Seggel, Stadtman Win Departmental Awards

Two NIH employees—Richard L. Seggel and Dr. Earl R. Stadtman—received Distinguished Service Awards for their outstanding contributions at the Departmental Honor Awards Ceremony held last Friday (April 10). The awards were presented by HEW Secretary Robert H. Finch.

Mr. Seggel, Associate Director for Administration, NIH, was cited for “his exceptional administrative skill and outstanding, progressive leadership of management programs at the National Institutes of Health.”

Dr. Stadtman, chief of the Laboratory of Biochemistry, National Heart and Lung Institute, was recognized for his “distinguished contributions to an understanding of the complex enzyme control systems that regulate major metabolic pathways and for consistently providing key discoveries in his field.”

The Distinguished Service Award is presented by HEW to employees whose services and achievements deserve the highest recognition.

Secretary Finch also cited two other NIH employees who, during the past year, received awards for their scientific achievements.

They are: Dr. James R. Slagle, chief, Heuristics Laboratory, Division of Computer Research and Technology—named one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men of 1969 by U.S. Jaycees.

Dr. Margaret Pittman, chief, Laboratory of Bacterial Products, Division of Biologics Standards—received a Federal Woman’s Award.

The Secretary also presented Distinguished Service Awards to two National Institute of Mental Health scientists who are on the reservation:

Dr. Robert A. Cohen, director, (See AWARDS, Page 8)

Preliminary Studies Show Camptothecin May Be Useful for Treatment of Cancer

A new drug called camptothecin that may be useful against advanced cancer of the intestine and rectum was described by National Cancer Institute scientists at the 61st annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in Philadelphia, Pa., on April 9.

The findings, although preliminary, are especially important because cancers of the intestine and rectum strike 75,000 Americans each year and cause more deaths than any type of cancer except lung cancer.

Dr. Jeffrey A. Gottlieb, Anthony M. Guarino, Vincent T. Oliverio, and Jerome B. Block reported on results of administering camptothecin to 17 adults with various types of far advanced cancer treated at the NCI’s Baltimore Cancer Research Center.

In each case the new drug, developed in Government-sponsored studies, and taken from extracts obtained from a Chinese tree, was given because the patients no longer responded to conventional treatment.

Study Establishes Dosage

Dr. Gottlieb reported that the 17 patients, 9 of whom had advanced cancer of the intestine and rectum, were treated in a phase I or dose-establishing study in which the drug was given intravenously in a saline solution, in dosages from one-half to 10 milligrams per kilogram of body weight, usually at intervals of 2 weeks or more.

Prof. Seymour Benzer To Deliver NIH Lecture On Wednesday, April 22

Dr. Seymour Benzer, Professor of Biology at the California Institute of Technology, will deliver the NIH Lecture on Wednesday, April 22, at 8:15 p.m., in the Jack Masur Auditorium of the Clinical Center.

His subject will be “Genetic Dissection of Visual Behavior in Drosophila.”

Dr. Benzer is internationally known for his research on the molecular biology of viruses and in the field of molecular genetics, especially the role of genes as determinants of nervous system structure and function and their resulting influence on patterns of behavior.

Similarly, genetic information enables certain spiders to construct webs that in symmetry, form, and function would challenge the ingenuity and artistry of a skilled engineer or architect.

Dr. Benzer is currently exploring genetic determinants of behavior in drosophila, the common fruit fly.

Dr. Langley Joins NLM As Associate Director

Dr. Leroy L. Langley has been named associate director for Extramural Programs at the National Library of Medicine.

Since 1964 Dr. Langley has served as chief of the Training Grants and Awards Branch in the National Heart and Lung Institute’s Extramural Programs.

He succeeds David F. Kefauver, now deputy assistant director for Extramural Programs and Behavioral Sciences with the National Institute of Mental Health.

Dr. Langley received his bachelor’s degree in Physiology at UCLA in 1938, an M.A. from Stanford University, and his doctorate in 1948 from Yale University, where he continued as an honorary research fellow and assistant for one year.

He then completed 3 years of military service as a Lieutenant in the Navy Hospital Service Corps in 1946. Eight years later, he earned a law degree from the Birmingham School of Law in Alabama.

From 1946 to 1948 Dr. Langley (See Dr. LANGLEY, Page 5)
Josephine O'Connor, CC, Retires From Nursing, Plans to Teach, Travel

The 43-year professional nursing career of Josephine O'Connor has just ended. Seventeen of those years were spent at NIH—in the Clinical Center. Miss O'Connor recently retired as chief, Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases Nursing Service. She came here in 1955 as assistant to the chief of the Nursing Department in the newly established research hospital. As Chairman of the Civil Service Board of Examiners she evaluated

Corrected Dates for Movie On Rubella (German Measles)

The corrected dates for the health education movie on Rubella (German measles), sponsored by the Employee Health Service, are: Westwood Building, Conference Room A, Wednesday, April 15, 1:30 and 2 p.m.

Jack Masur Auditorium, Clinical Center, Thursday, April 16, at 11:30 a.m., 12 noon and 12:30 p.m.

Appropriation for Design Of Lister Hill Center Authorized by Congress

An appropriation of $900,000 was authorized by Congress for work on the architectural and engineering design of the Lister Hill Center—the National Library of Medicine's annex.

At the present time, the design calls for a building resembling a tower to be located adjacent to NLM. It will contain about 200,000 gross square feet of space.

In addition to the Lister Hill Center organization, the building will house the offices of Extramural Programs, Specialized Information Services, the Office of Computer and Engineering Services, and some offices of both the Library Operations and the Office of Administrative Management.

The rehabilitation of the NLM building, which has been occupied for 8 years, is also in the planning stage. This reconstruction will allow for greater expansion of the Library's stacks.

NIH Orchestra to Present Concert Featuring Guitar

The NIH Orchestra will give a concert on Friday, April 24, at 8:30 p.m. in the Clinical Center's Jack Masur Auditorium.

The concert, sponsored by the NIH Recreation and Welfare Association, will be conducted by Mark Ellsworth. Numbers include Wagner's overture to Die Meistersinger, Haydn's Symphony No. 100 in G, and Enesco's First Rumanian Rhapsody.

Fantasia para un Gentilhombre for guitar and orchestra composed by the contemporary Spanish musician Joaquin Rodrigo, will also be performed. Richard Blankenship will be the guitar soloist.

Mr. Blankenship, a student at the Peabody Conservatory, teaches guitar at the Ellsworth Studios in Bethesda.

Admission to the concert is free; tickets are not required. CC patients, and NIH personnel and their families and friends are invited to attend.
Summer Aid Program Assists Young People To Acquire Job Skills

NIH employees are busy preparing for the 1970 Federal Summer Employment Program for Youth—better known as the Summer Aid Program. This program helps financially deprived young people acquire job skills in 8-12 weeks of on-the-job training. It also provides 4 hours a week of special training in work-related skills and courses.

This year NIH plans to hire approximately 500 Summer Aids. At least half of these Aids will come from poverty areas in the District of Columbia. Recruiters will visit District schools, churches, recreation centers, and community organizations—primarily in the Cardozo area—to provide information about the NIH program and how to apply.

For many Aids the NIH job will be their first work experience. For this reason supervisors have been selected because of their desire to participate in the program and their abilities to provide stimulating training that will challenge and interest the Aids.

Seven former Summer Aids and two professional career counselors will be hired for the summer to provide additional guidance. Help from other employees is also needed for tutoring and to teach in classrooms. Interested personnel may call Stefanie Singer, Ext. 62146.

Influx of Immigrant Scientists, Engineers, and Physicians Drops

The number of foreign-born scientists, engineers, and physicians immigrating to the United States in fiscal year 1969 declined after a sharp rise in the prior 2 years, according to National Science Foundation estimates.

Roskey Jennings, NIAID’s Iron Man, Here 40 Years, Honored for Work, Attendance

It's so nice to have you here, Mr. Jennings (2nd from right). His host of NIH friends—doctors, researchers, lab and office workers, everybody—came for coffee and cake, and the pleasure of being with Roskey Jennings.

By Marie Heintz

Roskey Jennings is a very important man to a lot of people at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. He's also a modest man.

Although he knew that some of his friends were planning a party to mark his 40 years at NIH, Mr. Jennings didn't think the March 27 event would be a big affair. But when he got on the Building 5 elevator and saw an impressive notice about the "Roskey Jennings Party," he decided he'd better take some action.

So later that day, he dashed home to change from his work clothes into a handsome suit. And that's why Mr. Jennings also looked like a real guest of honor when more than 200 of his fellow workers gathered in the library of that building to pay him tribute.

One of the reasons Mr. Jennings has so many friends is that he's a most unusual man.

On March 25, 1930, he began his first day of a 3-month temporary appointment as a laborer at NIH—then known as the Hygienic Laboratory.

That 3-month appointment has stretched into 40 years and today he's a Biological Laboratory Technician in the NIAID Laboratory of Biology of Viruses.

At times he has been responsible for more than 2,500 animals each day and it is generally agreed that it would take two men working at normal speed to accomplish as much as he does alone.

For years, he came into his laboratory 7 days a week—working 4 hours each Saturday and Sunday—in order to check on the animals' behavior and give them food and water.

A former laboratory chief described Mr. Jennings as "the iron man" of NIAID who served faithfully every day except for his annual vacation each year.

At one time he was not even using his annual leave until a supervisor insisted that he use the leave to which he was entitled.

And it has been years since he used any sick leave—not even the day back in 1964 when a serious accident on the job resulted in the severing of a joint of a finger.

After receiving emergency treatment and seeing his own physician, Mr. Jennings returned to the lab the same day to care for his animals, with his hand in a sling.

Joint hosts for the party were personnel of two NIAID laboratories—the Biology of Viruses and Parasitic Diseases.

Coffee and cake were served and the guest of honor received a gold tie clasp engraved with the initials "N 1 H," in addition to a purse.

When Roskey Jennings took his oath of office on March 25, 1930, he signed a statement which said in part: "... I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter ..." This oath he took seriously and he plans to continue doing just that.

Someone at the party told Mr. Jennings: "You know, you're very important to NIH." To which he replied: "I'm glad to hear that because NIH is important to me, too!"

Efforts to Cure, Explain Pain, Shown on NIGMS TV Program, April 26

"There is only one pain that is easy to bear and that is the pain of others."

This saying, first stated by the French surgeon, Rene Leriche, is closely examined by a psychotherapist, a practicing physician, a clergyman, and a government health official on the WRC-TV program, "YOU ... and Pain," scheduled for Sunday, April 26, at 2:30 p.m.

The program, based on the National Institute of General Medical Science's brochure, will focus on pain's elusive nature and man's efforts to explain it, control it, cure it, and, at times, use it for his own purposes.

Dr. Lawrence LeShan, chief psychologist, Institute of Applied Psychology, New York, will explain how psychotherapy can help a patient face pain.

Chaplain LeRoy G. Kerney, Clinical Center, will discuss philosophical attitudes and beliefs pertaining to the basic nature of human suffering.

Dr. Thomas McPherson Brown, professor of Medicine at George Washington University, will tell how physicians treat pain and will also discuss the need for new methods of controlling pain, including the use of nonaddictive drugs.

Dr. L. Edgar Lee, associate chief, Research Grants Branch, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, will act as moderator.

2nd Program on Drugs Is Broadcast Tonight

The second of a series of six weekly, half-hour radio programs on the use and abuse of drugs in modern society will be broadcast at 8:30 this evening (April 14) on radio station WTOP-FM, 950.

Drs. Jerome Levine and Mitchell Bailer, NIMH, will discuss "Drugs and Contemporary Society."

The series, entitled "This Drug Age," was developed by the American University Broadcast Center in collaboration with the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

In the first segment last week, Drs. George and Raymond Bahor, NIGMS, talked about the discovery and use of drugs by primitive cultures.

Next Tuesday (April 21) Dr. Herschel Rick, Tufts University School of Medicine, will be the featured speaker on "The Physician and the Prescription of Drugs."

The following Tuesday (April 28), "Drug Abuse and ..." will be discussed by Donald Miller, chief counselor, Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, Department of Justice. Dr. Ralph Barber, Barnard College and Columbia University, and Dr. Walter Modell, Cornell University Medical College.
PROF. BENZER
(Continued from Page 1)

fruitfly. This subject is a great favorite for genetic studies from high school biology and on.
Drosophila probably has had its chromosomes more thoroughly explored and its genes more extensively mapped than any other creature.
Moreover, genetic mutations can be induced in drosophila by radiation and other techniques to produce alterations in physical or physiological characteristics and also produce modifications of normal behavioral patterns.

Will Summarize Research
In his lecture Dr. Benzer will summarize his recent research concerning the behavioral modifications induced in drosophila by mutations affecting various steps in the chain leading from the reception of light to the evocation of the behavioral response.
Dr. Benzer received his B.S. degree from Brooklyn College in 1942. He did his postgraduate work at Purdue, earning his Ph.D. in Physics in 1947.
In 1949, after a tour of duty as a biophysicist with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Dr. Benzer was awarded a fellowship in biophysics at Cal Tech.
In 1951-52 he was a Fulbright research scholar at the Pasteur Institute.
Later, he returned to Purdue as a faculty member of the Biophysics Department. From 1961 to 1967 he served as Stuart Distinguished Professor of Biophysics. Dr. Benzer then joined the staff of the California Institute of Technology.
Dr. Benzer's numerous honors and awards include the Sigma Xi Award (Purdue, 1957), the Howard Taylor Rickittis Award (University of Chicago, 1961), the Gold Medal Mrs. West is regarded as one of the foremost authorities in the nation on health manpower supply and education.

'Maggie' West Retires; Officials Praise Her Role in Health Manpower Studies

In an informal ceremony on April 2 attended by top NIH officials, Dr. Robert Q. Marston, NIH Director, presented a certificate of service to Margaret D. West, BEMT, who retired the next day.

Manpower Resources Staff, also received permission to Dr. Marston which read, in part:

"... The chronicle of your accomplishments for the Government programs have gained national prominence largely by virtue of the high calibre analysts and studies you have directed.
"So we say simply: Thanks. We shall miss you."

'Closes the Circle'
In the course of her 28 years with the Public Health Service, Mrs. West "closed the circle" when BEMT merged with NIH in 1968, having started her PHS career in 1942 in the Division of Public Health Methods, then a part of NIH.
She remained with PHM when it was transferred into the Office of the Surgeon General.
Mrs. West has been a leading participant in many of the landmark studies in health manpower supply and education in the United States in the last three decades, and is regarded as one of the nation's foremost authorities on these subjects.

Accomplishments Noted
During World War II with the War Manpower Commission, Mrs. West played a principal role in establishing standards for physicians, dentists, and nurses for the health of the civilian population.
With the Health Resources Advisory Committee of the Office of Defense Mobilization, she conducted studies of medical school faculty and hospital staffing.
With the Hoover Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government, she served on the Medical Task Force.
The Magnuson Report, the BEMT Report—every important document of recent times bearing on the education, training, distribution, and utilization of health personnel bears the imprint of Maggie West.

Served as Consultant
More recently, Mrs. West served as Consultant to the Milbank Memorial Fund and the Pan-American Health Organization in surveying the health manpower problems of Colombia and making valuable recommendations.
She was a member of the task force which established the Bureau of Health Manpower, in which she has continued to play a leading role since its organization on Jan. 1, 1967.
In BEMT, she directed preparation of such major reports as Education for the Allied Health Professions and Services and Health Manpower Perspectives—1967.
Mrs. West earned her baccalaureate degree at Swarthmore College in 1935 and did her graduate work at New York University.
She began her Federal career as a research analyst with the Works Progress Administration. In 1939 she went to the National Maternal and Child Health Council.
BEMT Director Kenneth M. Endicott has prevailed on Mrs. West to continue to make her vast knowledge available to BEMT as a consultant.

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Environmental Health's Extramural Programs Move to North Carolina

The Extramural Programs of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences has moved to Research Triangle Park, N.C., joining the Institute's Intramural Programs and direct operations.
Dr. Paul Kotin, Institute Director, announced the relocation of the Extramural Programs, effective as of yesterday (April 18).
Except for a small office here, the NIEHS is the only one of the National Institutes of Health to be located away from the Bethesda area.

Studies Environment

It is conducting studies to determine the effects of long-term, low-level exposures to environmental factors on man's health and to identify the mechanisms involved in such exposures.
Control agencies are informed of these findings which, in turn, may use as the basis for standards

On April 13 the NIEHS Extramural Programs completed its move from the Westwood Building to these units at the Research Triangle Park in N. C. and guidelines.

Under the direction of Dr. William Goldwater, the new associate director for Extramural Programs (see NIH Record, Jan. 7, 1970), the extramural research and training programs of the Institute will focus on health implications of pesticides, food toxics, occupational health hazards, air and water pollutants, and other chemical, biological, and physical factors in the environment.
PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBIT

DR. LANGLEY

(Continued from Page 1)

was a research fellow at the Institute de Biofisica in Rio de Janeiro. During this time, he became editor and owner of the Brazil Herald and served as a foreign correspondent for the American Broadcasting Company.

Dr. Langley returned to the United States in 1948 and joined the staffs of the University of Alabama School of Dentistry and the Medical College of Alabama as assistant, associate, and full professor of Physiology. He taught at the University until 1964.

Dr. Langley's travels, both business and pleasure, have taken him all over the world. The author of numerous books and articles, he has lectured at schools of medicine and dentistry in the United States and abroad.

In 1962-63, he visited Turkey under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Commission as an expert in the medical applications of radioisotopes.

He also established and directed the Radiobiology Institute at the Ankara Medical School and planned new laboratories at the Haseki Hospital in Istanbul.

In addition, 24 species of reptiles, 6 species of amphibians, more than 6 species of aquatic mammals, 14 types of sharks and approximately 85 types of birds have been identified.

Because of this selection, it is possible for a scientist to find such things as a Florida diamondback terrapin, gopher tortoise, alligator, bottle-nosed dolphin, hammerhead shark, brown pelican, water turkey, Louisiana heron, and even the Cuban snowy plover.

The Mote Marine Laboratory has four boats for collecting marine animals. The lab requires a week to a month's notice depending on the nature and the size of the collection.

A wide variety of studies have already been conducted at the laboratory—many of them on sharks which lend themselves to physiologic and pharmacologic studies.

Director is Expert
The executive director of the MML, Dr. Perry W. Gilbert, is considered one of the world's greatest shark experts.

Scientists from four institutes have used the facilities for research on sharks in the following studies:

- The blood-brain barrier (that phenomenon in most living creatures which prevents substances in the blood from crossing over into the brain) the interrelationship of steroid hormones and catecholamine metabolism; the effect of the sodium pump on shark gills; the neurotransmitter substances and neurological studies.

In the dark of the night a baited shark line is laid out in Gulf waters by Mote Marine Laboratory personnel.

The location of the trailer—50 yards from the Gulf of Mexico—is ideal because the Gulf contains a part of the continental shelf which supports most of the fish and invertebrate life.

More than 241 species of algae, and 6 species of vascular plants can be collected in the area, many of the species are supplied by the Mote Marine Laboratory.

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Dr. Langley has an interesting background—during his tenure as a research fellow in Brazil, he edited a newspaper and was foreign correspondent for a broadcasting company.
Electric Computers Help Biologists to Know How Man and Animal Evolved

Electric computers are helping evolutionary biologists to gain new insight into the way man becomes.

Because of this help biologists are "inventing the past," according to Dr. Charles E. Oxnard, associate professor of Anatomy, Anthropology, and Evolutionary Biology, University of Chicago.

Dr. Oxnard, a National Institute of Child Health and Human Development grantee, believes electronic computers have ushered in a new era of studying the macro-anatomy of the animal or human body.

These studies reveal how parts of the body—in both man and animals—could have changed and evolved.

By studying films of living animals, dissecting hundreds of specimens, and measuring thousands of bones, Dr. Oxnard and his colleagues established a relationship between bone shape, muscle function, and locomotor behavior in primates.

Dr. Oxnard also uses computer and engineering techniques on other living mammals and in fossils of early man-like creatures.

With the use of mathematical formulae and computers, the researcher shows the animals within three-dimensional space. He believes his approach results in new insights in the studies of the change of shape in evolution.

"Although the human eye is extremely good at such procedures as discriminating between different complex shapes," Dr. Oxnard further explained, "it is rather bad at visualizing the total.
**Camptotheca Tree, Cultivated in West, Yields Active Anticancer Compound**

A tree, native to mainland China, is the source of camptothecin. Extracts from all parts of the plant, Camptotheca acuminate, have yielded the active anticancer compound which first gained the attention of NCI scientists when it doubled the survival time of mice with leukemia.

The mouse leukemia, designated L1210, serves as a primary screen for the Institute's Cancer Chemotherapy National Service Center.

"If an agent is active against the L1210 tumor," says Dr. Saul A. Schindler, associate director, NCI, and the Center's chief, "this is an excellent indicator of its potential as a weapon against human cancer."

The camptotheca tree was brought to California by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in the early 1950's as a possible new ornamental plant, but it never became popular.

In the early 1960's Dr. Monroe Wall, then of the USDA's Eastern Utilization Research and Development Laboratories in Philadelphia, examined alcohol extracts of camptotheca along with those of thousands of other plants as a possible source of cortisone precursors. None was found in the camptotheca, and the extracts were set aside for several years.

In 1965, NCI established its screening center for cancer chemotherapy agents. Officials learned of Dr. Wall's collection of plant extracts and asked that they be submitted for testing. The center has screened over 257,000 substances over the past 15 years, including 45,000 plant extracts.

**CAMPTOTHECIN**

(Continued from Page 1)

Of the 9 patients with advanced cancer of the intestine and rectum, 4 patients achieved tumor reduction greater than 50 percent; 4 others tumor masses decreased 20 to 50 percent. One patient of the 9 with gastrointestinal cancer did not derive benefit.

In addition to the responses by patients with intestinal and rectal cancer, a patient with breast cancer experienced greater than 50 percent reduction in tumor nodules; one adult with lung cancer and another with acute myelocytic leukemia had from 25 to 50 percent decrease in tumor mass or manifested other objective evidence of tumor regression.

Durations of response were brief. Half were under 2 months, half longer than 2 months. The longest lasted 5 months.

Four patients died 7 to 17 days following drug administration from kidney and lung complications but their deaths did not appear to be directly drug-related.

Toxic side effects of camptothecin were varied and generally manageable. The major limiting toxicity was bone marrow depression which, in some cases, necessitated transfusions of blood platelets.

Hair loss and weight loss were frequent but, because of the sparseness of the drug, were not considered a major hazard.

Attempts are being made to produce a synthetic camptothecin product in several NCI-supported laboratory studies.

**Apply for Short-Term Training Grants Through HEW Regional Offices**

Applicants for Short-Term Training Grants under the Public Health Trainingship Program should apply for these grants through the nine regional offices of HEW, according to Dr. Kenneth M. Endicott, BEMT Director.

Formerly, applications were submitted to the BEMT central office. The change is the result of a recommendation made by the Federal Assistance Streamlining Task Force (FAST), HEW.

FAST examined, evaluated, and made recommendations for the improvement of grants management throughout the Department.

**Grants Explored**

This is the first grants program on which action has been taken. The grants are awarded on a competitive basis to any public or non-profit private institution or agency that provides graduate or specialized short-term training in public health for professional health personnel.

Length of training varies from at least 21/2 days to generally not more than 4 weeks.

The objectives are: assist in increasing the technical competence of professional health personnel; decrease the time lag between the discovery of public health knowledge and its application in public health practice.

Further information about the program is available from the Associate Regional Health Director for Manpower in each of the HEW Regional Offices.
Curtis Tate Wins Award for Estimating Power of Ice Cube in Transporting Serum

What can a person do with one ice cube?

Usually not very much. One ice cube won’t cool a drink. It won’t go far in an leaky roof to ease an aching head or throat. In liquid form, it’s only about two tablespoons of water.

But Curtis D. Tate, administrator in the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases’ Transplantation Immunology Branch, found a valuable use for one ice cube.

He turned it into a profitable $1,000 suggestion award and gained the recognition of scientists in this country and overseas.

Mr. Tate’s idea grew out of a problem encountered in shipping frozen human tissue typing serum to medical centers throughout the world involved in organ transplant surgery.

The serum is used to test tissue compatibility between human organ donors and recipients before surgery, just as blood types are routinely determined before transfusions.

But, unlike blood, the tissue serum must remain frozen from the time it leaves NIAID until it reaches its destination or its potency may be weakened.

Potency Loss Dangerous

The results could be a false test reaction and possible loss of a life.

Shipped by commercial air freight and packed in dry ice, the styrofoam containers holding the precious serum carried instructions for re-icing along the route.

But, unlike blood, the tissue serum must remain frozen from the time it leaves NIAID until it reaches its destination or its potency may be weakened.

The precise dollar savings resulting from Mr. Tate’s suggestion are difficult to compute because so many intangible factors are involved.

It is generally agreed that the sera’s reliability is questioned— and therefore must be replaced or meticulously tested—the cost can run into thousands of dollars.

Based on the premise that the Tate ice cube indicator could eliminate re-testing and re-issuance of much of the scarce sera, it has been estimated that the annual savings could amount to more than $20,000.

The branch provides sera to tissue typing centers around the world. In fact, the majority of all heart and kidney transplant operations performed to date have involved the use of NIAID sera to match donor and recipient.

The Tate method for shipping frozen laboratory material has now gone international:

The British Cooperative Transplant Program is now using his technique, and other countries are beginning to evaluate his procedure.

Dr. Dorland J. Davis, NIAID Director, and Dr. John R. Seal, NIAID Scientific Director, participated in the recent award presentation ceremony.

The latter, in presenting the check to Mr. Tate, called the idea

"Why didn’t I think of that?" must have occurred to many scientific minds when Dr. Seal (I) presented Mr. Tate with an award (cold cash) for suggesting the use of ice cubes during transit of sera.

"a simple but highly ingenious solution to a worrisome problem."

"Like all eminently practicable and worthwhile suggestions which have great value in usage, the idea is so simple that it is difficult to understand why others haven’t thought of it before," he remarked.

To which Mr. Tate replied:

"Thank you. This check looks as good to me as the suggestion did to everyone else!"

Lab of Molecular Aging in NICHD Reorganizes

Three sections have been established in the Laboratory of Molecular Aging, Gerontology Research Center, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

The organizational changes which became effective on March 16 were announced by Dr. Gerald D. LaVeck, NICHD Director.

Dr. Brether Eichhorn will head the Section on Molecular Chemistry.

Dr. Bertram Sacktor, acting chief of the laboratory, will also be acting head of the Section on Bio-physics, and head of the Section on Intermediary Metabolism.