Epicardiectomy Benefits
Ischemic Left Ventricle
In NHI Animal Studies

National Heart Institute Clinic of Surgery scientists have made direct assessments, in dogs, of the function of the acutely ischemic left ventricle with and without epicardiectomy.

The surgeons, headed by Dr. Robert L. Reis, included Dr. Lee P. Enright, Dr. Hammer Han­nah III, and Dr. Andrew G. Mor­row.

They achieved this by means of a heart bypass procedure which allowed them to control aortic pressure, left ventricular stroke volume and heart rate independently.

Advocated for Certain Patients

Epicardiectomy has been advocated as a myocardial revascularization procedure for patients with coronary artery disease.

Epicardiectomy is postulated to allow the heart to dilate enough so that blood also enters the ischemic myocardium directly from the ventricular lumen.

A series of ventricular function curves was obtained in each of 24 dogs. The first curve defined the

(See EPICARDIECTOMY, Page 7)

Dr. Urban to Coordinate Programs in DDH Post

Dr. Kenneth Urban, past commanding officer of the Naval Dental School, National Naval Medical Center, has been appointed special assistant for Dental Care in the Division of Dental Health, Bureau of Health Professions Education and Manpower Training.

Dr. Viron L. Diefenbach, Division Director, announced the appoint­ment.

Dr. Urban will serve as the Division's chief coordinator for dental care activities of the Job Corps, Vista, Head Start, and Neighbor­hood Health Centers programs.

He will also coordinate the dental programs of state and local health departments.

Dr. Urban was instrumental in establishing the Naval Dental Technician School at the Naval Training Center, San Diego, Calif. Subsequently, he was officer-in­charge of the Dental Practitioner School in Guam, Mariana Islands. Selected individuals from each of the islands were trained to become dental practitioners there.

During World War II, Dr. Urban served as Senior Dental Officer

(See DR. URBAN, Page 1)

The 'Beginning of the End' of Rubella
Predicted at Internat'l Conference Here

At the first day's press briefing were (from left): Dr. John D. Harley, of Children's Medical Research Foundation, Sydney, Australia, who discussed long-term followup studies of victims of the 1941 rubella epidemic; Dr. Saul Krugman, of New York University, conference chairman, who described the meeting's goals, and Dr. Daniel I. Muir, chief of the Vaccine Development Branch, NIAID, who outlined the scope of field trials conducted by university medical centers under contract to the NIAID.

Delegates to the International Conference on Rubella Immunization heard Dr. Lewis Thomas, Dean of Medicine, express the belief that they in the "beginning of the end" of a disease whose dangers have been recognized during the past 25 years.

In the final session of the meet­ings held in the Clinical Center, Feb. 18-20, Dr. Thomas' prediction seemed even closer to reality as discussions focused on how best to launch German measles immunization programs in a number of coun­tries.

In an effort to stamp out the reservoir of the disease, it was suggested that children be designated as the prime target for mass immunization. In some European countries, the first lots of available vaccine will be reserved for women immediately following childbirth.

Over 400 Attend

More than 400 scientists attended the sessions sponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the Division of Biologies Standards, and the New York University.

In welcoming the participants, Dr. Robert Q. Marston, Director of NII, pointed out that the confer­ence "demonstrates beautifully the 'one world' of scientific investiga­tion." Noting that "science moves by stages," he reminded the group that "these stages can be hastened but not one can be skipped."

Although a mild disease in children and most adults, rubella—when contracted by a woman during the first 3 months of pregnancy—can cause severe defects

(See RUBELLA, Page 7)

Comm. Officers Will Meet for Briefing on Separation

NIH Commissioned Officers who plan to leave active duty during the next 6 months will meet for a briefing on Tues­day, March 11, at 3 p.m. in the Clinical Center auditorium.

The meeting, sponsored by the Commissioned Officer Unit, Office of Personnel Manage­ment, is being held to inform officers about separation pro­cedures.

Other details will also be discussed, including travel allowances, the shipment of household effects, and veterans' benefits. Questions regarding retirement from active duty will be answered.

Administrative personnel concerned with such separation procedures are also invited to attend the meeting.
Musical on Weight Control Rescheduled for March 11-13

A 21-minute color film to encourage overweight viewers to undertake a slimming program, weight-control program has been rescheduled for March by the Employee Health Service. The movie, "Song of Arthur," was originally scheduled in January, but did not arrive in time.

The Broadway type musical will be shown at the following locations: CC auditorium, Tuesday, March 11, 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.; Barlow Bldg., Room 120C05, Wednesday, March 12, noon and 1 p.m., and Westwood Bldg., Thursday, March 13, at 1:30 and 2:15 p.m.

'Spouter Craze' Lecture to be Given

"The Great Spouter Craze" will be the topic of a talk given by Dr. Alan Forman, a new assistant chief, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress. He will discuss its history and development as an art form tomorrow (Wednesday), March 5, at 8:30 p.m., at the Clinical Center auditorium.

Dr. Fern's lecture will be illustrated with slides of photographs taken from "Words and Images," a book coauthored by him and Mildred Constantine. The book was published by the Museum of Modern Art.

The lecture, sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences, is open to NIH personnel and the public.

NIH Television, Radio Program Schedule

Television

NIH REPORTS

WGMS, AM-570—FM Stereo 103.5—Friday Evenings—About 9:15 p.m.

March 9
Dr. Viron L. Diefenbach, Director, Division of Dental Health, BHPFMT
Subject: Dental Health in the U.S.: Key Issues

March 16
Dr. Viron L. Diefenbach, Director, Division of Dental Health, BHPFMT
Subject: Dental Health in the U.S.: Key Issues

Radio

DISCUSSION: NIH

WGMS, AM-570—FM Stereo 103.5—Friday Evenings—About 9:15 p.m.

March 7
Dr. Robert S. Gordon, Jr., clinical director, NIAMD
Subject: Recent Advances in Dental Research at NIAMD

March 14
Dr. John C. Greene, deputy director, Division of Dental Health, BHPFMT
Subject: Teeth After 40

Both interviews take place during intermission, Library of Congress Chamber Music Series.
Third Volume on Animals
In Biomedical Research
Available at NIH Library

"Methods of Animal Experimentation," the latest of three volumes covering the role of animals in biomedical research, is now available at the NIH Library.

The books, edited by Dr. William I. Gay, chief of the Research Grants Branch, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, explore the sophisticated procedures used today in animal experimentation.

The latest volume shows methods of dental research, microsurgery, and fetal surgery involving animals.

The book also illustrates the use of the fish and the dolphin in research, and the physiological measurements of the infant animal.

Emphasis is placed on behavioral science and its growing importance in animal research, including the conditioning of animals to withstand stresses.

The potential application of animal behavior to solution of human health problems is also analyzed.

Joseph Albrecht Retires, Served as Head of NCI
Pathological Tech. Sec.

Joseph M. Albrecht, National Cancer Institute, retired last month after 18 years of Government service.

Mr. Albrecht has been head of the Pathological Technology Section, Laboratory of Pathology, for 14 years.

He has served as a consultant to the NCI staff on the technique of preparing tissues for microscopic diagnosis.

He planned and carried out experiments to develop new procedures and to improve methods for preparing laboratory specimens.

Mr. Albrecht evolved new techniques for the handling and cutting of tissue-culture material in diffusion chambers.

He also developed a method for the cutting of unfixed, undecalified, frozen bone.

Mr. Albrecht was educated at the University of Minnesota and Washington University of St. Louis.

Prior to joining NCI, he served 23 years as chief technician, Department of Anatomy, Washington University School of Medicine.

"Bill" Overman Wins Award for Packaging
A Vital Vegetable, Prolonging Shelf-Life

Otis Ducker, head, Supply Unit, SMB (left), gives a hearty handshake of congratulations to William Overman at a recent Employee Suggestion Award ceremony honoring "Bill" for his packaging idea.

Red letter days are becoming rather frequent in William M. Overman's career. Mr. Overman is an inventory management specialist who has been with the Supply Management Branch since he started working at NIH in 1957.

On Monday, Feb. 3, he won an Employee Suggestion Award. The next day his award suggestion—the proper packaging of a vital vegetable for NIH animals officially came into use in the laboratories here.

Mr. Overman, who has so much to do with the animal food and bedding operation at SMB, won his Employee Suggestion Award for devising a new and vastly improved packaging system for the vegetable.

William Overman will soon inspect the plastic bag stuffed with kale into the sturdy receptacle held by Clyde McKinney, warehouse foreman, Animal Food and Bedding Operation, SMB.

"Kale," Mr. Overman said, "contains over 80 percent moisture; it's given to the animals in place of tap water. It's the main dietary supplement of many of the animals here."

Besides using a large amount of this foodstuff on the reservation, NIH also sends a supply to the Far West Research Laboratory in Laurel, a field station for NINOS; St. Elizabeth's Hospital, and NIEHS.

Mr. Overman explained the old procedure for shipping and packaging kale to NIH, versus the method he devised.

Field Hands Picked Kale

"Formerly," he stated, "kale used at NIH was placed in baskets by the field hands who picked it. Vegetable contamination could start at several points: in the fields, en route here, in the ice placed over the vegetable to keep it cool, or in the crates the kale was shipped in.

"That's all changed," Mr. Overman noted.

He explained that food service handlers passed by the Department of Agriculture now handle the operation from the time the kale is picked in Norfolk, Va., until it leaves the warehouse.

"There was a definite need for something to be done about the packaging, also," said Mr. Overman, "so I went ahead and experimented with ideas. I visited the

warehouse in Norfolk to see what could be done at that end."

From this research Mr. Overman came up with his award-winning idea of placing kale in 5-pound polyethylene bags with plastic liners.

After the kale is packed each bag is heat-sealed and air-tight. Cardboard containers, large enough to hold two bags of kale with crushed ice between, now receive the vegetable.

The containers are stacked on refrigerated trucks which immediately

(See MR. OVERMAN, Page 3)
Project to Provide Further Education For Practicing Physicians Is Announced

A 2-year contract for a project to provide continuing education for practicing physicians in the Jacksonville area has been announced by Dr. Robert Q. Marston, NIH Director. The contract is with seven hospitals in the Jacksonville area that have formed the Jacksonville Hospital Educational Program (JHEP). About 400 doctors in the community will be offered training sessions in their specialties, Dr. Marston said.

"Faculty" for this project will be specialists already in the region. Between 30 and 40 will be trained at the University of Florida's College of Medicine in Gainesville and other centers.

Teaching Techniques Acquired

Upon completion of their courses, which will include both medical and teaching techniques, they will be given "faculty" status and will teach locally those who are enrolled for further training.

The contract will be administered by the Division of Physician Manpower in the Bureau of Health Professions Education and Manpower Training. Dr. Leonard D. Fenninger, Bureau Director, said, "Continuing education for a physician in practice is a lifelong challenge. He is beset by rapid advances in technology and by the impact of the miracle of what has been done in the area of communicable disease through preventive measures.

"He is also confronted with increasing demands and expectations on the part of the general public, brought about partly by the hope of legislation that the Congress has enacted in its drive to make the best care possible available to all the people of the Nation, by the general overall increase in education levels among the general population, and by the intensely creative social changes taking place today."

Staff to Conduct Seminars

About 30 seminars will be conducted by the newly-trained staff appointees.

Periodically, the results of the program will be evaluated to determine how well the students are learning and applying the new information, how effectively the instructors are teaching, and whether the subject matter or the methods should be revised.

Dr. Max Michael, Jr., Executive Director of JHEP and assistant dean of the University of Florida College of Medicine, is the project director.

"This endeavor is an outgrowth of JHEP's experience over a 10-year period in coordinating internships and residencies throughout the community and of its efforts to keep up with the information explosion," Dr. Michael said.

Frederick Atwell Retires, Had 37 Years' Service In Fed'l Government

Frederick J. Atwell, assistant supervisor and animal caretaker, Laboratory of Biochemical Pharmacology, National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, retired last month after more than 37 years of Government service.

Mr. Atwell worked for the PHS downtown before NIH moved to Bethesda in 1938. One of his first jobs at NIH was helping to clean the landscape where Buildings 1 through 5 now stand.

For the past 11 years Mr. Atwell has been president of the Old Timers Club, which he organized 15 years ago, with Jordan Bryan, Supply Management Branch.

In 1927, he entered the U.S. Army, in which he served for more than 6 years.

Retirement plans involve gardening and an old hobby, repairing and putting with electrical equipment.

Dr. Urban served as officer-in-charge of the Dental Practitioner School in Guam, Mariana Islands. Here, selected islanders were trained as dental practitioners.

Abroad aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Wasp during operations in the Mariana's and the invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

He also commanded the dental staffs of Naval hospitals, naval air stations, the cruiser U.S.S. Bremerton, and the U.S. Naval base at Naples, Italy, as well as several Naval dental schools in the United States.

Dr. Richard W. Olmsted Joins Staff of NICHD

Dr. Richard W. Olmsted, Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Oregon Medical School, on sabbatical leave, has joined the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Dr. Olmsted will study methods for increasing the interaction between behavioral and biomedical scientists in medical schools.

Develops Other Programs

He will also develop programs to promote the behavioral sciences in medical schools.

Dr. Olmsted received his B.A. degree from Dartmouth College in 1941, and an M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School in 1944.

He served his internship and residency in Pediatrics at the New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Conn., and did post-residency as a Fellow in Cardiology with the New Haven Rheumatic Fever and Cardiac Program.

From 1949 to 1953 Dr. Olmsted was in private practice.

Before joining the University of Oregon Medical School he was assistant professor of Pediatrics, Temple University School of Medicine, and attending pediatrician and Director of Outpatients Department, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children.

BHPMT to Begin Move to Reservation Friday, March 7

According to the Space Management Section, the long-awaited move of the Bureau of Health Professions Education and Manpower Training from Arlington, Va., to the NIH reservation will begin Friday, March 7.

BHPMT will occupy much of the new C Wing of Building 31, as well as space in the B Wing.

NCI Booklet Describes Studies of Role Viruses Play in Causing Cancer

Studies of the role viruses play in causing cancer are described in a 20-page booklet, Virus-Cancer Research, issued for the public by DHEW.

It was prepared by the National Cancer Institute as a revision of an earlier booklet by the same title.

The booklet explains the approaches used in current research. It discusses the nature of viruses, their existence in our modern environment, and their implication in leukemias, lymphomas, and solid tumors.

The pamphlet describes efforts to find a possible virus-cancer path from animals to man, and reports on the prospects for prevention and therapy of viral diseases. According to the pamphlet, viruses are responsible for such a variety of cancer in laboratory animals that it would be surprising if they did not cause some type of cancer in man.

Hope for Answers

By making use of tissue culture, electron microscopy, and many other sophisticated laboratory techniques, researchers now hope to come up with answers to the questions posed by this evidence.

If a virus-cancer link in humans can be demonstrated, it may pave the way for the development of new preventive measures and may open up new areas in treatment.


Dr. Olmsted will develop programs to promote the behavioral sciences in medical schools.
Medical Treatment of Babies From Conception Surveyed in TV Program

Two National Institute of Child Health and Human Development grantees have taken part in a television program that surveyed medical treatment of babies from conception through the first month after birth. They are Dr. Edward Hon, Yale New Haven Hospital, and Dr. Louis Gluck, Dana Newborn Special Care Unit of the Yale New Haven Hospital.

The two-part program was called "The First Ten Months of Life," and was narrated by Walter Cronkite.

Dr. Hon and Gluck discussed the development of a new branch of medicine, Fetal Fetology.

Exhibit by NIDR Wins Award for Excellence

A scientific exhibit of the National Institute of Dental Research won an award for "Excellence of Presentation" at the 44th annual convention of the American Speech and Hearing Association.

The exhibit, "Case Studies of Oral and Pharyngeal Form and Function," was designed in cooperation with the General Illustration and Motion Picture Sections of the Medical Arts and Photography Branch, Division of Research Services.

Oral Habits Due to Emotional Problems Cause Facial Pains of TMJ Dysfunction

Two dentists and a psychologist at the University of Illinois Medical Center in Chicago will test their theory that tension-relieving oral habits related to emotional problems can lead to the severe, yet difficult-to-diagnose, facial pain of "temporomandibular joint" (TMJ) dysfunction.

The TMJ is the ball and socket hinge (one on each side of the face) where the lower jaw (mandible) fits into the skull's temporal bone.

A model simulating Myofascial Pain Dysfunction Syndrome undergoes a Myostatic Muscle Endurance Test at the Temporomandibular Research Center, University of Illinois College of Dentistry.

Two theories regarding the cause of rheumatoid arthritis are described in a new pamphlet, Arthritis and Research, published by the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases.

One is the concept of autoimmunity, which holds that the body, for unknown reasons, produces normal antibodies that are directed against some of its own tissues rather than against foreign material.

'Two Theories Considered'

The other theory is that an infectious process might be responsible.

This second hypothesis may still be consistent with the autoimmunity concept, because it could be an infectious agent that triggers the production of abnormal antibodies.

At this time, one suspects a minute organism of the type called mycoplasma, which is known to cause an arthritis in animals similar to human rheumatoid arthritis.

The booklet describes the major categories of arthritis and rheumatism and indicates current research and treatment in each of the disorders.

Latest Participants in NIH Visiting Scientists Program Listed Here

1/3—Dr. S. Ignutu King, Taiwan, Laboratory of Biochemistry. Sponsor: Dr. Theresa C. Stidlm, NHI, Bldg. 3, Rm. 121.

2/3—Dr. Harold L. R. Resnik, U.S.A., Center for Studies of Suicide Prevention. Sponsor: Dr. Morton Miller, NIMH, Barlow Bldg., Rm. 1D01.

2/5—Dr. Kjell J. Nustad, Norway, Section of Peptide Biochemistry. Sponsor: Dr. John J. Pisano, NHI, Bldg. 11, Rm. 7D15.

2/5—Dr. Roberto M. Tosy, Italy, Laboratory of Immunology. Sponsor: Dr. Ralph A. Reifeld, NIAID, Bldg. 10, Rm. 11B13.

2/7—Dr. Sergio S. Alergi, Italy, Laboratory of Preclinical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Ernesto Fumesto, NIMH, St. Elisabeth Hospital, Washington, D.C.

2/17—Dr. Tadashi Satoh, Japan, Laboratory of Cellular and Comparative Physiology. Sponsor: Dr. Charles H. Borrow, NICHD, Baltimore City Hospitals, Baltimore, Md.
Horses Susceptible to Induced Infection May Be Reservoir of Human Flu Virus

Horses have been found susceptible to type B human influenza. This finding, by NIH and University of Maryland scientists, along with the recent discovery of flu antibody occurring naturally in horse sera, indicates that horses may serve as a reservoir of human influenza virus.

Further evidence of type B virus was found in the blood of horses in the vicinity of Toronto, Canada, suggesting that natural infection of horses can occur. This led the NIH-University of Maryland team to attempt experimental infection of a group of 12 Chincoteague ponies with human influenza virus.

These animals, from a wild herd living in Assateague Island, Va., had been relatively isolated from other horses as well as humans, and lacked detectable antibody against influenza B virus.

Recovery of virus from nasal washings indicated that 8 of 12 ponies had become infected. Nine of the animals developed serum neutralizing antibody.

The scientists concluded that horses are susceptible to influenza B infection. Whether such infections actually occur in nature, or are transmissible to man, remains uncertain, but appears possible. Epidemiological surveys of horse populations might therefore be helpful in controlling human influenza.

Dr. J. A. Kivel, Dr. R. J. Byrne, and E. W. Harvey, all of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases' Laboratory of Clinical Investigation, conducted the study with Dr. R. Skillinger of the University of Maryland.

DCRT to Convert Its Processing System For Simultaneous Job Runs on March 17

March 17 is Saint Patrick's day, but at the Division of Computer Research and Tools, it has been given another designation. It's MVT Day, the day NIH's central Computer Center will abandon its old CPS II system, a Fixed Number of Tasks (FNT) computer, and convert to the MVT system, the CPS II, or Conversational Programming System (CPS), a Variable Number of Tasks (VNT) system.

New simplified account numbers will also be introduced for all DCRT services on March 17. Detailed information on all these changes and on training courses for use of the CPS system is included in the Feb. 7 issue of the Computer Center's technical publication, Interface. A copy can be obtained by calling Ext. 65431.

Users who have questions after reading Interface are urged to contact the Program Assistance and Liaison (PAL) Unit at the Computer Center before March 17.

NICHD Pamphlet Reveals Relationship Between Family, Retarded Child

What effect does having a mentally retarded child have on the other members of the family; how does the family's attitude affect the retarded child?

Aspects of these questions are discussed in a publication released by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

The document evolved from a recent NICHD conference on an important but neglected side of mental retardation: the family. The conference, conducted by Dr. Michael Begab, head, Mental Retardation Research Centers Program, NICHD, was attended by a group of sociologists.

They discussed the effects of mental retardation on the child and family in regard to social research, clinical practice, and family therapy.

The family has a strong impact on the retarded child's development, personality, and emotional status. The new document investigates this role, parental attitudes, and child management techniques.

Single free copies of The Social Sciences and Mental Retardation: Family Components are available from the Public Information Branch, NICHD, Bethesda, Md., 20014.

Dr. Underwood Retires From Federal Service, With DRG Since '61

Dr. Bruce Underwood, assistant chief, Career Development Review Branch, Division of Research Grants, recently retired, bringing to close a career of 31 years in public health.

Dr. Underwood's first active service in PHS was in 1956 when he was appointed chief of the Professional Service Branch, Division of Hospital and Medical Facilities. Later, he became chief of the Nursing Home Services Section, Division of Chronic Diseases.

He received his M.D. degree from the University of Louisville School of Medicine in 1937. For a number of years, he served with the Kentucky State Department of Health and the Kentucky State Medical Association.

Dr. Underwood came to DRG in 1961 as executive secretary, Cell Biology Review Panel, and in 1963 was appointed assistant chief, Research Career Program.
**HYPERTENSION:** Its Causes and Treatment Revealed

In Publication by NHI

More than 17 million American adults are afflicted with hypertension; that figure can go as high as 22 million. It is the commonest of the diseases affecting the heart and blood vessels.

The National Heart Institute has recently issued a publication entitled HYPERTENSION (High Blood Pressure).

The pamphlet describes what hypertension is; the causes and diagnosis of hypertension; its drug treatment, and what research is doing to find the cure for hypertension.

**Increased Risks Cited**

The publication points out that hypertension increases the risk of heart attacks and strokes by accelerating the development of arteriosclerotic deposits of athero-

However, almost all cases of hypertension can be controlled by a variety of drugs, or combination of drugs for reducing elevated blood pressure.

During the past decade the death rate from hypertension has decreased by nearly 50 percent.

Copies of the NHI Publication, No. 1714, may be obtained by writing to the Heart Information Center, NHI, Bethesda, Md. 20014. Quantity copies may be purchased at 50 cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

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**RUBElla**

(Continued from Page 1)

in the unborn child. According to a report made at the conference by NINDS scientists, there is now evidence that rubella may also exert a harmful—although less serious—effect on the fetus in the fourth to sixth month of pregnancy as well.

Data presented at the conference focused on results obtained in tests of three vaccines in various population groups.

The three live, attenuated (weakened) virus preparations are: HPV-77 (first derived by scientists at the DBS and grown in a variety of tissue cultures); Cendehill (attenuated in rabbit kidney cell cultures by scientists in a Belgian laboratory), and RA7/3 (cultured in human embryonic cells by investigators at the Wistar Institute, Philadelphia).

None of these vaccines produced significant adverse side effects in children. In a small percentage of adult women and a few men given the vaccine, mild to moderate joint pains of a temporary nature were noted.

Drug companies involved in research on rubella vaccines include Eli Lilly; Philips-Roxane; Merck Sharp and Dohme; Smith Kline and French; and Wyeth Laboratories.

Three—Eli Lilly, Philips-Roxane, and Wyeth—have worked under contract to NIAID in production of various rubella virus vaccine strains.

Merck Sharp and Dohme has produced its own virus strain but has also concentrated on HPV-77, and has adapted it to growth in duck embryo cell cultures. The Smith Kline and French company has tested and is promoting use of the Cendehill strain.

**World-Wide Trials Reported**

At the conference, reports were given of vaccine trials in over 50,000 children in countries around the world, including the United States, Russia, Taiwan, Israel, Switzerland, Iran, and Jamaica. Small groups of adults have also been vaccinated in this country, France, Finland, and England.

All vaccines tested were reported to have produced protective levels of antibodies (protective substances in the blood) and to have shown no definitive evidence of spread of virus to unvaccinated contacts.

In some trials, the rubella vaccine was combined with those against measles and mumps. Hence was expressed by a number of conference that multivalent vaccines might eventually be available to perfect against these three common diseases of childhood.

Experimental HPV-77 vaccines produced in monkey kidney, duck embryo, and dog kidney cell cultures were equally effective (93 percent) when tested in a large group of Taiwan school children.

In order to determine what effect an attenuated virus might have on the fetus, scientists in several foreign countries vaccinated a small number of women scheduled for therapeutic abortions. In these cases, there was some evidence that virus could be found in both the placenta and fetus.

**NCl Conducts Evaluation Study on Arthropods For Anticancer Drugs**

Within recent years, microorganisms and plants have yielded several clinically useful anticancer drugs, notably actinomycin D, daunomycin and vincristine.

In an effort to uncover other compounds of novel structure from natural sources, the National Cancer Institute has undertaken the collection and assessment of chemical extracts obtained from species of the Arthropoda classes Insecta, Arachnida, Crustacea and Myriapoda.

The evaluation program is being conducted by Drs. Jonathan L. Hartwell and Harry B. Wood of the Cancer Chemotherapy National Service Center, NCI, in collaboration with Dr. George R. Petitt, Arizona State University, an NCI grantee.

As far as can be determined, this is the first systematic evaluation of arthropods as anticancer agents.

The task is one of large proportions; the class Insecta alone comprises nearly 900,000 species.

A substantial number of arthropod species from North and South America and Asia have already been examined in the program.

According to a preliminary report, a small number have given encouraging results when evaluated against rodent cancer.

For example, extracts obtained from certain butterflies, beetles and grasshoppers have shown activity against Walker 256 carcinoma (intramuscular) in the rat, and will be evaluated further.

Further investigation of the possible transmission of live attenuated virus to the fetus was strongly recommended by conference who also expressed a need to know more about differences in reaction to rubella virus among pregnant and non-pregnant women.

The effectiveness of gamma globulin in meeting the special needs of pregnant women was also discussed. Results of studies vary, but evidence indicates that the varying degrees of protection may be explained by varying amounts of rubella antibodies in different gamma globulin preparations.

It was also reported that, although a “killed” virus vaccine safe for administration to pregnant women has been developed, gamma globulin needed are not now available nor can “killed” virus capable of evoking an immunogenic response be uniformly produced at this time.
A Visit to NICHD's Gerontology Research Center a 'Must' for Foreign Scientists

By Dan Rogers

Photos by W. H. Fisher and R. B. Schnick

A visit to the Gerontology Research Center, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, is becoming a must for foreign scientists traveling in the area.

Since GRC's 4-story building opened last year, investigators, gerontologists, geriatricians, and physicians in other fields have traveled from Romania, Israel, Australia, Japan, Chile, and Great Britain to visit the largest facility of its kind in the Western Hemisphere.

This summer, visitors from 28 countries attending the 8th International Congress of Gerontology in Washington, D.C., Aug. 24-29, will tour the Center.

This group will see the spacious animal quarters, a specialized research library, modular laboratories and other facilities that make the Center outstanding.

During the sessions members of the Congress will discuss the biological, psychological, and social theories of aging, and the health care of the elderly.

The conference is being supported in part by a grant from NICHD.

NIH scientists wishing to attend the Congress and visit the Center may obtain registration information from the Secretariat, 8th International Congress of Gerontology, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Md. 20014, or telephone 530-3200.

Studies on molecules active in cell processes that may be basic to aging are conducted by Dr. Yong Ae Shin, Laboratory of Molecular Aging; she is determining the effect of metal ions and molecules on DNA melting curves.

NICHID Gerontology Research Center in Baltimore, Md., will be on the visiting agenda for many of the scientists attending the 8th International Congress of Gerontology this summer in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Melvin Haas, Clinical Physiology Branch, monitors age changes in the nervous system by measuring sensory and motor nerve conduction velocity. The relationship of conduction velocity to diabetes indicators can also be determined.

A tonography test to detect glaucoma is given to volunteer subject Neil Hill by Lee Pisarski. Both work in the Clinical Physiology Branch.

Posing as one of the Center's more than 600 healthy male volunteers, Roland Schrack, Photography and Arts, takes a lung function test given by Sylvester McArthur, Clinical Physiology Branch. The subject breathes hard for 15 seconds into a spirometer which records lung capacity changes.

Tissue slices are prepared for viewing through an electron microscope by Lela Carter, Laboratory of Molecular Aging, Gerontology Research Center.