Cardiac Replacement
Task Force Proposes
Future Program Needs

At a press conference held Jan. 6, the National Heart and Lung Institute told of the recommendations made by its ad hoc Task Force on Cardiac Replacement for the advancement of heart transplantation and the development of artificial heart devices.

About 35 members of the press, television, and radio heard Dr. Theodore Cooper, NHLI Director, and Dr. Robert L. Ringler, NHLI Deputy Director, summarize the Task Force report. This was followed by a question and answer session.

All Problems Studied

The Task Force, appointed last November by Dr. Cooper, was charged with studying all problems surrounding the replacement of hopelessly diseased or damaged human hearts in persons below age 65, and to make recommendations concerning program needs in this field.

The Task Force was formed into four working groups whose missions were: 1) to estimate the number of candidates for cardiac replacement in the age group under 65 years; 2) to assess the present state of cardiac transplantation and artificial heart development; 3) to explore the ethical, social, and psychological implications of cardiac replacement, and 4) to estimate the economic impact.

Action of Drug, Rifampicin, Blocks Virus Particles; Opens New Research Avenues

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and National Cancer Institute scientists have found the way a new antiviral drug, rifampicin, acts — it blocks assembly of virus particles.

This discovery opens a new approach to virus research and may lead to the development of better virus-fighting agents.

Rifampicin is a chemical derivative of rifamycin B, which was isolated from the fungus Streptomyces mediterranei in 1957, and was soon shown to have antibacterial properties.

Several derivatives of rifamycin B, including rifampicin, have been widely used in treating such bacterial illnesses as tuberculosis, leprosy, and atypical pulmonary infections.

It is known that rifampicin and related derivatives prevent bacterial multiplication by blocking synthesis in these organisms of ribonucleic acid (RNA) — an essential chemical.

Findings Differ

Dr. James R. Slagle, Division of Computer Research and Technology, received the U.S. Jaycees Award at an annual awards congress held January 18–19 in Santa Monica, Calif. Dr. Slagle was selected as one of America’s Ten Outstanding Young Men of 1969.

Nominations for the awards are submitted by individuals, businesses, professional and educational groups and institutions. Nominees, between the ages 21-35, are selected by a panel of distinguished citizens.

Dr. Slagle, who is chief of the Heuristics Laboratory, DCR&T, is an outstanding research mathematician. He is also a part-time college teacher.

Lipsett to Join NICHD; Will Direct Endocrine, Reproductive Studies

Dr. Mortimer B. Lipsett, National Cancer Institute, will join the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Dr. Lipsett, a national authority on endocrinology — he has been head of NCI’s Endocrinology Branch — will direct and coordinate investigations on endocrine and reproductive biology and conception.

In announcing the change, Dr. Robert Q. Marston, NIH Director, noted that NICHD already has a major study underway on population and reproduction research.

“Dr. Lipsett will head the Reproduction Research Branch and will direct its efforts toward investigating the effects of the endocrine glands on the reproductive mechanisms.

“A complete understanding of this interaction could lead to the cure of many reproductive disorders” (See DR. LIPSETT, Page 2)

U.S.-Japan Seminar on Trigeminal Mechanisms Being Held in Honolulu

Under the auspices of the United States-Japan Cooperative Medical Science Program, a 4-day seminar on mechanisms of oral-facial sensation and movement is being held Jan. 19-22 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dr. Ronald Dubner, chief of the Neural Mechanisms Section, National Institute of Dental Research, and Dr. Yoshiro Kawamura, Osaka University, Japan, are serving as co-chairmen of the seminar.

Recent research on the basic neurophysiological mechanisms and correlated ultrastructure underlying sensory and motor function in oral and facial regions is being discussed.

The agenda includes such topics as thermoreceptor and mechanoreceptor activity, and brainstem, thalamic, and cortical mechanisms.

The proceedings of the seminar will be published.
NIH Television, Radio Program Schedule

Television

NIH REPORTS
WRC, Channel 4
Sundays—3:35 p.m.

February 1
Dr. Frank T. Falkner, associate director, Planning and Evaluation, NICHD
Subject: Infant Mortality (Part 1)

Radio

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

January 28
Louise C. Anderson, chief, Nursing Department, CC
Subject: The Nurse in Research

January 30
Dr. John G. Bieri, chief, Nutritional Biochemistry Section, NIAMD
Subject: Basic and Applied Nutrition Problems

Interview takes place during intermission, Library of Congress Chamber Music Series.

Albert Berkowitz Is Appointed Division Deputy Chief, NLM

Albert M. Berkowitz has been appointed deputy chief of the Reference Services Division, National Library of Medicine.

Mr. Berkowitz, previously head of RSD's Loan and Stack Section, joined NLM in 1960.

Increased Deductions Shown in Feb. 3 Check

NIH employees under Civil Service Retirement and/or covered by the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program will have increased deductions in their Feb. 3 pay checks. Deductions for both became effective on Jan. 11.

Due to the Civil Service Retirement Amendments of 1969 employee contributions to this fund were raised from 6 1/2 to 7 percent of base pay.

Along with new premiums rates for major health plans, requests for changes in enrollment during the November 1969 "Open Season," also became effective on Jan. 11.

There was a total of 709 changes, this included: 278 new enrollments; 250 employees switched to other plans; 182 changed plan options, and four cancelled plans.

DR. LIPSETT
(Continued from Page 1)

development of new, widely acceptable methods for family planning, one of the major research efforts of the NICHD," Dr. Marston said.

"The transfer of Dr. Lipsett constitutes another step in enlarging the scope and funding for this research," Dr. Marston added.

Dr. Lipsett's honors include the Alfred P. Sloan Award for Cancer Research and the DHEW Superior Service Honor Award.

He is Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism, chairman of NCI's Breast Cancer Task Force, and a member of the Reproductive Biology Study Section.

Electronic monitors (lower center) automatically direct pneumatic tubes in Bldg. 31 to their destination through the large pipe at right. Horace Thomas, Mail and Message Unit head (left), shows Lewis D. Brown, deputy director, OAS, and Donald R. Cushing, Plant and Office Services Branch chief, how the system—now being installed in Bldg. 10—works.

Mail delayed? Wastebasket not emptied? Snow not cleared as rapidly? Purchase orders not processed quickly? Contracts not negotiated as expeditiously? Shorter hours for self-service stores? Curtailed shuttle service?

The list is long, but understanding the reason for diminished quality in the services supporting NIH activities—reduction in number of personnel—may help employees exercise more patience.

The majority of the tubes, except those in Bldgs. 1 and 31, go through Bldg. 10. By means of an electronic device now being installed, tubes previously directed to their destinations manually will be automatically monitored and routed without delay.

The modification is scheduled for completion by Jan. 22. This system has already proved effective in Bldg. 31.

Another common source of distress is the housekeeping service—floors, for example, are not cleaned as often or as thoroughly as in the days of full employment.

The sanitation industry has set a work standard of 11,000 square feet per man per 8-hour day; the housekeeping staff here is responsible for cleaning 20,000 square feet in this period. To meet this problem, the section is planning to buy cleaning machines and other labor-saving devices to help ease the burden as much as possible.

Frequently, decisions must be made on how to best use available personnel. For instance, the staff which previously operated two self-service stores now operates three.

On Dec. 2, when Self Service Store 3 opened in Bldg. 35, services were curtailed in the stores in Bldg. 31 (closed Mondays and Wednesdays) and in the Westwood Building (closed Tuesdays and Thursdays).

In other areas, too, services have had to meet the challenge of making do with less. Shuttle service has been curtailed, and the trip to the NIH Animal Center in Poolesville has been eliminated. The airport truck for perishables will be replaced by a contract carrier.

Work Load Increased

It now takes longer to process requisitions and purchase orders and to negotiate and administer contracts. Despite budget restrictions, the work load of the procurement section has increased. Purchases are more frequent as employees buy in smaller quantities, and research contracts are negotiated with 14 less people.

However, despite these and other inconveniences, "most NIH employees have accepted the cutbacks in a gracious and cooperative manner," according to James B. Davis, Director of the Office of Administrative Services.

Mr. Davis is soliciting all employees' cooperation with the assurance that central services is "doing everything possible to carry on those functions which are essential to our overall endeavor."
Monthly Seminars on Parasitology Research To Start January 29

The Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, will conduct a series of monthly seminars on aspects of research in parasitology. The seminars will be given by distinguished guest lecturers.

Professor Ernest Buesing, Department of Pathobiology, Johns Hopkins University, will start the series at 2 p.m., Jan. 29 in Bldg. 31, Wing C, Room 6.

He will talk on “Relationship between Conformation and Antischistosomal Activity of Nitrogerocyclic Compounds.”

Professor Buesing is known for his research in biochemical pharmacology and his contributions to the field of parasitology.

Future topics will include biochemistry and ecology problems.

Katie Broberg included In Book on Outstanding Young American Women

Katherine W. Broberg, a science writer with the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, has been selected to appear in the 1969 edition of Outstanding Young Women of America.

She is an alumna of Dickinson College and was nominated for the honor by that school on the basis of her excellent record and subsequent accomplishments.

Selection is made by a board representing national women's organizations. The board includes the American Association of University Women.

Miss Broberg joined NIH in 1966 as a member of the Information Intern Program. Since she has been with NIAMD her writing has included numerous newspaper and magazine features, and reports to Congress.

Armchair Traveler William King Retires; Future Plans to Reflect Past Activities

By Bari Attis

“Old travel men never die, they just continue along another road.” With this bit of philosophy, William King, NINDS travel officer, retired after 21 years at NIH.

Although he has been primarily an armchair traveler, Bill King has followed a number of different roads during his 60 years. He traveled what was then a long road from a small upper Montgomery County, Md., town to go to work for People's Drug Store in Washington, D.C.

From there, in 1941, he traveled across town to the Maritime Commission, where his job dealt with travel and budget arrangements for ports and landings all over the world. From Maritime in 1948 he came to NIH, and in 1957 to NINDS.

Paralleling his work experience, Bill King has also been traveling the road to higher education for most of his life. The one-room school in his home town offered only a fifth grade education—so Bill and some of the other students studied privately with a school teacher for another 3 years.

When he came to Washington, he began corresponding with night school business courses and took some business and accounting classes at Roosevelt High School.

Earns Diploma in 1960

Although he passed the Federal Service Entrance Examination (FSEE) in 1949, he did not officially earn a high school diploma until 1960, one year before his daughter Linda earned hers.

Bill King says he’s not the kind of man “who can sit home and watch TV and drink beer every night.” In addition to work and study, Mr. King also has worked in the evenings and on weekends for a night watchman’s firm and as an investment firm and as a real estate salesman.

His plans for retirement include going back to school at Montgomery College to obtain a permanent license to sell real estate in this area. He has not traveled far in the past, but Bill and his wife, Burnette, hope to drive to California and take a steamer trip to Hawaii in the near future.

With this long catalog of activities, it is amazing that he has time to think of hobbies but Bill King is also interested in sports, bowling, chess, and checkers. His greatest claim to fame, he says with a smile, was playing to a draw with two World Champion checker players in exhibition games in Washington.

At his retirement, Bill and his wife and daughter were greeted at an 8th floor party by many of his friends at NIH. Some of those coming to wish him well were people he had talked to for years on the telephone but had never met before.

Raymond Blackburn, Jr. Named to New Post

Raymond Blackburn, Jr., Division of Nursing, Bureau of Health Professions Education and Manpower Training, has been named to the newly created post of assistant director for Administration.

He will assist Jessie M. Scott, DN Director, and develop, administer, and evaluate policies and programs for improving the nation’s nursing services.

Mr. Blackburn began his career in 1949 with PHS. He has been with DN since 1957, and has served as its executive officer since 1962.

Before joining DN, he was with the PHS Hospital Construction Program, Division of Hospital and Medical Facilities.

Mr. Blackburn received his B.S. degree in Public Administration from American University.

Pima Indian Research Reveals the Prevalence Of Gallbladder Disease

A National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases clinical research program on gallbladder inflammation and gallstones will be conducted in a new 25-bed facility Phoenix, Ariz., at Scottsdale, Ariz., headed by Dr. Robert S. Gordon, Jr., NIAMD clinical director.

Also attending the conference were: Dr. G. Donald Whedon, NIAMD Director; W. G. Baylis, executive officer; and Drs. Thomas Burch and Peter Bennett of the NIAMD Southwestern Field Studies Section.

Other participants included Dr. E. Siegfried, Director, Phoenix Indian Medical Center, and members of his medical and surgical staffs.

NIAMD research on the Pima Indians of the Gila River Reservation, about 40 miles south of Phoenix, has revealed a prevalence of gallbladder disease six times higher than that found in a similar study of Caucasians conducted in Framingham, Mass.

DR SLAGLE

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Dr. Slagle has been blind since the age of 14.

He received his B.S., degree, Summa Cum Laude (1955), from St. John's University. Both his M.S. (1957) and Ph.D. (1961) degrees were received from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

During his years at that university he was awarded a Staff Associateship from Lincoln Laboratory. Dr. Slagle worked for the Laboratory part time and attended classes part time. He worked there for two additional years after receiving his Ph.D.

From 1963 to 1967 Dr. Slagle was head of the Heuristics Group at the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory in Livermore, Cal., and he taught in the Graduate School at the University of California at Berkeley.

He came to NIH in August 1967. Dr. Slagle's scholastic honors include the Recording for the Blind 1959 Scholastic Achievement Award. It was presented to him by President Eisenhower.

He has written numerous scientific articles and will soon have a book published.

Dr. Slagle lives in Bethesda with his wife and five children who range in age from 3 to 9.
The Japanese National Institute of Health in Tokyo is the professional home of Dr. Yasushi Hayakawa, who is visiting NIH under a one-year fellowship from the World Health Organization. He helped direct NIH influenza research studies in Panama, where he is working with Dr. Baruj Benacerraf on problems of viral and neuronal diseases and neuroanatomical sciences.

Dr. Townsend graduated from Georgetown University Medical School in 1912. His first PHS assignment in 1914 was the study of tuberculosis among the Alaskan natives. He served during World War I with the Army and Navy and helped set up a health center in Alaska for Navy personnel and worked on Army sanitation projects.

Later, he surveyed sanitation conditions in Puerto Rico, and also established health and sanitation operations in a number of states. After his retirement from PHS, Dr. Townsend served in Panama as Medical Director of the Point Four Program.

NEW DRUG

(Continued from Page 1)

When rifampicin was then removed, components synthesized in the presence of the antibiotic were incorporated into infectious virus particles. This was true even when specific inhibitors were added to assure that no further DNA or protein synthesis could take place after the removal of rifampicin.

Electron microscope pictures of vaccinia-infected cells with and without rifampicin showed that development of virus membranes is interrupted in the presence of the drug.

New Knowledge Gained

After removal of rifampicin, membrane and particle synthesis were seen to proceed in normal fashion. Until now, little has been known about formation of viral membranes and assembly of virus particles. Rifampicin promises to be helpful in increasing our knowledge in this important area.

In addition, since virus assembly is a process which has no counterpart in uninfected cells, rifampicin is highly selective—i.e., much more harmful to viruses than to human cells—and may be clinically useful.

The NIH scientists also hope that other derivatives of this drug will be found to prevent assembly of additional classes of viruses.


dr. sarah knutti named to new nichd post

Dr. Sarah H. Knutti joined NICHD in 1964 as chief of the Institute's Facilities and Resources Branch.

Dr. Sarah H. Knutti has been appointed assistant director for the Office of Planning and Evaluation (Clinical Programs, Facilities and Resources) of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Dr. Knutti received her A.B. degree in Chemistry from Vassar College in 1956, and her M.D. degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1939.

From 1939 to 1954 Dr. Knutti, who is a pediatrician, served at the University of Rochester except for one year when she was an instructor in pediatrics at Cornell University.

She joined the American Hospital Association as assistant secretary, and later served as secretary of the Council on Professional Practice.

Prior to joining NIH in 1964, Dr. Knutti was associate clinical director of the Miner's Memorial Hospital Association.

Dr. Knutti is listed in Who's Who in American Women.

She is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatrics, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Public Health Association.

The Division of Computer Research and Technology will sponsor a research colloquium on the development and applications of mathematical and computer techniques to the biomedical sciences. Speakers will address each meeting.

The talks are scheduled for Fridays at 10:30 a.m., Room B1101, Bldg. 10. The first session will start on Jan. 28.

Titles of speeches will be published in the NIH Calendar of Events. To be included on the mailing list for advance copies of abstracts, or for further information, call Dr. Ronald Baecker, Ext. 61115.

pcr to sponsor colloquium on the techniques of computers

NEW DRUG

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of cardiac replacement in this age group.

Dr. Cooper endorsed the Task Force recommendation to emphasize prevention research citing the fact that over five times as many people below age 65 in this country are killed by heart attacks than would become cardiac replacement candidates.

Dr. Cooper also said that approximately $2.5 million would be needed initially for the establishment of transplantation centers at certain institutions. Some of the $8.5 million would also be used for developing methods of organ preservation, he said.

Dr. Cooper emphasized that no other aspect of NHI's research program would be jeopardized or eliminated in favor of additional research in artificial heart development or heart transplantation.

Balanced Approach Favorable

Dr. Cooper concurred with the Task Force recommendation that artificial heart development should be continued, but favored a balanced approach to the development of heart assist devices and continued research on a total heart replacement, rather than focusing narrowly on one device.

Dr. Cooper also stated that NHLI will not establish special programs to study non-medical problems—psychological, social, ethical, legal, religious, and economic—of heart transplantation.

Nor will the Institute establish criteria for a definition of death. However, Dr. Cooper stressed that the Institute will cooperate fully with any institutions pursuing such programs.

Dr. Earl Gardner Named NIH Grants Associate

Dr. Earl W. Gardner, microbiologist, has recently joined the NIH Grants Associates Program for a year's training in health science administration.

Since 1958, Dr. Gardner has been a professor of Biology at Texas Christian University. He also held positions as visiting assistant professor at the University of Texas; associate editor, Texas Journal of Science; and consultant with General Dynamics Corp., Fort Worth.

Dr. Gardner received his B.S. from Baylor University in 1949, and both his M.A. (1954) and Ph. D. (1958) from the University of Texas.

Dr. Gardner's principal scientific interest is in cholera studies. He received NIH research grant support from 1960-63 for a virulence study of Vibrio cholerae, and again from 1967-1969 for an electron microscopic study on the same subject.

CARDIAC

(Continued from Page 1)

The Clinical Center Blood Bank reports that five donors achieved a special status. Dr. Carl E. Miller, DBS, attained the 2-gallon mark, and Alvin Carl E. Miller, DBS, attained the 3-gallon mark, and Alvin Carl E. Miller, DBS, attained the 3-gallon mark, and Alvin Carl E. Miller, DBS, attained the 3-gallon mark, and Alvin Carl E. Miller, DBS, attained the 3-gallon mark. Dr. Sarah Knutti, NIH, reached the 2-gallon mark. The Clinical Center Blood Bank reports that five donors achieved a special status.