Dr. Curlin Named Chief Of New Epidemiology, Biometry Branch, NIAID

Dr. Curlin is a fellow of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

Dr. George T. Curlin has been appointed chief of a new Epidemiology and Biometry Branch in the Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Program of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Dr. Curlin was most recently head of the Epidemiology Division of the Cholera Research Laboratory in Dacca, Bangladesh.

Will Develop Programs

He will develop and manage programs involving the application of epidemiological and biostatistical concepts and techniques to basic and applied research.

He will also plan and direct epidemiological studies on the morbidity of certain infectious diseases in order to identify promising new directions for proposed NIAID research.

Provide Consultant Services

In addition, the Branch will provide consultant services in the area of statistical studies of infectious diseases.

Dr. Curlin received the B.A. degree from Centre College in Danville, Ky., and his M.D. from Vanderbilt Medical School, Nashville. In 1973, Dr. Curlin earned an M.P.H. degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and (See DR. CURLIN, Page 5)

3 New Enteric Disease Centers Will Investigate Gastroenteritis Causes

Three Infectious Enteric Disease Study Centers have been established: at the University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston; the University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor; and the Research Foundation of Children's Hospital, District of Columbia.

The comprehensive Centers are being supported by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Infectious gastroenteritis, with its symptoms of diarrhea and/or vomiting, is a major cause of illness in American families and communities. It is an even greater problem in the developing countries where it contributes significantly to a high rate of infant mortality.

The first goal of scientists working in the new Enteric Disease Centers will be to determine the incidence of infectious gastroenteritis in defined populations and to identify the organisms causing disease.

Reovirus-like particles observed in a stool filtrate made from a stool specimen from a young patient with acute gastroenteritis. This virus, identified as the cause of diarrhea in young children around the world, is one of the organisms that will be intensively studied at NIAID's new enteric disease centers. Magnification - 224,250, both individual cases and disease outbreaks.

The causative agents may be vi- (See 3 CENTERS, Page 7)

OBESITY—Internat'l Conferees Consider Problems, Treatment, Recommend Action

Panelists answering questions at a press briefing following the conference included (l to r): Dr. Ethan Allen H. Sims, University of Vermont; Dr. Samuel Cushman, NIAID; Dr. Albert Stunkard, University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Theodore Van Itallie, St. Luke's Hospital Center and Columbia University; and Dr. Edward Horton, University of Vermont. Not shown are Dr. Bray and Dr. Philip White, director of the department of foods and nutrition, American Medical Association.

From around the U.S. and abroad—including Great Britain, Italy, Canada, Germany, Sweden, France, Australia, Japan, and Denmark—over 100 conferees gathered Oct. 20-22 to discuss a growing problem: obesity.

The National Council on Obesity, International Center, the National Institute on Aging, the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute sponsored the Conference on Obesity and the American Public: A Task Force Analysis and Recommendations for Public Action.

Dr. Milo D. Leavitt, Jr., FIC, Director, and NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson opened the meeting. Dr. George A. Bray, professor of medicine, Harbor General Hospital, Torrance, Calif., served as chairman of the organizing committee.

Topics of the session panels were:

• Definitions, Criteria, and Prevalence of Obesity, including consideration of various height/weight charts, distinctions between moderate and gross obesity, and long term overweight compared with sudden weight gain.
• Pathogenesis: Energy Intake and Expenditure, including data on exercise and obesity, and changes and individual differences in metabolism.
• Natural History of Obesity, including the effects of sudden weight gain or loss, obesity in infants, and discussion of psychological/physical aspects of obesity.

Surgical Risks Increase

• Risk, Hazards, and Disadvantages, including social effects of obesity, increased surgical risks and increased risks for some illnesses such as diabetes, endometrial cancer, stroke, high blood pressure, and heart attacks.

• Conservative Approaches to Treatment: for instance, generally decreased caloric consumption, special (See OBESITY, Page 5)

Leder Lectures Tomorrow On Mammalian Genome

Dr. Philip Leder will deliver the G. Burroughs Mider Lecture tomorrow (Wednesday, Nov. 2) at 8:15 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium.

Dr. Leder, chief of the Laboratory of Molecular Genetics in the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, will speak on A Close and Surprising Look at the Mammalian Genome.
Holman S. Gray of NLM Dies

Holman S. Gray, a supply specialist with the National Library of Medicine since 1968, died on Oct. 12. Mr. Gray, who suffered from a heart ailment, was scheduled to retire from Government service in 3 months.

Mr. Gray began his career at NIH in 1962 as a guard with the Plant Safety Branch, DAS.

Ethical Information Issues Subject of Nov. 3 Talk

Dr. Samuel Gorovitz will discuss ethical issues related to information work on Thursday, Nov. 3, at 3:30 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Conference Room 6.

Dr. Gorovitz is chairman of the department and professor of philosophy at the University of Maryland.

The NIH Information Training Committee is sponsoring the meeting.

Do not try to live forever. You will not succeed.—George Bernard Shaw

Literature Searches Cover Current Topics In Biomedical Field

Convenient lists of recent journal articles on such subjects as Guillain-Barré syndrome, mammography, saccharin, endorphins, and asbestos toxicity are available from the National Library of Medicine’s MEDLARS Management Section.

Essentially reprints of MEDLINE bibliographies on popular subjects, these Literature Searches generally cover the world’s biomedical journal literature for a 2–3 year period.

Published Monthly

A complete list of available searches can be found within the introductory pages of Index Medicus each month.

Fourteen searches for 1977 are listed below, and may be requested in writing from the MEDLARS Management Section, National Library of Medicine, Bldg. 38, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

Among the more than 70 courses offered at NIH during the spring semester—which runs from Jan. 17 to May 9—are subjects of both general and professional interest such as Speed Reading, Public Speaking, Discussion and Conference Table Techniques, Logic and Philosophy, French, and Spanish.

Also, Bureaucracy and Policy Making, Organization and Administration in Aging, Reading Skill in Foreign Scientific Languages (German), Electron Microscopy, Concepts Basic to Nursing, Basic Programming, Cost Accounting and Budgetary Control, Introduction to Management, Public Personnel Management, Public Health Planning and Program Development, and Library Technology.

Youth Advocacy Program Needs Adult Volunteers

The Youth Advocacy program is seeking mature adult volunteers with spare time on weekends to establish supportive relationships on a one-to-one basis with 10- to 14-year-old Montgomery County youths in need of additional adult companionship.

Youth Advocates volunteer receive ongoing professional training, supervision, and consultation.

Apply by Nov. 4

Evening training classes for new volunteers begin Nov. 14. The deadline for applications is Nov. 4.

For more information, call the Mental Health Association of Montgomery County at 949-1255, weekdays 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Dental Meeting Planned: The Secretory Immune System To Be Discussed

A 3-day symposium, sponsored by the National Institute of Dental Research, will bring together experts representing 10 countries to share the most recent information on the secretory immune system.

The International Symposium on the Secretory Immune System and Complete Sessile Immunity will be held at the University of Alabama on Dec. 7-9.

Dr. Jerry R. McGhee, currently a guest worker with NIDR’s Laboratory of Microbiology and Immunology, Dr. Jiri Mestecky of the Institute of Dental Research at the University of Alabama, Dr. William H. Bowen of NIDR’s National Caries Program, and Dr. Robert J. Genco of the State University of New York at Buffalo, planned the session.

Mucosal immunologic research findings will be presented with special emphasis on oral mucosa and immunity to dental caries as well as on other aspects of mucosal immunity in various organ systems.

Focus on Transport, Mechanisms

Discussions will focus on cellular mechanisms involved in the secretory immune response, and the transport of immunoglobulins and their interactions with various antigenic components of oral bacteria.

For further information, contact Dr. Jerry R. McGhee, Bldg. 30, Room 334, Ext. 65160, or Dr. Jiri Mestecky, Department of Microbiology, University of Alabama at Birmingham, University Station, Birmingham, Ala. 35242.


Short 1- to 3-week courses will also be offered in: Report Preparation and Presentation for Government Employees, Computers and Their Application in Medicine and Related Fields, History of the Public Health Service, and History of the Civil Service.

Courses Are Credit, Non-Credit

NIH employees may earn college credit for UMC courses taken here in the early morning, the day, late afternoon, or Saturday morning if they are admitted to the university before the Nov. 28 deadline.

Courses may also be taken without credit.

For more information and a complete listing of courses offered, contact Richard Jackson, Bldg. 31, Room B2-C39, or call Ext. 66211.
Employees Can Enroll, Change Health Benefits Enrollment Nov. 13-Dec. 14

During the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program’s “Open Season,” Nov. 14 through Dec. 9, eligible employees may enroll in one of 13 different plans, change option, type of enrollment, or any combination of these.

A booklet entitled Open Season Instructions will be distributed in a packet to all employees. Brochures on the major general plans and premium rates for all plans will be included.

The general plans are: Indemnity Benefit Plan (Aetna Life and Casualty Company); Service Benefit Plan (Blue Cross-Blue Shield); Group Health Association of Washington, D.C. Plan; Georgetown University Community Health Plan; and the George Washington University Health Plan.

Other plans available to NIH staff are: American Federation of Government Employees Plan, Alliance Health Plan, American Postal Workers Union Plan, Government Employees Hospital Association Plan; Mail Handlers Plan, National Association of Letter Carriers Health Plan, and Postmasters Benefit Plan.

To enroll in one of these, an employee must be or must become a regular or associate member of the sponsoring organization.

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

During the “Open Season,” registration assistants in personnel offices will answer questions on the Program, and help employees complete forms. The assistants will be listed on bulletin boards.

A panel of experts representing the various health plans will review their respective 1978 contract coverage on Monday, Nov. 21, at 2 p.m. in Bldg. 1, Wilson Hall. The seminar will end at 4:30 p.m.

All employees are invited, but permission to attend should be cleared with supervisors.

2nd Chamber Music Concert Features Pianists Gold, Fizdale

The second concert in the 1977-78 Chamber Music Series—sponsored by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences—features Gold and Fizdale, duo pianists performing music by Satie, Poulenc, Debussy, and Bizet.

The concert will be held on Sunday, Nov. 6, at 4 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium. Admission is by ticket only.

New 1978 Rates


GROUP HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

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(Blue Cross-Blue Shield)

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GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY HEALTH PLAN

(formerly University Affiliated Health Plan—only 1 option)

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GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HEALTH PLAN

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The NIH Tennis C Team recently won the Greater Washington Tennis Association Spring Doubles League tournament and was also winner of the Red Division of the GWTA Summer League tournament.

The team's record in the Spring Doubles was unmatched in the C League (5-0). The individual match record was 14 wins and 1 loss.

The team finished with a 7-0 record in the Red Division of the Summer League with 41 individual wins.

The NIH D team finished third in the GWTA Southern Division with a record of 5 wins and 2 losses.

The Greater Washington Tennis Association is composed of 38 participating clubs, including country clubs and government teams, in the Washington Metropolitan area.

Women's Doubles Finalists are (I to r): winners Sally Hedrick and Pat Harwood, and runners-up Tish Wallskee and Sue Hockfield.

Men's Singles Finalists, B Division, runner-up Irv Simos (1) and winner Bud Steckman hold their trophies.

Singles Club Will Meet Nov. 7

The NIH Singles Club now has more than 140 members. The next business meeting will be held Monday, Nov. 7 at 5 p.m. in Wilson Hall. Light refreshments will be served. Plans for the next 3 months' activities will be discussed. Members are urged to attend and to contribute their ideas and effort.
PHS Parklawn—Main HEW Shuttle Bus Schedule

SOUTHBOUND
Lv. Parklawn, 5600 Fishers Lane 8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m. 3:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.
Lv. Rockwell Building1 8:50 a.m. 10:05 a.m. 12:05 p.m. 1:35 p.m. 3:35 p.m. 5:40 p.m.
Lv. Clinical Center, NIH Building 102 8:55 a.m. 10:10 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 1:40 p.m. 3:40 p.m.
Lv. Ward Circle3 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.
Lv. 21st & Virginia Ave., N.W.4 9:35 a.m. 10:50 a.m. 12:50 p.m. 2:20 p.m. 4:20 p.m.
Arr. HEW 9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.

NORTHBOUND
Lv. HEW, 8 8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m. 3:30 p.m.
Lv. 21st & Virginia Ave., N.W.5 8:55 a.m. 10:08 a.m. 12:08 p.m. 1:38 p.m. 3:38 p.m.
Lv. Ward Circle6 9:05 a.m. 10:20 a.m. 12:20 p.m. 1:50 p.m. 3:50 p.m.
Lv. Clinical Center, NIH Building 107 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 12:45 p.m. 2:15 p.m. 4:15 p.m.
Lv. Rockwell Building7 9:38 a.m. 10:53 a.m. 12:53 p.m. 2:23 p.m. 4:23 p.m.
Arr. Parklawn 9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.

Southbound Bus Stops
1 at front entrance to Rockwall Building, 11400 Rockville Pike
2 the south side of Bldg. 10 on South Drive near the intersection of Service Road West
3 at existing metro bus stop on Mass. Ave. immediately northwest of Ward Circle adjacent to the Leonard Center Annex
4 about 400 ft. west of 21st Street on South side of Virginia Ave., N.W.

Northbound Bus Stops
1 at south side of Bldg. 10 on South Drive near the intersection of Service Road West
2 at Rockville Pike and Security Lane (across the Pike from the Rockwall Bldg.)
5 about 500 ft. west of 21st Street on North side of Virginia Ave., N.W.
6 at existing Metro bus stop on Mass. Ave. immediately northwest of Ward Circle

NOTE: FOR GOVERNMENT USE ONLY—NOT FOR PERSONAL USE.

* The HEW-Parklawn shuttle bus stop at the HEW North Bldg. has been changed. The stop was previously located at the existing Metro bus stop at 4th and C Streets. The new stop is at the C Street entrance (middle of the block) in the parking lot.

Booklet on 'How to Cope With Diabetes' Discusses Disease's Various Facets

Singles copies of How to Cope with Diabetes, a new booklet prepared by the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, are available from the Institute's Office of Scientific and Technical Reports. We want to learn as much as possible about their disease.

How to Cope with Diabetes discusses the nature of the disease, its complications of diabetes, and the impact of juvenile diabetes on the family.

Conduct Intensive Studies

Intensive studies on the various facets of the disease are presently being conducted and supported by NIAID, while research closely related to diabetes is also supported by six other NIH Institutes. Current research is focused on the interaction of the three hormones—insulin, glucagon, and somatostatin—in regulating glucose levels in the body; the possibility that diabetes might be triggered by a virus and that it may involve disorders of the immune system; the relationship between diabetes and nutrition; and the mechanisms involved in the thickening of certain small blood vessels in patients with diabetes.

The publication also discusses in detail recent diabetes legislation which has resulted in substantially increased funding for diabetes research in 1977, more than doubling the 1976 effort.


CFC Report Tells Latest Participation %, $ Goal

After the 3-week NIH Campaign, the percent of participation and dollar goal achieved by each B/I/D was:

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Executive Board members of the Metro-Washington Chapter of the Allergy Foundation of America recently visited NIAID's Laboratory of Clinical Investigation and received a special briefing from staff members on the Institute's work in hematology and immunology. L to r: Dr. Anthony S. Fauci and Dr. Michael Frank of NIAID; Frances Duncan, Dr. Royce Van Norman, Patricia Summers, and Shirley Cosson of the Allergy Foundation. Mrs. Duncan is a member of the National Board of Directors of the Allergy Foundation, and Dr. Van Norman is president of the local chapter.

Emphasis on First Day Giving to CFC Quicksen's Pace of NIH Collections

While final figures have not yet been tabulated, this year's approach to the Combined Federal Campaign—an emphasis on first day giving with individually scheduled Campaign Kickoff Days for the B/I/D's—brought in money almost one and one-half times faster than recent campaigns.

The 3-week NIH Combined Federal Campaign bought in about $177,000 or 71 percent of the NIH dollar goal. Last year, the Campaign collected $125,000 in 3 weeks.

Results Are Dramatic

The results of this year's approach are even more dramatic when only the first week is considered. This year, contributions totaled $69,000 during the first week as compared to last year's $84,000 figure—a 100 percent increase.

After 2 weeks, this year's Campaign collected $140,000 as opposed to $78,000 collected in the same time span last year.

"In just 3 weeks we were able to wrap up the NIH-wide Campaign and concentrate on a selected number of B/I/D's with low participation totals," according to DRR's Ted Nilsen, the 1977 CFC coordinator.

"Seven B/I/D's had their campaigns totally wrapped up after the 3 weeks... DRR, DRG, FIC, NEI, OD, NIGMS, NLM. They are to be truly congratulated for their efforts.

Accomplishments Cited

"These seven B/I/D's showed what can be accomplished when you're organized and committed," Mr. Nilsen said.

If the B/I/D's with low participation and contribution totals "get their act together" during the individual campaign extensions, there's a good chance that NIH will reach its assigned goal of $248,850, he added.

Dr. Thomas G. Bowery, 1977 CFC Director, says he is pleased with the results of the 3-week Campaign and the cooperative response from NIH employees.

"We know we had some problems during the Campaign, especially when it looked like employees wouldn't be paid in the middle of the drive," Dr. Bowery says.

"That might have slowed us down a little, but we were still able to execute this year's NIH-wide Campaign in a very short time frame. We think this year's approach made the campaign more competitive among everyone... especially the contributors.

"My gratitude goes out to the spirit and generosity of the typical NIH employee."
One Secretary Shifts Easily From Space Management to Sky Diving, Scuba Diving

Nancy Previti breaks her office routine by skydiving and scuba diving on weekends.

During the week she is a secretary in the Space Management Branch; on weekends, summer and winter, Nancy Previti jumps out of airplanes at 10,000 feet, free falls for 7,000 feet linking with other sky divers to form aerial circles, diamonds, and wedges, then at 3,000 feet pulls the ripcord to parachute to a landing as soft as skipping the last two steps on a staircase.

Nancy has been skydiving almost every Saturday and Sunday for 4 years. She also likes to scuba dive, especially when on vacation in the Florida Keys.

Dispels Misconceptions

Why skydive? “It’s an accomplishment,” Nancy muses, “especially the relative work. Relative work is when you link with other sky divers to make patterns in the sky. That takes skill, mostly timing.”

Even a short conversation with Nancy is long enough to dispel many misconceptions about sky diving. The sport, according to her, is not necessarily much more dangerous or expensive than skiing.

The parachutes used by experts are more square than round. The buildup of air resistance makes sky diving feel more like falling through water than air.

Nancy demolishes one further misconception: “Women,” she says, “are often better sky divers than men—because they’re lighter.”

DR. CURLIN

Public Health. Since July, he has been a member of the U.S. P.H.S. Commissioned Corps.

Dr. Curlin’s research interests have focused on field studies of infectious enteric diseases, including trials of cholerax toxoid and, most recently, the effects of diarrheal diseases in growth and development of infants and young children, and the epidemiology of population growth in the developing world.

OBESITY

(Continued from Page 1)

Nancy Previti of the Space Management Branch skydives over the Eastern Shore, Md.—Photos by Christopher James.

Pneumonia Vaccine Developed for Children With Sickle Cell Anemia, Spleen Malfunction

A new experimental pneumonia vaccine seems to protect children with sickle cell disease against a bacterial infection which often takes their lives.

In addition, preliminary evidence obtained by California investigators supported by NIH indicates that the new vaccine was effective in other children and young adults who were without functioning spleens and, therefore, also at high risk of an overwhelming pneumococcal infection.

Conditions Increase Risk

Sickle cell anemia is a serious hereditary blood disorder found most frequently in this country among Blacks. Children with the disease and others whose spleen function is missing or deficient are very susceptible to bacterial infections, but are capable of developing a normal antibody response to injections of purified antigens such as those used in certain vaccines.

Dr. Arthur J. Ammann of the University of California at San Francisco and fellow physicians at three hospitals in the San Francisco area set up a study to evaluate, first, the response of sickle cell or asplenic patients to a recently developed pneumococcal vaccine, and, second, its protective effect.

In their first series of investigations, the scientists found that these patients did indeed respond to the vaccine in a manner similar to that of normal individuals. Adverse reactions were minor, consisting of localized pain at the site of injection.

Protection Lasts 2 Years

Even more encouraging was the scientists’ finding that during a 2-year follow-up period no cases of pneumonia occurred in a group of 77 immunized sickle cell patients.

In contrast, 8 of 106 sickle cell patients who had not been immunized (either because of parental refusal or lack of vaccine) had a serious pneumococcal infection during the 2-year period.

Two of these 8 children died in spite of early diagnosis and prompt antibiotic treatment.

NIH Sponsors Preparation

The vaccine used in the study was prepared by Eli Lilly Company under contract to National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

It consisted of purified antigens from the gelatinous outer capsules of eight different types of the pneumococcal organism.

A similar so-called polysaccharide vaccine consisting of antigens from 14 types has been prepared by Merek, Sharpe, and Dohme. Licensing of this vaccine is currently under review by the FDA.

Dr. Ammann’s work is reported in the Oct. 27 issue of The New England Journal of Medicine.

Alcoholism Films Planned

A series of films on alcoholism will be shown in Bldg. 31, B2-B67 every Tuesday at noon by the Occupational Medicine Service and the Public Health Employee Assistance Program beginning Nov. 15.

This series will run through Dec. 27, and depicts alcoholism as a disease, its symptoms and treatment, and how it affects the individual, friends, family members, and employers.

Obesity

(Continued from Page 1)

Obesity—of means of lifetime weight control.

• Economic rewards for weight loss—such as reduced insurance premiums—were discussed as incentives.

Numerous representatives of the news media were present and attended a press conference at the close of the meeting.

The proceedings of the conference are scheduled for publication in early 1978.

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Obesity—of means of lifetime weight control.
Osteogenesis Imperfecta
Subject of Recent Conf.

At a recent seminar on osteogenesis imperfecta Dr. G. Donald Whedon, Director of the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, assured participants of the Institute's continued support of research on this hereditary, crippling bone disease in children.

Institutes Plan Symposium

He also mentioned the role of other Institutes at NIH, particularly the National Institute of Dental Research, and announced plans for a February 1978 symposium on osteoporosis—a much more prevalent bone disease—which will include a discussion of osteogenesis imperfecta.

Children suffering from osteogenesis imperfecta may break an arm or leg a dozen times a year because of minor accidents.

Symptoms Described

The disease causes generalized decalcification of the skeleton, with the resulting softness and porosity leading to multiple fractures and severe deformities such as curvature of the spine, hunchback, and legs of uneven length.

The osteogenesis imperfecta seminar held last month at the Children's Hospital, National Medical Center in Washington, also featured, among other panelists, Dr. George Martin of NIDR, who presented a paper on Molecular Defects in Osteogenesis Imperfecta.

Sponsored by the local chapter of the Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation the conference was held for physicians, allied health professionals, and patients and their families.

Dr. Jay Shapiro, director of medical staff of the Children's Hospital Community Hospital, Washington, and a former member of the Metabolic Diseases Branch, NIAMDD, organized the conference.

Section Chief in DCG
Ralph Flaherty Dies

Ralph Flaherty, chief of the Cost Analysis Section, Financial Advisory Services Branch, Division of Contracts and Grants, died Oct. 17. He came to NIH in 1961 after serving in the Office of the Assistant Comptroller in the Department of the Navy and had held his current position since March 1973.

In June 1977 he received a pin for 40 years of Government service.

He had been an active member of the Montgomery-Prince Georges Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants. He served as president of that organization in 1974-75 and received its annual award for outstanding service in 1971.

1978 Nutrition Congress Planned in Brazil; Apply Soon for Travel Funding

The Xth International Congress of Nutrition will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Aug. 27 to Sept. 1, 1978. Limited funds will be available for use as travel grants to help insure that nutrition scientists and scientists in related fields are given the opportunity to attend and participate in important professional meetings.

Membership in the American Institute of Nutrition is not a requirement to apply for a travel grant. Priority will be given to participants in the scientific program and to those less experienced scientists who would benefit most by attendance at the meeting.

A committee representing the AIN and the U.S. National Committee of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences will review applications for select awards for the limited funds which are expected to cover a major portion of the cost for travel to and from the meeting.

The deadline date for receipt of applications is March 1, 1978. Award will be selected in April 1978. Application must be made on forms available on request from: Xth International Congress of Nutrition, American Institute of Nutrition, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Md. 20014 (301-530-7050).

Faster Bus Schedule Set For Columbia Commuters

A new, faster schedule is now in effect for the 4-year-old commuter bus service from Columbia, Md., via Route 20 to NIH and Bethesda.

For further information and schedules, contact: Ann Shalowitz, Ext. 61750, or Garter's Bus Service, (301) 465-9839.
Remodeled Fabric Care Dept. Holds Open House

An open house was held Sept. 29 in the Clinical Center Fabric Care Department, celebrating the remodeling of the Bldg. 13 facility.

Renovation of the department began in August 1976. New locker rooms, a conference/break room, remodeled offices, air conditioning, and new equipment were all installed during this period.

The Fabric Care Department is responsible for almost 2,000,000 pounds of laundry and 170,900 pounds of dry cleaning each year for NIH, the rental buildings, and St. Elizabeths Hospital.

3 CENTERS
(Continued from Page 1)

The three Centers were chosen not only because of staff expertise in clinical microbiology but also because each location offers a slightly different population group for epidemiological study.

In Houston, investigations will be carried out locally in an ethnically mixed Southern population—Caucasians, Blacks, and Mexican Americans. The study population at the University of Michigan is essentially small town or rural while that at the D.C. Children's Research Foundation is basically inner city.

In each study group, data will be collected on all cases of acute gastroenteritis so they may be characterized clinically and the major clinical features correlated with the causative agents isolated.

Attempts will be made to trace the spread of infection and illness among family and other contacts.

Principal investigators at each center are: Texas, Dr. Herbert L. Duvont; Michigan, Dr. Arnold Monto; and District of Columbia, Dr. Robert L. Parrott.
New Telephone System To Be Installed; Quicker, Dependable Service Is Predicted

At 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, NIH will convert to a new and improved telephone dialing system called Centrex-II. The most noticeable change Monday morning will be that all NIH telephone numbers will be seven rather than five digits long. Everyone's 5-digit extension will remain the same. The difference will be that the digits 49 will precede each extension even when calling from one NIH office to another.

**Centrex Classes Scheduled**

**Dates and Locations**

- Nov. 7, 8, and 16: Landow Bldg., Conf. Rm. C-418; Nov. 9, 10, 15 and 17: Federal Bldg., Conf. Rm. 6C01; Nov. 9, 11, 14 and 17: Westwood Bldg., Conf. Rm. D; Nov. 7, 18 and 21: Bdgd. 31, A Wing, Conf. Rm. 4; Nov. 21 and 22: Bdgd. 31, C Wing, Conf. Rm. 8; Nov. 15: NLM, Billings Auditorium; Nov. 8 and 10: Bdgd. 1, Wilson Hall; Nov. 11, 18 and 22: Bdgd. 10, Masur Auditorium.

Three sessions (9-10 a.m., 10:30-11:30 a.m., and 2-3 p.m.) will be offered each day in all locations listed above. Employees will be responsible for arranging with their supervisors' time to attend a convenient session.

**Corrections**

In the Oct. 18 issue of the NIH Record, page 8, the top two photographs of the tour of DRS Veterinary Resources Branch facilities were inadvertently transposed.

**Rugged cliffs topped by thick mass of brush or dwarf trees? Wrong! This is a micrograph of a fractured chicken egg shell magnified 1,200 times by a scanning electron microscope at the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center in Beaverton. The photo was taken by Dr. Wolf H. Fahrenback, head of the Laboratory of Electron Microscopy at the Center which is supported by the Division of Research Resources. The "cliffs" represent the actual edge of the broken shell, and the "brush" on top is the skin-like layer (ovokeratin layer) one encounters when cracking an egg.**

Dr. Jerry Solon of NIA Retires After 20 Years

Dr. Jerry A. Solon, program planning officer of the National Institute on Aging and one of the first staff members when that Institute was created, recently retired after more than 20 years of Government service.

During the early development of the NIA, Dr. Solon had primary responsibility for working with the National Advisory Council on Aging in preparing Our Future Selves, the research plan on aging mandated by Congress. He also provided material for the NIA portions of the NIH Forward and Evaluation Plans.

Before joining the NIA staff, Dr. Solon contributed to policy formulation and program planning in the DHEW Division of Health Care Systems, where he was chief of Health Services.

In addition to his Government service, Dr. Solon has worked in both hospital and university settings. He created, and for 6 years directed, a Medical Care Studies Unit at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston.

**Hold Teaching Posts**

He taught in the schools of public health at the University of North Carolina, the University of Pittsburgh, and Harvard.

In the 1960's, he conducted pioneering national surveys of nursing homes for the Commission on Chronic Illness. His publications deal with topics including long-term care, ambulatory care, service utilization, and evaluation.

Dr. Solon received his Ph.D. in sociology from the American University in 1964.

At a retirement luncheon in late August, Dr. Solon was honored by Herman Brotman, a consultant to the U.S. Senate and House Committees on Aging, Bernice Harper, former director of the Division of Long-Term Care, NIA staff, and many of his friends from other DHEW components.

Dr. Solon's research has mainly addressed the health behavior of consumers and providers and the organization of health care and related services.