and companionship of his pet.

BIOMEDICAL

(Continued from Page 1)

neural tissue and study transport of small molecules into and out of the brain. Additionally it will evaluate the effect of excess or deficiency of intermediary metabolites on cellular differentiation and organogenesis, and develop procedures for screening enzyme defects in mental retardation.

The Section of Physiological Controls will be headed by Dr. Walter H. Glinsman. This section will conduct research on hormonal control of metabolism at the cellular and organ levels and mechanisms of hormonal induction of enzymes. It will also examine effects of alternating metabolism during specific periods of early development, and will study biochemical and physiologic variation in end-organ response to hormones.
NIH-Town's Facilities and Services

A small city exists within the borders of NIH: 15,000 employees each day.

Building 10 houses a barber shop and a beauty shop available to Clinical Center patients and visitors, and NIH employees (after hours).

The main office of the NIH Federal Credit Union is in Bldg. 31. It is a cooperative organization of employees for savings and loans, and any employee of NIH or NLM may join.

The architectural dignity and natural beauty apparent in this summer view of Bethesda grounds.

Locating a point of interest for Roseanne O'Connell (s) is Iris Clavio, in the Employee Relations and Recognition Section's Housing Registry, Bldg. 31.

Candy and tobacco shops located in Bldgs. 10, 13, 31, and Westwood, managed by the Maryland Workshop for the Blind, carry an assortment of popular magazines, paperbacks, greeting cards, and sundry items.

Reminiscent of the famed Post Office, the snack bar in the Clinic...
Ease Workers’ Daily Tasks

As the NIH “campus”

is a teeming center for 11,000

ways provide a stimulating setting

ent by employees, add additional, efficient and flourishing community, transportation service, and a apparent.

“citizens” happy, efficient and well-

numerous others are listed in the

to provide them all.

ex, comfortable.

Button, button, who’s got the but-

ton or the pipe, glasses, gloves . . .?

Misplaced items can be retrieved

from the Central Guard Office in

Bldg. 10, Rm. 1A06.

During their lunch break, Guy Brooks (l) and Alvin Sickles stop to examine the NIH Record before it leaves the central mail room in Bldg. 31. The Record is distributed every 2 weeks to all employees.

The Westwood Shuttle is one of many bus routes serving NIH employees having business in other Government buildings. Dr. Benjamin Alexander, DRG., is seen boarding. Shuttle schedules are listed in the NIH telephone directory’s yellow pages.

Scanning a bulletin board for notices of rentals, sales, housing, etc., are Adrienne Bass (l) and Helen Moon. The Office services Branch processes and posts all non-official announcements.

Three cafeterias (in Bldgs. 1, 10, and 31) and numerous lunchcounter provide meals for the NIH family.
Revised Leaflet Urges Prompt Meningococcal Meningitis Treatment

"Meningococcal Meningitis" is the subject of a revised leaflet prepared by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the National Communicable Disease Center, Atlanta, Ga. The leaflet urges those exposed to meningococcal meningitis, or developing its symptoms, to seek immediate medical advice.

The disease—in which the brain and spinal cord covering is inflamed—is caused by the meningococcus bacterium. It develops most often among people living in crowded quarters, such as barracks or institutions. Symptoms, which usually appear suddenly, include severe headache, stiffness and pain in the neck, back, and shoulders, high fever, and often nausea and vomiting. A skin rash of tiny bright red spots may appear.

The leaflet points out that while meningococcal meningitis is not prevalent in the general population—only about 5,000 meningococcal infections of all kinds are reported nationally each year—consequences can be serious for those who develop it.

Untreated Disease Dangerous

The disease is fatal in about half of the untreated cases, and survivors may be left deaf or paralyzed. Prompt treatment with antibiotics and sulfa drugs usually results in recovery. Sulfa treatment also ordinarily prevents the disease from developing in persons who have been exposed to it.

The publication stresses research is needed to find better ways of preventing and controlling meningococcal meningitis. This is especially important since bacterial resistance to the sulfa drugs used against meningitis has been reported. Massive doses of penicillin have been used successfully to treat the disease, but there is at present no effective drug for use against sulfa-resistant meningococci.

Single copies of "Meningococcal Meningitis," which is PHS Publication No. 274, are available free from the Public Inquiries Branch, PHS, DHEW, Washington, D.C. 20201. The leaflet may be obtained in quantity at 5 cents a copy from the Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Judges at Science Fairs Needed in Nearby Areas

The Prince George's Area Science Fair Committee urgently needs scientists and technicians in the fields of medicine, biology, and zoology to serve as judges at its 20th Anniversary Fair in April and at individual school fairs in Prince George's, Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's Counties.

Six DRS Employees Get Cash Awards

Six employees of the Division of Research Services' Plant Engineering Branch received cash awards recently for submitting original ideas through the Employee Suggestion Awards Program. They are: Myron E. Thompson, Andrew W. Klassett, Kenneth H. Waddell, Earl R. Holtinger, Clifton Brown, Jr., and Harold E. Oliver.

Suggestions, for which they were awarded a total of $120, concerned ways to increase efficiency of operation or to correct potentially hazardous conditions at NIH. Employees are urged to participate in the ESA Program by submitting Form HEW 170 to their supervisors or suggestion coordinators.

Top Dental Students Visit NIDR Facilities

A group of the nation's top dental students, visiting Washington for the 1968 Dental Student Conference on Research, were guests at the laboratories of the National Institute for Dental Research.

The conference was designed to stimulate student interest in research careers. Dental schools in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico were represented by freshman or sophomore students.

Sixty-five students visited the NIDR laboratories, attended lectures on current research activities and discussions of career opportunities in dental education.

Dr. O'Donnell Appointed DRG Grants Associate

Dr. James F. O'Donnell, a biochemist, has been selected for the NIH Grants Associates Program, which is administered by the Division of Research Grants.

Dr. O'Donnell will participate in the 12-month developmental program of training and assignments in the functions of extramural programs designed to supplement his scientific background.

Since 1957, Dr. O'Donnell has been associate professor of Experimental Medicine and assistant professor of Biochemistry at the University of Cincinnati, Department of Internal Medicine.

Formerly Grantee

During the past 9 years, Dr. O'Donnell has served as coprincipal investigator on three research grants (one from the Department of the Army, and two from the PHS).

Dr. O'Donnell earned a B.S. degree in biology from the St. Louis University in 1949 and a Ph.D. degree in biochemistry from the University of Chicago in 1957. He is the author of 17 scientific papers.
New Symbol Suggested As a General Biological Hazard Warning Signal

To meet the need for a universal signal to warn of danger from infectious or potentially infectious agents, the symbol shown below is being suggested as a general biological hazard warning signal.

**BIOHAZARD**

**Dr. Bendixen on NIGMS Program-Project Com.**

Dr. Henrik H. Bendixen, executive officer for research, Department of Anesthesiology, Massachusetts General Hospital, has been appointed to the General Medical Research Program-Project Committee of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

The committee will review applications for large-scale, multidisciplinary research grants, Dr. Frederick L. Stone, Institute Director, announced.

Dr. Bendixen is the director of the center recently established at Harvard Medical School for research and training in anesthesiology. The second of its kind, the center will use combined facilities of five teaching hospitals of Harvard University. Cooperation with other Harvard Medical School teaching hospitals will be developed.

**PRESS BRIEFING**

(Continued from Page 1)

50 percent of genetically predisposed subjects prior to the onset of any carbohydrate abnormalities. These findings, Dr. Roth said, "contribute to a major reexamination of the classic concepts of this disease." He added that investigators now have a new angle of attack, a direction which may be more fruitful in determining the cause of diabetes than previous studies pointed mainly toward the abnormality in metabolism.

**New Marker Discussed**

"This membrane thickness constitutes a new marker of diabetes," he said, inasmuch as the thickening is not seen in hyperglycemic patients whose carbohydrate intolerance is due to causes other than genetic diabetes.

Therefore, he indicated, it appears that the thickening would be a more specific indicator of diabetes than the glucose tolerance test which cannot differentiate blood sugar elevations due to diabetes from those caused by pancreatitis, Cushing's disease, or other disorders.

**Population Studies Important**

Dr. Roth also commented on the importance of population studies of diabetes, reviewing the significant findings of the Institute's Clinical Field Studies Unit in Arizona. This unit has found that the Pima Indians have the highest prevalence of diabetes ever reported in an otherwise normal population.

Other Unit studies have challenged the belief that the effects of child bearing account for the higher prevalence of diabetes among women.

The NIAMD scientist then reviewed his own work at the Clinical Center, where he plans and directs a program of basic and clinical research, in isolating a virus which causes other than genetic diabetes.

They are participating as subjects in investigations at the Clinical Center into actions and reactions of the normal human body. Studies are being conducted by researchers in the Endocrinology Branch, National Cancer Institute.

The Ewerts' religious motivation is strong. It was their Mennonite faith which impelled them "to vitally research in diabetes, carbohydrate metabolism, and peptide hormones of the pancreas and pituitary gland."

More than a dozen representatives of the press attended the recent conference, the latest in a series of briefings held under the auspices of the DHEW.

**First 'Normal Volunteer' Couple at CC To Continue Service to Mankind in Haiti**

The first young married couple to serve as normal volunteers at the Clinical Center—Jim and Eileen Ewert—were, until a short time ago, "people of the land" in Canada.

Mr. Ewert, who has a degree in agriculture, was regional manager for a farm equipment manufacturer, and his wife was secretary for a grain company.

They are participating as subjects in investigations at the Clinical Center into actions and reactions of the normal human body. Studies are being conducted by researchers in the Endocrinology Branch, National Cancer Institute.

**Seek Involvement**

They are practical young people. The project in Haiti was started by American philanthropists and is not sponsored by a religious order. Mr. Ewert says, "We were born in a country of affluence. If people in underdeveloped areas are going to be helped, it should be done through involvement in their lives rather than through charity."

The couple has no definite plans for the years following 1970. They are only certain that by then they will have given something of themselves to others and will have received something in return from the Haitians and NIH.

**DR. RAUSCHER**

(Continued from Page 1)

ident Johnson.

The awards to top Federal employees under age 40 are named for the former Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare and former Civil Service Commissioner, who now is president of the University of Oregon.

**Tought Virology**

A graduate of Moravian College, Dr. Rauscher received a Ph.D. degree in microbiology in 1957 from Rutgers University, where he became assistant professor of virology before joining the NCI in 1960.

Dr. Rauscher was named one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men of 1964 by the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce for his significant contribution to virus-cancer research, in isolating a virus which acts swiftly to produce leukemia in laboratory mice and rats.
Care of Patients With Eye Disorders
Focus of Clinical Nursing Conference

Participants in the recent Clinical Nursing Conference are, from left to right: Elizabeth Schumann, clinical social worker; Joanne Evans, head nurse, Nursing Unit 13 West; Dr. Vernon Wong, Associate Ophthalmologist, NINDB; and Patricia Price, clinical nurse, Nursing Unit 5 West.—Photo by Ed Hubbard.

In 400 B.C., Hippocrates observed: “People who have injured one eye frequently become blind in the other eye.”

Joanne Evans, head nurse, Nursing Unit 13 West, cited this statement recently when she presided over a Clinical Nursing Conference held by the Clinical Center’s Neurology Nursing Service. The Conference focused on a disease, sympathetic ophthalmia, which parallels this ancient description and poses particular attention to the nursing care of a young patient with this disorder.

About 100 persons attended and heard nurses, a physician, and a social worker discuss aspects of sympathetic ophthalmia.

Miss Evans described the general nursing care of patients with eye disease and grave problems which accompany the type of inflammation caused by sympathetic ophthalmia. She explained that if one eye suffers a perforating injury or a severe inflammation, the other eye may develop an inflammation which sooner or later may lead to total blindness.

Miss Evans stressed the difficulty of assessing the extent of a patient’s visual problem. She said that unlike nursing care for other conditions, in ophthalmologic cases a nurse must rely on the subjective complaints of the patient, or her own objective observations of how well he can see.

Dr. Vernon Wong, Associate Ophthalmologist, NINDB, explained that inflammation in the uninjured, or sympathizing, eye is presumed to be caused by autosensitization to the patient’s own eye tissues. Dr. Wong said that sympathetic ophthalmia is a chronic disease with a tendency to relapse.

Describe Patient Care

Elizabeth Cox and Patricia Price, clinical nurses, who participated in the nursing care of a young patient with sympathetic ophthalmia, described his treatment.

At the conference, Mrs. Price said the patient’s right eye had been surgically removed several months before he entered the Clinical Center. He developed sympathetic ophthalmia in his left eye.

From the time of admission, Mrs. Price reported, control of the inflammation constituted the main problem. This required constant nursing attention because the patient was an extremely active boy.

She noted that as pressures in the ocular region increased, the patient’s behavior changed. He became increasingly belligerent and antagonistic, although he did not admit feeling pain or loss of vision. His appetite waned, and much coaxing was required to make certain that he ate adequately.

The boy was placed on drug therapy to reduce the inflammation. This required keeping him quiet.

The patient was discharged with his vision significantly improved. He now can attend school.

Elizabeth Schumann, clinical social worker, discussed the social adjustments and personal problems of patients with sympathetic ophthalmia. She discussed the boy’s persistent denial of his visual problem, expressed in aggressive behavior, as due to his underlying fear of blindness.

His Excellency Alexandre Ohin (center), the Ambassador of Togo, who is a cancer surgeon trained in the United States, visited the NCI recently to learn about Institute programs and keep abreast of new developments in cancer research. He was extended a standing invitation to staff conferences, grand rounds, and surgical demonstrations. Shown with the ambassador are Dr. Alfred S. Ketcham (left), Chief of the Surgery Branch, and Dr. Kenneth M. Endicott, NCI Director.—Photo by Ed Hubbard.