Dr. E. Driscoll Named NIDR Clinical Director

An Office of the Clinical Director and two new branches have been established within the intramural programs of the National Institute of Dental Research.

Dr. Edward J. Driscoll was named clinical director, with responsibility for NIDR in-patient investigations in the Clinical Center as well as out-patient studies conducted in the Dental Clinic.

Provides Routine Care

Routine dental care is also provided patients of other Institutes in the CC.

Research Interest Described

His major research interest is physiology as it pertains to anesthesia, both local and general, in the ambulatory dental patient.

Within the clinical director’s office, Dr. Richard L. Webber will serve as chief of the Clinical Investigations Branch, as well as the Neurophysiology and Anesthesiology Branch.

The U.S.-Soviet Symposium on Heart Disease Held

The U.S.-U.S.S.R. Symposium on Myocardial Metabolism and Function, sponsored by the National Heart and Lung Institute, is being held Nov. 4-6 at Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

The Symposium has brought together 25 Soviet and American experts on cardiovascular diseases.

Sign Agreement in 1972

The U.S.-U.S.S.R. Cooperative Health Program on Disease, a 5-year agreement signed in 1972, provides for scientific cooperation between the two countries in attacking problems of mutual concern in the areas of cardiovascular disease, cancer, and environmental health.

Chairmen of this latest symposium are Dr. Eugene I. Chazov, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health of the U.S.S.R., Moscow, and Dr. Eugene Braunwald, Physician-in-Chief, Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and Harsey Professor of Theory and Practice of Physic, Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Cooper Participates

NHLI Director, Dr. Theodore Cooper, is one of the American participants in the symposium.

Topics discussed during the 3-day meeting include: mechanisms by which the heart adjusts to overloads; protein metabolism in the normal and failing heart; calcium uptake processes in the heart; etc.

(See HEART MEETING, Page 4)

Unique Structure of Subtilin Established; Chemists Compare It to Nisin Molecule

The structure of subtilin, a polypeptide antibiotic produced by Bacillus subtilis, has been elucidated by chemists at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Following the structural determination of nisin from Staphylococcus lactic 2 years ago in collaboration with John L. Morrell, (see the NIH Record, Sept. 28, 1971), Drs. Erhard Gross, Hans Herrmann Kiltz, and Elke Nebelin have found similar unique structural features in the subtilin molecule.

Dr. Gross is chief of the Section on Molecular Structure in the Reproduction Research Branch.

Some of the structural features of subtilin led Dr. Gross and his co-workers to postulate certain biological activities for nisin and subtilin, for instance, interaction with important sulphydryl groups on membranes and in the cell.

When tested, nisin and several of its fragments released enzymes from lysosomes, particles vital for the proper functioning of the cell.

Since nisin induced resorption of the fetuses of rats and rabbits, its effect on cancer tissue is now being studied in collaboration with the Cancer Chemotherapy Program of the National Cancer Institute.

Amino Aids Rarely Seen

Eight of the amino acids of subtilin are of unusual structure rarely seen in nature, and then almost always in microorganisms.

The rare amino acids are lanthionine and beta-methyl-lyanthionine and two alpha, beta-unsaturated amino acids, dehydroalanine and dehydrobutyrine.

The lanthionine may have been formed in the microorganism by the addition of sulphydryl groups across the double bonds of alpha, beta-unsaturated amino acids.

The comparison of nisin and sub-
Patient Emergency Fund—Via Davis Plan—
Offers Financial Assistance for Necessities

Last year nearly $31,000 was needed to help Clinical Center patients during financial emergencies that are not covered by Federal funds.

Because of the CC’s Patient Emergency Fund, the monetary assistance was made available—and the Davis Plan contributed more than a quarter of PEF’s income.

Donations Voluntary

The fund is supported by voluntary donations from NIH employees and others, including CC patients.

The Davis Plan was started by

Dr. Miguel A. Rodriguez, Center for Biomedical Information, Ministry of Health and Welfare in Mexico, is a participant in a special program for the exchange of young technicians between Mexico and the U.S. Dr. Rodriguez, who is at the National Library of Medicine, will observe and also take part in various NLM operations.

The special program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and the Mexican National Council for Science and Technology.

Open Season for Health Benefits Starts Nov. 15

An “Open Season” for the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program will start on Nov. 15 and end on Nov. 30.

Eligible employees may register to enroll in a plan. Those already enrolled may change their plan, option, type of enrollment, or any combination of these. Changes from family to self-only coverage may be made at any time.

NIH employees may enroll in one of nine different plans. The three general plans are: Group Health Association Plan of Washington, D.C., Indemnity Benefit Plan (Actea Life and Casualty Company) and Service Benefit Plan (Blue Cross-Blue Shield).

Other Plans Named

The other plans are: American Federal of Government Employees Health Benefit Plan, Alliance Health Benefit Plan, American Postal Workers Union Health Benefit Plan, Employees Hospital Association Indemnity Benefit Plan and Mail Handlers Benefit Plan. In order to enroll in one of these plans, an employee must become a member of the sponsoring organization.

Employees living in the surrounding Columbia, Md. area, may enroll in the local comprehensive medical plan, the Columbia Medical Plan of Columbia, Maryland.

Desk-to-Desk Distribution

Next week, a desk-to-desk distribution of a packet, entitled Information on Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, will be made. Revised brochures on the three major plans, biweekly premium rates for all plans, and registration procedures will be included.

Brochures for the other six plans may be obtained in B/D/ID personnel offices.

All of the plans have changes in benefits which are itemized in the 1974 brochure.

Assistants Give Help

During the Open Season, registration assistants will help employees complete forms and answer questions. Their names and locations will be on official bulletin boards and in personnel offices.

A panel of experts from the three major health plans will answer questions on the 1974 contracts on Monday, Nov. 19, at 9 a.m. in Bldg. 1, Wilson Hall. The session, open to all NIH employees, is sponsored by the Employee Relations and Recognition Branch, OPM.

the Jack Masur Auditorium on Sunday, Nov. 18, at 4 p.m.

Combination of the Chamber Music Series of the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences will feature the Tokyo String Quartet.

The concert will be presented in

CFC Reaches Its Last Reporting Date; Prize Drawing to Be Held

NIH employees have signed pledges totaling $183,885 toward the Combined Federal Campaign goal of $284,000. This amounts to 70 percent of NIH’s goal, with 37 percent of our employees participating.

Only one reporting period, Nov. 6, remains before the campaign concludes.

The following organizations have exceeded their dollar goal: FIG, DRC, NLM, NICHD, DRR, DRS, NIIDR, NTMDD, and OD.

All employees who participated in the campaign are invited to attend a prize drawing ceremony in the main lobby of Bldg. 31 on Monday, Nov. 12, at 1 p.m.

Gift certificates totaling $100, redeemable at any Recreation and Welfare Center, will be awarded. To be eligible, employees must have contributed to the CFC and submitted their ticket to their keyman, who must in turn send all tickets to CPC Headquarters in the National Library of Medicine by Nov. 9.

Employees Invited to Hear Tape of Dr. Mead’s Lecture

NIH’ers are invited to listen to a tape recording of Dr. Margaret Mead’s lecture on “The Changing Significance of Territoriality in Human Societies.” It will be played at noon on Nov. 15, 14, and 15 in Bldg. 31, Room 1029.

The recording lasts one and one-half hours.
Otis Watts, Deputy EEO Officer, Came Up Hard Way—From Ranks to Lt. Col.

A private who rose from the ranks to lieutenant colonel has been appointed Deputy EEO Officer at NIH. He is Otis D. Watts, turned civilian, and he now says, "Call me Mr. Watts." Mr. Watts came to NIH—after a 7-month hiatus—from Headquarters, First United States Army at Fort Meade. There, he was director of Equality Programs which included EEO for more than 34,000 civilians, and Equal Opportunity-Race Relations for more than 250,000 military personnel both active and in the reserves.

That period from March until his appointment here in October, was not spent on what justifiably might have been a well-earned vacation. Instead, he was doing graduate research on race relations for his master's thesis which he expects to finish early in the new year.

He will receive his graduate degree from Southern Illinois University. That midwest school has a branch in Washington, D.C. for its graduate program.

"We meet for two 3-day sessions—Friday, Saturday and Sunday—twice during the academic quarter. There are about 5 weeks between sessions for reading and research," Mr. Watts said.

Advocate of Education

He is an advocate of learning while in uniform, and explained that every military installation "has a couple of colleges conducting courses toward a degree.

"I could use myself as an example," he said. "I got my undergraduate degree in 1967 at the University of Maryland, European Division in Germany, and now I'm a candidate for an M.A."

Mr. Watts cited facts and figures which showed the increase of black officers in the U.S. Army.

"If a man wants an education on active duty he can take courses leading to advanced degrees. I went to the university five nights a week."

Served in Germany, Far East

Besides two tours in Germany, Mr. Watts also served in Korea and Viet Nam. He went on to discuss race relations in the service, and pointed out that "the military was the first to desegregate as an institution.

"In 1963, there were no black generals in the U.S. Army, there were only about six colonels and approximately 50 lieutenant colonels. Today there are about 15 black generals in the Army and more than 50 full colonels and at least a couple of hundred lieutenant colonels—now, there's a very good chance of a black private getting to be a general."

Means Hard Work

He clarified this by saying, "It does mean hard work and getting an education. I don't think anyone can advance to a general today without an education, but there's an opportunity to do this while in uniform."

Coming back to his work at NIH, Mr. Watts, who is fully conversant with all areas of EEO, said that here he will be particularly interested in one aspect—"compliance."

"I will monitor the carrying out of decisions on discrimination complaints," he stated.

Mr. Watts, a native Georgian, completed high school there, and also attended Fort Valley State College for one year, before he was drafted into the Army during the Korean War.

He has a wife and three children—two girls and a boy. There are photographs in his office of Mrs. Watts and 2 children at his retirement party which was attended by officers wearing such insignia as stars, eagles, oakleaves and bars.

Asked where his third child was, Mr. Watts answered, "behind my wife's dress, my latest little girl was born 5 months ago."

Safety Tips for NIH

Observance of simple precautions will reduce compressed gas cylinder hazards:

1. Chain or strap cylinders securely during storage and use.
2. Transport cylinders only on a cylinder truck with retaining strap secured.
3. Cap the valve during storage, transport, and handling.
4. Store cylinders in an exterior location to avoid fire hazards.
5. Store and use cylinders in well-ventilated areas away from sources of heat.

For additional information, consult the NIH Compressed Gas Guide available from the Safety Office, Ext. 66270.

Dr. Vivian, Former NCI Chemist, Dies in Tucson

Dr. Donald L. Vivian, who had been with the National Cancer Institute from 1947 to 1959, died recently in Tucson, Ariz.

Dr. Vivian was a research chemist in the Organic Chemistry Section, Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology. For the past 12 years he had served as professor of pharmacienical chemistry at the University of Arizona's College of Pharmacy.

Dr. Vivian was the author of many papers on phenazine chemistry, and held several patents on drugs used for the treatment of tumors.

His work at NCI and at the University of Arizona included the development of compounds used for testing in tumor-bearing animals. He is survived by his wife Sally.
Plasmapheresis Technique Is Described; Contributors Term Process 'Interesting'.

CC nurse Ruth Estabrook (c) stands near a donor who is giving white blood cells while NCI technician Frank Stout (d) operates the blood cell separator. In the foreground, head nurse Regina Dowling checks a platelet donor who is comfortably reading a book during the process.

A conference on the procedures of plasmapheresis, a relatively new technique for obtaining large quantities of blood components, was recently presented by the Clinical Center Nursing Department plasmapheresis staff.

The conference, entitled Nurses' Role in Blood Component Transfusion Procurement, acquainted nurses at the CC and other area hospitals with the specialized blood collecting techniques and nursing care of donors.

Participants Listed

Participants included Eileen Jones, supervisor of the plasmapheresis laboratory, head nurse Regina Dowling, and clinical nurses Ruth Estabrook and Louise Osborne.

Large amounts of white blood cells and platelets from selected donors are needed at the CC for certain patients with hemorrhagic or immune deficiency diseases.

Using traditional blood separation methods, several donors would have been essential for procuring white blood cells for one transfusion.

One Donor Is Enough

However, with a continuous flow blood cell separator developed by NIH and IBM, one donor can provide the necessary white blood cells.

Using the separator, blood is drawn, components removed, and the rest returned immediately to the donor.

By this method, enough white blood cells for a CC patient can be obtained in 4 hours without danger to the donor. Up to 4 units of platelets may be obtained at the same time as the white blood cells. Platelets may also be obtained separately by another procedure: A unit of blood is separated by centrifugation into platelet-rich plasma and red blood cells. The cells are returned to the donor immediately.

Then the platelets are extracted from the plasma and the plasma is returned also. This process is repeated 4 times during the 2½ hour procedure.

First Performed in 1960

Plasmapheresis was first performed at the Clinical Center in 1960—since the current laboratory was founded in 1964. That year, 100 blood cell separation procedures were performed. This year, the total will be 1,118.

Healthy people who have the same blood type and histocompatibility (HL-A) antigens as the patient are selected as donors. HL-A antigens are proteins on the surface of white blood cells. The chance of finding two unrelated individuals with the same HL-A antigens is 1 in 4,725. For rare types, the chance is 1 in 10,000.

Major Complaint—Boredom

The nurses reported that potential plasmapheresis donors receive extensive physical examinations. White blood cell donors are not treated as outpatients. Platelet donors may also be admitted as outpatients.

Although the procedure is complicated and lengthy, the nurses said the major donor complaint is boredom—white blood cell donors must keep both arms still throughout the procedure.

Afterward a cup of orange juice and a few minutes' rest are all that is usually necessary before the donors may return to normal activity.

The nursing staff stated that a majority of donors volunteer to return as often as needed to help CC patients. They find the plasmapheresis process an interesting and rewarding experience.

Program Needs Contributors

Blood component contributors are needed. Employees who are interested in participating in the plasmapheresis program may call 496-2022 and leave their name and telephone number with the recorded answering service.

Callers who are blood donors at the CC Blood Bank should indicate this to the answering service as their HL-A type may already be known.

Digestive Diseases Br. Creates New Section, Realigns Three Others

Three clinical sections have been realigned and a new section established in the Digestive Diseases Branch of the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases.

The changes were made to reflect current activities in gastroenterology research, an area of recently intensified interest in the Institute.

Dr. Robert S. Gordon, NIMDD clinical director, has been named chief of the Digestive Diseases Branch, formerly the Digestive and Hereditary Diseases Branch.

The new branch is composed of four sections, including a new section of Gastroenterology, headed by Dr. Jerry Gardner.

Future Studies Outlined

The gastroenterology section will investigate the pathology of disease in the gastrointestinal tract and examine hormonal control of gastrointestinal function.

It will also be responsible for studies on the mechanisms of transport of electrolytes and nutrients particularly with reference to the G.I. tract, and the effects of toxic substances on these processes.

The other three sections transferred from the Metabolic Diseases Branch include the section on Diseases of the Liver, directed by Dr. Paul Berk; the Phoenix Clinical Research section, with Dr. Peter Bennett as acting chief, and the section on Physiology and Clinical Nutrition, also under the direction of Dr. Gordon.

Dr. Gerald Aurbach will replace Dr. Gordon as chief of the Metabolic Diseases Branch.

Before his latest appointment, Dr. Schwartz has held posts with the National Cancer Institute, the Division of Research Grants, and the National Eye Institute.

HEART MEETING

(Continued from Page 1)

Dr. Schwartz Appointed Assoc. Dir. for Review, NHLI Extramural Affairs

Dr. Samuel M. Schwartz has been appointed associate director for Review and chief of the Review Branch in the National Heart and Lung Institute's Division of Extramural Affairs.

In his new post, Dr. Schwartz will review and evaluate applications for research or training support under a number of NHLI programs concerned with heart and blood vessel disease, lung diseases, blood diseases and related conditions.

Education Noted

These include research and development contracts, and grants for Specialized Centers of Research, Program Projects, Pulmonary Academic Awards, Young Investigators Pulmonary Research, and Research and Development Centers.

Dr. Schwartz received his B.S. from the University of Manitoba, and his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in 1956.

He then taught at George Washington University until 1964, when he came to NIH. During this period he was also a consultant on research and development for the Crane Hall Corporation and the Burton Parsons Company.

Sponsors of Drugs and Hormones on Cardial Metabolism and the Regulation of Heartbeat, and the Effects of Blood and Oxygen Deprivation on Heart Muscle.

Dr. Chazov and the five Soviet physicians from the Symposium visiting the United States in late November, have been invited to attend and participate in the annual meeting of the American Heart Association, which will be held in New York City from November 18 to 21.

Proceedings of the meeting will be published in both English and Russian. The English version will be printed as a supplement to Circulation Research.
Dr. Robert Goldberger Named to NCI Post

Dr. Robert F. Goldberger was recently appointed chief of NCI's Laboratory of Biochemistry, Division of Cancer Biology and Diagnosis.

Dr. Goldberger served as a biochemist in the Laboratory of Chemical Biology, N.I.A.M.I.D., from 1963 until 1966 when he became head of the Biosynthesis and Control Section, a position he held until his transfer to NCI.

Dr. Goldberger graduated from Harvard College in 1954 and the New York University School of Medicine in 1958.

In 1961, after 2 years as a postdoctoral trainee at the Institute for Enzyme Research of the University of Wisconsin, he joined NIH as a research associate. During 1963 he was a visiting scientist at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel.

Dr. Goldberger has authored more than 50 original papers in the fields of biochemistry, molecular biology, and biochemical genetics. In 1973 he received the DHEW Superior Service Honor Award.

1972 Birth, Fertility Rates Fall To Lowest Level Ever in U.S.

In 1972 birth and fertility rates fell to the lowest levels ever in the U.S. The birth rate was 15.6 per 1,000 population and the fertility rate was 73.4 births per 1,000 women in the child-bearing age, 15-44 years old.

The infant mortality rate also was down to 18.2 per 1,000 live births, the lowest ever.

Dr. M. Mead Tells Overflow Audience About Change in Area of Competition

Dr. Mead receives a certificate commemorating her presentation of the NII Lecture from Dr. Sherman. The anthropologist, here as an FIC Scholar, is also with Dr. Carl M. Leventhal, Acting Deputy Director for Science (second from left), and Dr. Eberhart. To illustrate parts of her talk she described dance customs of several countries.

Instead of battling for territory on the ground, as mankind has done for a half million years, we are entering an era in which competition for air may become the focus of competition, Dr. Margaret Mead, renowned anthropologist, told an overflow NIH Lecture audience Oct. 17 in the Masur Auditorium.

Dr. Mead, who has been associated for many years with the American Museum of Natural History, New York, and is now a Pogary Scholar-in-Residence at NIH, said that shifting concepts of territoriality signal the start of a new period of social concern.

Individuals now must cooperate to reduce atmospheric pollution and assure orderly flow of air traffic, she said.

Defense of territory, Dr. Mead pointed out, traditionally has been based on the fact that two people cannot occupy the same space at the same time. When the same space is desired by more than one person, conflict develops. The need to defend ground space has influenced all aspects of living.

Dr. Mead showed motion picture film to demonstrate manifestations of territoriality. One example, prepared by Alan Lomax of the Columbia University Chorometric project, depicted native dances from widely separated cultures.

In societies where space is a limiting factor, dancers often respond to rhythmic sounds while sitting or standing in the same place. In a culture dependent on hunting, native dances involve movements symbolic of searching.

In nations like Japan, where large numbers of people live and work together, ceremonial dances requiring coordination of many participants often are seen.

A sequence from a film by Dr. Richard Sorenson, NINDS, illustrating children's exploratory behavior limited by mothers in Western cultures was shown. This was contrasted with a film showing how Balinese children learn to walk by clinging to a central rail.

"We use a play pen that teaches children that other pastures are greener," Dr. Mead commented.

To illustrate the changing significance of territoriality, Dr. Mead suggested that members of the audience would defend their seats if others tried to take them.

"But," she continued, "if the air were to become bad, a totally different kind of defense would be required to make this room—our world—a place worth living in."

Dr. Donald Tower, NINDS Acting Director (I), presents a PHS Commendation Medal to Dr. William T. London, senior veterinary officer in the Collaborative and Field Research, Infectious Diseases Branch. Dr. London received the award for his "contributions to the study of developmental pathology and nutrition in small primates, and for pioneering the design and development of isolation facilities for monkeys which have set the NIH standard."

At her retirement party, Lydia Gates, printing specialist, admires one of her farewell gifts—a watch—presented by friends, NIH colleagues and co-workers. Mrs. Gates spent 28 years in Federal service, 15 of them here in the Printing Unit, OAS. Her first boss, John W. Robinson, former director of Planning, GFO, who retired 12 years ago, was a luncheon guest. Others included James B. Davis, OAS Director, and Donald R. Cushing, assistant director for General Services Management. She is flanked by her son William L. Gates (I), a patent attorney in private practice, and George C. Graham, chief, Printing and Reproduction Branch.

Dr. Sollner and Tasaki Address NATO Institute

Dr. Karl Sollner and Ichiji Tasaki recently spoke before the NATO Advanced Study Institute on Charged Gels and Membranes in Forges Les Eaux, France.

Dr. Sollner discussed the early developments of the electrochemistry of polymer membranes, an area in which he has been active for 45 years.

Dr. Sollner, who now serves as an NIH consultant, retired last February after 26 years of Federal service.

Prior to his retirement, he was chief of the Section on Electrochemistry and Colloid Physics in the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases.

Dr. Tasaki, chief of the Laboratory of Neurobiology, National Institute of Mental Health, discussed fixed charges in excitable membranes.
Cable TV Will Bring Medical Supervision To Elderly Patients

Two-way cable television is currently being considered as a way to improve health care delivery to the elderly.

The site of the project is the Gaylord White House, a 248-apartment high-rise public building in East Harlem, New York. The median age of the 339 tenants is 69 years.

The project is being coordinated by the National Library of Medicine, and funds have been awarded to the Mount Sinai School of Medicine to implement the program.

Tentative plans call for the installation of cable television in each of the 248 apartments. A presently unused TV channel will be activated for the exclusive use of Gaylord White residents and personnel at the medical center.

Project coordinators aim to involve the residents in many areas of program planning.

Body Signs Monitored

The two-way communication capability, in addition to allowing the tenants to participate in discussions and to ask and respond to questions posed over the channel, will also permit medical personnel at the Mount Sinai Medical Center to monitor and record the progress of patients while they remain in their apartments.

It will be possible, for example, for the Center to keep tabs on heartbeat, body temperature, blood pressure and other body signs using special equipment developed by NASA for the astronauts.

Dr. Hilary Koprowski II, director of the Walter Institute, Philadelphia, and Dr. Donald Silberberg, of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, answer questions following their announcement of a joint effort to determine the cause and course of multiple sclerosis. The National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society are providing $2.3 million over the next 3 years for the collaborative study.

SUBTILIN

(Continued from Page 1)

Subtilin shows rather impressively, according to Dr. Gross, how rigorously structure has been maintained throughout their evolutionary history. Both molecules have five rings of identical size and alphacarbon atoms of the lanthionine residues possess D-configuration.

The structural elucidation posed problems because there was no methionine present for the usual nonenzymatic fragmentation technique and subtilin resisted the attack of proteolytic enzymes under commonly used conditions.

New Methods Used

To overcome these obstacles, the NICHD scientists used new techniques to split peptide bonds.

Thermolysin at 37°C cleaved the peptide bond between residues 19 and 20 and at 60°C the peptide bond 11-12. The latter permitted the difficult placement of the sulfide bridges of lanthionine and two of the beta-methylthionine residues.

As a result of these studies, Dr. Gross and Dr. Kosaku Noda extended the chemistry of alpha,beta-unsaturated amino acids to peptide synthesis, and now link growing peptide chains via dehydroalanine to solid supports. This new synthetic route facilitates removal of the peptide from the solid support and gives the amide directly.

Amides Studied

Many physiologically interesting peptides are amides, most prominent of these are those amides necessary to release pituitary hormones.

When Dr. Bruce C. Nisula of this Branch tested the thyrotropin-releasing factor, synthesized via the new route, he found a full complement of biological activity.

While no peptide molecule resembling even portions of nisin or subtilin has been synthesized as yet, Dr. Gross and his young associates express confidence in the eventual synthesis of nisin.

First steps have already been taken to provide synthetic fragments for the study of the relationship between structure and function of the molecule.

A report of the structural elucidation of subtilin has appeared in the July issue of Hoppe Seyler’s Zeitschrift für Physiologische Chemie.

I enjoy convalescence. It is the part that makes the illness worthwhile.—G. B. Shaw.

Dr. Thomas Shepherd, a computer programmer in the Data Processing Section, Statistics and Analy­sis Branch, DRG, received a Beneficial Suggestion Award last month.

Mr. Shepherd suggested a more economical method of producing and examining DRG IMPAC file information by replacing the present IES Query system with a micro-film tape system using Micro-Flieh viewers.

The Micro-Flieh system produced actual operational savings in the amount of $14,700.

Mr. Shepherd is presented with a Beneficial Suggestion Award by Paul Burke, f/r, chief of the Programming Unit, Data Processing Section, DRG.

Food Composition Table Published by NIAMDD

The third in a series of world-regional food composition tables has been published by the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases in cooperation with the Center for Disease Control, Nutrition Program and the Nutrition Division of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

The two-volume set, entitled Food Consumption Table for Use in East Asia and A Selected Bibliography on East Asian Foods and Nutrition, has been published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. The earlier publication of Food Composition Tables for Use in Latin America (1961) and Africa (1963).

The East Asian food table project was initiated in 1970. In the course of the 3-year research project, study visits were made to Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Philippines, South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Indonesia and Burma to obtain the appropriate information.

The principal scientist on the project was Dr. W. T. Wu Leung of the CDC Nutrition Program (retired), who had also organized the earlier food tables for Latin America and Africa. She was aided by Dr. Benjamin T. Burton, associate director for Program, NIAMDD, who served as coordinating project officer.

The most comprehensive, up-to-date Asian food composition table and bibliography yet published, the volumes are available from the sponsoring agencies, including NIAMDD.

Dr. I. Zipkin, Former NIDR Biochemist, Dies

Dr. Isadore Zipkin, a biochemist with the National Institute of Dental Research for 20 years until his retirement in 1968, died Oct. 17 at the Clinical Center. He would have been 59 on Oct. 9.

While with NIDR, Dr. Zipkin served as a scientist director in the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. In 1968 he joined the faculty of the University of California, San Francisco, as professor of periodontology.

Dr. Zipkin was an authority on fluoride metabolism and authored numerous publications in the field of dental research. He is survived by his wife, Lillian, and two children—Richard and Michael—of San Francisco, and a brother, Philip, of Batavia, N.Y.
Historical Nursing Documents Donated to NLM

Dr. Abdellah (a), D. Kibrick, Mrs. Walsh, and Dr. Olch examine some manuscript items and early publications of Florence Nightingale from the Library's collections.

New Code of Federal Regulations Affects All AEC-Licensed Agencies

The new Code of Federal Regulations affects all agencies licensed by AEC to use radiation sources and radioactive materials. According to the guidelines recently issued by the Atomic Energy Commission, employees should report possible radiation hazards that they observe.

Employees Report

At NIH, employees should initially report any condition which may lead to or cause a violation of AEC standards to the NIH Radiation Safety office, Ext. 65774. The new regulations authorize employees to make written requests directly to AEC for an inspection of the condition. Employees may meet privately with the AEC inspector and may accompany him during the inspection.

Safe From Reprisals

Under the new code, individuals who report potential violations are protected from reprisal. Agencies are prohibited from discharging or discriminating against anyone who requests an investigation.

AEC safety standard violation notices along with agency replies must be available for review. Personnel who work in radiation restricted areas, the new regulation states, must be informed of the use and storage of radioactive materials and radiation sources. They must also be instructed about health protection problems and procedures to minimize exposure. Individuals may have copies of their radiation exposure records such as film badge, bioassay, and whole body counting results.

Copies of the new code as well as the NIH Radiation Safety Guide and NIH AEC licenses are available in the Radiation Safety Section, Bldg. 21, Room 116.
Gerontological Society
Stresses Ways Research Improves Lives of Aged

The contribution of research on aging for improving the lives of older people is the theme of this year's Gerontological Society meeting now being held in Miami Beach, Fla.

Thirty-three NIH-supported investigators are presenting papers at the meeting attended by gerontologists and allied professionals from the United States, Canada, France, Israel, Romania, the U.S.S.R., and Venezuela.

A Presidential Symposium on contributions of gerontological research opened the proceedings last night (Nov. 5) featuring Dr. Arthur S. Fleming and Alfred H. Lawton as speakers.

Background Noted

Dr. Fleming is Commissioner on Aging, Administration on Aging, HEW. He is a former Secretary of HEW and was Chairman of the 1971 White House Conference on Aging.

Dr. Lawton, president of the Gerontological Society, is on the staff of the Veterans Administration Hospital, Tampa. He was formerly Director of NICHD's Human Development Study Center.

Dr. Leonard Hayflick, an NICHD former Director of NICHD's Human Development Study Center, will deliver the Rohen W. Batts Memorial Lecture on Nov. 8 on The Strategy of Senescence.

In addition to special speakers, the program includes scientific sessions, symposia, and round-table discussions in four sections of the Society's professional divisions: Biological Sciences; Clinical Medicine; Psychological and Social Sciences, and Social Research, Planning and Practice.

Some 500 papers are being presented in these sessions during the 5-day meeting, Nov. 5-9. Of

$14.4 Million Awarded
For Grants, Contracts
To Study Sickle Cell

Grants and contracts totalling $14.4 million have been awarded by the National Heart and Lung Institute for research on sickle cell disease and for demonstration programs concerned with the disorder's prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.

The awards, made through the National Sickle Cell Disease Program, provide funds for:

- Establishment of five new Comprehensive Sickle Cell Disease Centers and continued support of 10 similar centers established last year.

Organized around ongoing programs in SCD, these centers combine research and demonstration projects.

- Establishment of 11 new Screening and Education Clinics for providing information, education, screening, counselling, and patient referral services in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

Continuing support is provided for 15 previously established clinics.

- Four new targeted research projects on the improvement of laboratory diagnostic techniques in sickle cell disease and the treatment of sickle cell crises, including clinical evaluation of various anti-sickling agents.

An additional 24 projects initiated earlier, received continuing support.

- Forty-two regular research grants for basic and applied research into the nature and treatment of sickle cell disease.

SCD affects an estimated 50,000 Americans, most of them blacks. These persons are subject to recurrent sickle cell crises—painful, disabling episodes that may be brought on by lowered oxygen tension, infections, exposure to cold, dehydration, or other factors that cause large numbers of red blood cells to assume crescent or sickle shapes.

The sickled cells, unable to pass freely through smaller blood vessels, create a "log jam" effect that impedes bloodflow to the surrounding tissues.

2 Million Carry Trait

An additional 2 million Americans are carriers of sickle cell trait. Carriers are healthy, but can transmit the genetic trait to their offspring.

If two carriers of the trait marry, the odds are one in four that a child born of this marriage will have SCD and two in four that the child will be a carrier.

In response to a Presidential initiative, HEW increased the scope and tempo of its research and community service activities concerned with SCD in 1971.

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Dr. Stone Gives Alumni Lecture;
Gives Award From Alma Mater

Dr. Robert S. Stone, NIH Director, returned to his alma mater—Downstate Medical Center of the State University of New York—on Tuesday, Oct. 30, to deliver the eleventh annual Alumni Night Lecture.

Dr. Stone, a graduate of the class of 1950, spoke on We Have Always Wanted to Know and Haven't Been Afraid to Ask. His lecture traced scientific progress from ideas through breakthroughs.

At a reception and dinner before his talk, Dr. Stone received the Downstate Alumni Association's annual award for his achievements in medicine.

Ruth Dudley, NINDS
Information Officer,
Honored by Her College

Mrs. Dudley, cited for her "... distinguished career as Public Information Officer of the NIH ..." received her honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Dr. Bonds.

Ruth Dudley, information officer, National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, recently received an honorary degree—Doctor of Humane Letters—from her alma mater, Baldwin-Wallace College, during the school's 128th Annual Founders' Day.

In 1959, Mrs. Dudley had received that college's Alumni Merit Award. She also had served as a trustee of the school from 1980 to 1968.

Honor Explained

Mrs. Dudley, who received her degree certificate from Dr. A. B. Bonds, Jr., College President, was honored for her "... abiding commitment to both the physical and moral well-being of man."

She was also cited for her work in the Refugee Relief Program for the U.S. Department of State, and for her services, with her late husband, as founder and director of the Religious Heritage of America.

Revised Publication Now
Available From DCRT

Recent modifications in the Division of Computer Research and Technology's Report No. 9, A Structured Assembly Language Source Program Generator, have resulted in a revised printing of the document.

For copies of the new version, call the DCRT Scientific and Technical Information Office, Ext. 60208.

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Citation Quoted

The citation pointed out that "Through this organization you encouraged a nationwide reawakening of interest in the deep interaction of democratic freedom and religious conviction ..."

It also mentioned Dudley Mountain in Antarctica "... named for you and your late husband ... as an enduring memorial of your work on a program for exploring this region ... ."

Mrs. Dudley graduated from Baldwin-Wallace in 1939. She has been NINDS Information Officer since 1958—the first woman appointed IO of an Institute at NIH.

She is also probably the first information specialist at NIH to receive an honorary degree.