

The NIH Record

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of Health,
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National
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of
Health

Carnival Flavor Theme Of HEalthWorks '79

Good health is more than treating disease and getting vaccinated. Good health depends on the way we live. That's the focus of HEW's fair called "HEalthWorks '79," to be held May 22nd, 23rd and 24th, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., on the Mall across from HEW headquarters.

HEalthWorks '79 will present—in a carnival setting—demonstrations, exhibits, celebrities and feature events on aspects of daily living that affect health. These include physical fitness; nutrition; stress; smoking, alcohol and drug abuse habits; and safety and emergency procedures.

Part of the Department's overall attempt to focus national attention on health and what individuals can do to prevent disease and protect their health, HEalthWorks is a new way of communicating health information to people. Health screening and a battery of tests, such as blood pressure and cholesterol

(See HEalthWorks, Page 5)



Further Research on Transfusion Therapy Stressed at SCD Consensus Conference

Further research should be conducted on the positive effects of transfusion therapy for pregnant sickle cell disease patients in order to determine conclusively if the treatment is effective, was the conclusion drawn at the NIH Consensus Development Conference on Transfusion Therapy in Pregnant Sickle Cell Disease Patients held Apr. 23-24.

Among the general topics discussed were the need for further research, clinical research approaches, perinatal considerations, and sociomedical issues.

According to the conference, the value of transfusion therapy in pregnant sickle cell patients has not been proven even though studies on its treatment have been conducted.

Obstetricians, hematologists, patients, and pediatricians attending the conference agreed that studies of pregnant sickle cell patients



Dr. Ashwell



Dr. Hagins



Dr. Leder



Dr. Singer

Four NIH Researchers Among New Members Elected to National Academy of Sciences

Four NIH scientists were among 60 new members recently elected to the National Academy of Sciences in recognition of their "distinguished and continuing achievements in original research."

Among those elected from NIH were:

Dr. Gilbert Ashwell, chief, Laboratory of Biochemistry and Metabolism, NIAMDD; Dr. William A. Hagins, chief, Membrane Biophysics Section, Laboratory of Chemical Physics, NIAMDD; Dr. Philip Leder, chief, Laboratory of Molecular Genetics, NICHD; and Dr. Maxine F. Singer, chief, Nucleic Acid Enzymology Section, DCBD, NCI.

Studies in Dr. Ashwell's laboratory on serum glycoproteins have succeeded in isolating and characterizing two specific liver binding

proteins (receptors) which recognize and remove from the circulation those molecules deficient in terminal sialic acid or galactose residues.

Dr. Hagins' group is currently investigating biochemical and electrical processes in the light-sensitive cells of the retina with the aim of understanding the mechanism of excitation of sensory receptors.

Dr. Leder and his group have cloned several different globin genes from the mouse, and have determined the exact chemical makeup of one of them—the beta globin major gene.

Thus far, beta globin major is the only mammalian gene whose structure is fully known. Dr. Leder's research involves comparing globin genes in hopes of finding the "on-off" switches that control gene expression.

Dr. Singer is currently working on simian virus 40 recombinants that contain both host and viral DNA sequences. She was a member of the organizing committee for the International Conference on Recombinant DNA Molecules held in Asilomar, Calif., in 1975 to discuss the emerging questions of research guidelines to minimize possible dangers of genetic recombinant research. The conference report, submitted to the NAS in May 1975 formed the basis for the NIH guidelines on recombinant DNA research.

Also among those elected were: Dr. Frederic C. Bartter, former chief, Hypertension-Endocrine Branch, NHLBI; Dr. Harvey A. Itano, former chief, Section on Chemical Genetics, Laboratory of Molecular Biology, NIAMDD, now professor of pathology, University of California, San Diego; and Dr. Karl H. Beyer, Jr., former Fogarty Scholar-in-Residence (1974), professor of pharmacology, Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Pennsylvania State University.

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The NIH Record

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NIH Record Office
Bldg. 31, Room 2B-03, Phone 496-2125

Editor
Frances W. Davis
Staff Writer
William B. Reinckens

Staff Correspondents
ADA, Judy Fouché; CC, Susan Gerhold; DCRT, Mary Hodges; DRG, Sue Meadows; DRR, Jerry Gordon; DRS, Arthur F. Moore; FIC, George Presson; NCI, Dr. Robert M. Hadsell; NEI, Marsha Corbett; NHLBI, Bill Sanders; NIA, Ann Diefenbach; NIAID, Jeanne Winnick; NIAMD, Diane Naedel; NICHD, Tina McIntosh; NIDR, Sally Wilberding; NIEHS, Hugh J. Lee; NIGMS, Wanda Wardell; NIMH, Betty Zubovic; NINCDS, Doris Parker; NLM, Roger L. Gilkeson.

Juanita Cooke, NHLBI, Heads Office Of Special Concerns

Juanita Cooke has been named chief of the recently established Office of Special Concerns within the Office of the Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

The office was established to emphasize the NHLBI's involvement and commitment to EEO and other minority affairs. The EEO staff has undertaken a number of innovative and valuable projects aside from their regular responsibilities including the NHLBI Journal Distribution Project for Minority



Ms. Cooke

Schools, Minority Biomedical Support Program, Minority Access to Careers Program, and the programming of workshops and symposia to familiarize minorities with opportunities available at NIH and NHLBI.

The office will serve as the focal point for all activities relating to NHLBI Affirmative Action programs, including EEO, career counseling and employee development, college recruitment, contract compliance, minority biomedical programs and community outreach programs. It will also work with minority ad hoc groups convened by the Institute.

Joined NIH in 1952

Ms. Cooke, who joined the NHLBI staff in 1952, previously served as the Institute's EEO coordinator.

Other office staff members include Frances Spears, Lafayette Gilchrist, Margaret Roark, and Shirley Brouard.

Int'l Year of the Child Exhibit Promotes Research Advances, Good Health

A new exhibit commemorating the International Year of the Child that has been on display at the Visitors Center in Bldg. 31 since April 25 has been temporarily moved to the Howard University College of Medicine for display during its commencement week.

Although the exhibit will be based at NIH, it will also be shown this month at many other local events, including the Smithsonian Institution's IYC celebration.

The display, called "Helping Children Grow Into Healthy Adults Through Research," is a cooperative effort of all NIH Institutes. It depicts research advances that have contributed to prevention or treatment of childhood diseases and promotion of good health.

Seven major NIH research areas are shown: infectious diseases, accidents and injuries, nutrition and growth, disorders related to environment and life-style, birth defects and genetic disorders, eye diseases and blindness, and dental caries. The exhibit's 11 panels include equipment that can test a person's lung capacity, assess his present weight with a height/weight chart, and measure a person's vision.

A duplicate exhibit will be shown at some of the country's largest state fairs that include the California Exposition, Texas State Fair, New England State Fair, and the Pennsylvania State Farm Show. It is expected that more than 2 million visitors will view this exhibit at these events.

The exhibit will also appear at professional associations meetings in Atlanta, New York, Miami, Milwaukee, Detroit, Springfield, Dallas, and Anaheim. It is expected that 20 million people will visit the NIH exhibit during the year.

The International Year of the Child was initiated by a group of private citizens who brought their concerns about children to the United Nations.

Clinical Center Blood Bank Offers I.D. Cards

Do you know your blood group? Blood type? Do you have an I.D. card with this information that you carry with you at all times? If you're in an accident or suffer a serious medical emergency, having this information close at hand could save your life.

Robert Harr, chairman of NIDR's Safety Committee, has developed a program with the Clinical Center's Blood Bank staff to provide NIDR employees with I.D. cards containing this vital information.

A team from the Blood Bank visited Bldg. 30 on April 18-19, drawing blood samples from NIDR employees. Only one-sixth of an ounce of blood is necessary for testing. After the blood was tested and typed, each employee received a free plastic card printed with information on his/her blood group and type.

Sixty employees availed themselves of this opportunity. The Blood Bank staff is willing to set up similar programs for other Institutes upon request.



International Year of the Child 1979

Their action resulted in the United Nations declaring 1979—the 20th anniversary of the Declaration of the Rights of Children—the International Year of the Child.

Agencies Sponsor Projects

Each Federal agency has been requested to sponsor a project in recognition of the IYC; the NIH project was conceived and developed by a task force of representatives from each Institute, and is being coordinated by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Questions about the exhibit should be addressed to the Office of Research Reporting, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Bldg. 31, Rm. 2A-34, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Md. 20205, telephone (301) 496-5133.



Dr. David B. Scott, NIDR Director (r), and Dr. Marie Nylén, director of intramural programs, lent program support by being the first to participate. Blood is drawn by Wanda Chappell while Bob Harr (l) watches.

Dr. Sitaram Recognized As Outstanding Young Clinical Investigator

Dr. Natraj Sitaram of the National Institute of Mental Health has been named 1979 winner of the A. E. Bennett Research Award for his outstanding work in the field of clinical science. This award is given annually by the Society for Biological Psychiatry for the best research in basic and clinical science by investigators under the age of 35. The award seeks to stimulate worldwide research in biological psychiatry by young investigators. The formal presentation of the honorarium and plaque was made at the annual convention of the society in Chicago on May 13.



Dr. Sitaram

Dr. Sitaram, a native of Madras, India, received his M.D. from the University of Madras in 1970. After completing a 2-year residency training program in psychiatry at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, he joined NIMH in 1975 as a visiting associate and has been with the Biological Psychiatry Branch of the Division of Clinical and Behavioral Research since that time.

Under the guidance and collaboration of Dr. J. Christian Gillin, chief of the Unit on Sleep Studies, his research has involved the role of central cholinergic mechanisms in the mediation of rapid eye movement (REM) sleep, memory, mood and nociceptive functions in humans.

A pharmacological technique based on cholinergic REM sleep induction was also developed to detect abnormal cholinergic functioning in depressive illness.

Active collaborators who have also contributed to various aspects of this research include A. M. Moore, Drs. Weingartner, Nurenberger, Gershon, Cohen and Buchsbaum.

FAES Graduate School Seeks Biochemistry Instructor

The FAES Graduate School is in need of an instructor to share in the teaching of Introductory Biochemistry (BIOC 300) for the 1979-80 academic year and succeeding years. The course is a comprehensive survey at the elementary graduate level and is an important part of the biochemistry sequence.

Individuals who are interested in being considered for this position are invited to contact Dr. Gordon Guroff, Bldg. 6A, Rm. 1A-08, 496-4751 or Dr. Alan Schechter, Bldg. 10, Rm. 9N-321, 496-1163.

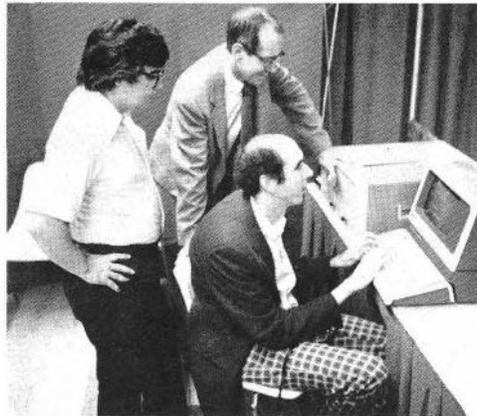
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496-3164**

DCRT Develops Computer Device That Allows Blind Programmers To Hear Spoken Words

How can a blind computer programmer become totally independent from needing any sighted assistance? One answer lies in the Voice Output Terminal, a device that allows a person to hear the spoken word from a computer, as compared to only letters or numbers.

The easy-to-use system was developed by Dr. Scott Allen and David Songco, both of the Computer Systems Laboratory of the Division of Computer Research and Technology, with the idea that the most effective way for a blind person to interact with a computer would be to have full-word, synthetic voice output in English.

In the Voice Output Terminal system, over 60 electronic sounds combine to form recognizable speech which follows English pronunciation rules. Special control functions give



David Songco (l), electronics engineer, and Dr. Allen (c), developers of the Voice Output Terminal at DCRT, check the equipment with Ron Morford, a blind computer programmer.

the blind user full comprehension of computer output and, therefore, programming independence. Some of the special features include:

- Over a dozen options let the user spell out or repeat words mispronounced or not easily understood. This feature is especially useful in working with computer programs, which may contain many unfamiliar words.
- An automatic speed control increases the understanding of short words by giving them longer pronunciation time.
- Sighted people can use the terminal visually with no need for special connections or adaptations.

The system is made up for a microcomputer and a speech synthesizer, in combination with standard computer equipment. Most alphanumeric computer terminals may be used for data input and the system will communicate with a variety of host computers.

Software in the microcomputer uses the rules of pronunciation to translate text from the remote computer to phonetic codes.

The speech synthesizer receives the phonetic codes and generates the corresponding voice output to the user. Keyboard data entry is passed directly to the host by the micro-computer.

Past methods of communicating with computers had serious limitations in space (with



Visitors at the exhibition of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, enjoy entertainment provided by deaf students from Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C.

Braille) and in time (with manual scanning devices) and were generally slower, because the user had to assemble spelled text or sounds into full words.

Ron Morford, a blind programmer, has been testing the system for the past 6 months in another Federal agency. His functional suggestions have contributed to the further refinement of the system's capabilities.

Shown May 2-4

The research and development application was shown to the public at the exhibition of the President's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped held May 2-4 at the Washington Hilton Hotel, Washington, D.C. The exhibition is recognized as the single most important conference for the handicapped in this country.

It brings together employers, manufacturers, educators, counselors, and other professionals who share with handicapped adults the goal of expanding job opportunities and various needed programs to assist this population of potential workers.

The CSL team sees the Voice Output Terminal as a device which can be applied to many other occupations, thus opening up new job areas for the handicapped.

Books for Parents Featured At NIH Pre-School Fair

The NIH Pre-School is sponsoring a book fair featuring a large selection of children's books and some special interest books designed for parents. The book fair proceeds will benefit the day-care centers scholarship fund for lower income families.

The fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in cafeteria areas on: Tuesday, June 5, Bldg. 35; Wednesday, June 6, Bldg. 31; and Thursday, June 7, Bldg. 10.

Flyers will be circulated throughout the NIH to take advance orders for some of the book selections. Orders should be returned to Sherry Rudick, at the NIH Pre-School in Bldg. 35 by June 1. For additional information please call 496-5144.

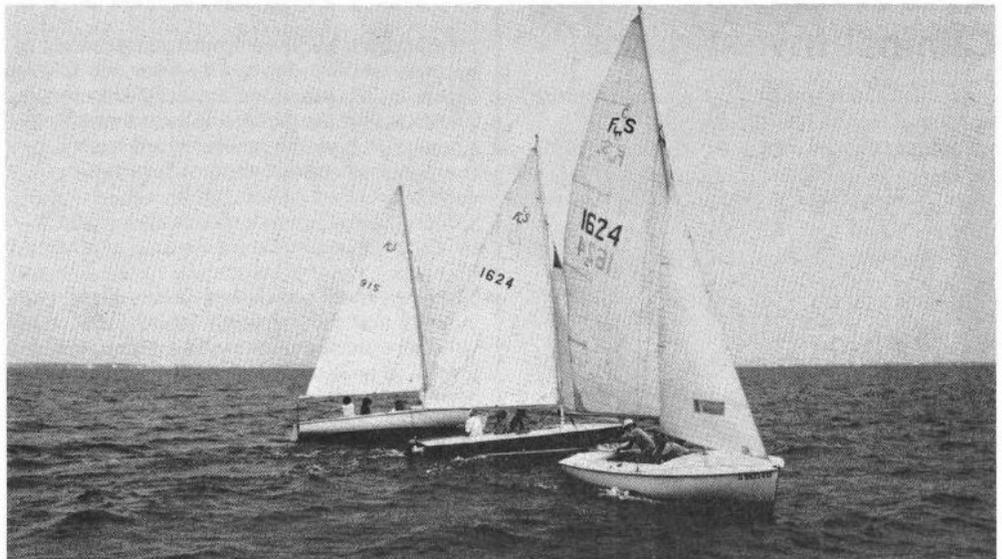
Tactics, Rules Are Subject of Sailing Club Seminar

A symposium on sailboat racing will be the subject of this month's NIH Sailing Association meeting on Thursday, May 31, in Bldg. 30's first-floor conference room.

A brief introduction and description of the kinds of racing, courses, handicap systems, etc., will be presented by Allison Skeel, race committee chairman. Racing rules and tactics will be discussed by Clare Fewtrell, British laser and dinghy champion.

John Barns, former NIHSA member, who now races his own "Flying Scot," will speak on how to race with that type of vessel and J-24 skipper Ron Hall will discuss racing sailboat design.

The Sailing Club has announced the winning captain and crew of its Apr. 28 "First Annual NIH Hot Shot Regatta" held in Annapolis. Skipper Joan Beerweiler, DCRT, and crew members, Ray Beach, NIAID, and Fulton Crews, NIMH, won the very close race. Ms. Beerweiler was awarded the NIHSA Perpetual Intramural Championship Trophy.



Sailboats jockey for position at the beginning of last year's race.

Boston Marathon Tests 10 NIH Employees

On the second Monday in April this year, in the sleepy little New England town of Hopkinton, 10 NIH joggers gathered along with almost 10,000 other runners for the 83rd running of the Boston Marathon.

Since 1897, joggers from around the country have come to Massachusetts prepared to fulfill their "dream" of entering and completing the grueling 26-mile 385-yard course. The annual event has been described as the "World Series of distance running, the super-bowl of jogging."

Jerry Moore, 31, an NIH management analyst and vice president of the jogging club, "The Health's Angels," turned in the best time of the Bethesda entries with 2 hours and 49 minutes. Recently he shared some of his thoughts about the Boston Marathon and how he got ready for it.

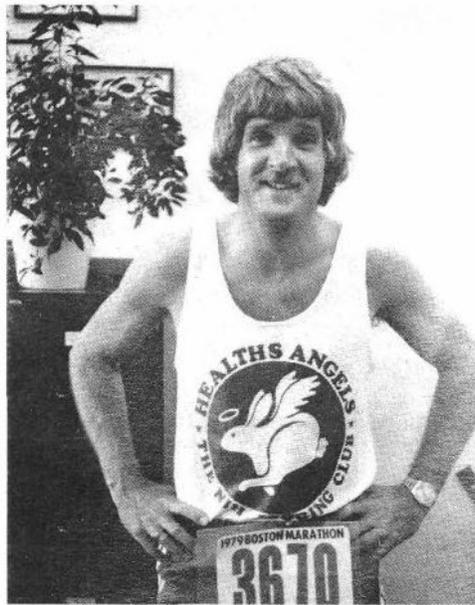
Moore, who has been jogging for 8 years, said that since the first of the year he has probably run 800 miles to get ready for the marathon. He said that besides his normal daily regimen he runs 20 miles twice a week. Moore said he is not on a special diet and does not take any vitamins to help keep in shape.

He tells everyone getting interested in jogging to start off "slow and work yourself up." Moore said that while he was in graduate school he found himself getting out of shape and decided to take up jogging as the "perfect" type of exercise.

This year's Boston Marathon began after a 3-hour anxious wait at the Hopkinton gymnasium, Moore said. The joggers were called out of the building for a short jog to the starting line. With the crack of the starting gun, a huge wave of humanity flexed its legs and pushed itself towards Boston along a winding road that was beginning to be made wet by a cold, intermittent drizzle.

Throughout the race, "kids would offer you

oranges and slap you on your hand in encouragement," Moore said, noting that the estimated 2 million people who lined the race's route were so enthusiastic about the Marathon and the runners that their encouragement would "physically lift you and carry you on."



Mr. Moore shows off his Marathon uniform with his official entry number.

During the strain of the race, Moore remembers catching glimpses of groups of cheering Wellesley College coeds applauding joggers as they ran by. "It was like Woodstock," he said.

This year's Boston Marathon was well organized, he noted, and none of the participants that he saw was injured during the race from other racers or from the crowds.

The other racers who ran behind Moore's time were Marc Lippman, who finished with a time of 2 hours and 57 minutes. His time was followed by other runners who turned in times of over 3 hours: Gil Hill, 3:02; Michael Beaven, 3:05; and Jack Shawyer, 3:06.

Also crossing the finishing line were Rick Schwarz, 3:09; Ron Crystal, 3:15; George Martin, 3:18; Jerome Kerkoff, 3:28; and Scott Allan, 4:16. "These are good times," Moore said about how his fellow joggers finished.

Moore equates running in the Boston Marathon with competing in the Olympics. "Let's face it none of us are ever going to compete in the Olympics," he said.

For him half the fun of running in such an event as the Boston Marathon is seeing some of the bizarre outfits that joggers sometimes wear. At this year's race, one jogger wore a Superman outfit with "tights and all." Another showed up dressed like a "cow."

"You made it now!" were the shouts spectators yelled to Moore after he got over the arduous Heartbreak Hill, marking the last 5 miles of the Marathon.

The closer he got and the harder he pressed to complete the race, the louder the cries of the spectators became, Moore remarked. Finally, with his arms flaying, he crossed the finish line and completed his "dream" of competing in the Boston Marathon.

Tips on Insulation of a House Summarized in Free Booklet

One way consumers have been combating the increase in heating costs is adding insulation to their houses. Cellulose insulation, usually made of ground-up or shredded paper, is the most popular for blowing into place. But, there are some drawbacks to cellulose—the main one is flammability.

To be on the safe side when shopping for cellulose insulation, look for cellulose insulation manufactured after Sept. 7, 1978. The Consumer Product Safety Commission requires that any manufactured after that date meet the minimum flammability standards.

To learn more about all types of insulation and how to install it, send for a free copy of *Tips for Consumers Insulating their Homes*. It's free from the Consumer Information Center, Dept. 609G, Pueblo, Colo. 81009.

HealthWorks

(Continued from Page 1)

level, will be available.

Other activities will include a puppet show, "Little Red Riding Hood," for children; a recreational jog and walk for everyone, led by VIP's; Tai Chi and yoga demonstrations; exercise on the Mall; cooking demonstrations; a multimedia show, "Here's to Your Health," and aerobic dancing and gymnastics.

A star attraction will be the world's first nutrition robot, "Nutro," a very real 400-pound metal machine-man that lectures, quizzes, chats and chuckles on nutrition with the expertise and enthusiasm of David Canty, who supplies the voice.

Visitors can come to a centrally located information tent for general information on the programs and services planned for the 3 days of the fair. The information center will also provide interpreter services for hearing-impaired visitors and guides for the visually impaired.

Dr. Cantarow Leaves NCI After 19 Years

Recently, Dr. Abraham Cantarow, former chief of NCI's Program Analysis and Formulation Branch and a distinguished cancer scientist, retired after almost 20 years of association with NIH.

In a medical career that spanned more than half a century, he is best known for his research in liver metabolism and cancer, endocrine function, and the metabolic role of calcium.

Dr. Cantarow was one of the first scientists to investigate the role of hormones in carcinogenesis and tumor growth; particularly, in the area of liver cancer research. He and his co-workers showed how the chemical mechanisms in the liver worked; and that knowledge

(See DR. CANTAROW, Page 6)



Dr. Cantarow has published more than 150 scientific papers and has written five books on such diverse topics as clinical biochemistry, clinical endocrinology, and a 1944 monograph on lead poisoning.

CDB Trades Program Seeks Applicants

Are you a secretary who always wanted to be a plumber or a laboratory worker who wanted to be a carpenter? If so, NIH's Career Development Branch might have the program for you. Applications for their 2-year-old NIH Apprenticeship Program are now being taken by the OA Personnel Office.

Presently there are eight apprentices working at a variety of trades positions that include electrician, painter, refrigeration and air conditioning, sheet metal mechanics, and boiler plant operator. The eligibility requirement for any of these trades positions is that an applicant be a current NIH employee for at least 1 year by the closing June 1 application deadline.

The applicant must now be in a nonprofessional job series or be in a permanent full-time position, or if part-time, should be willing to be reassigned to a full-time position. The program's goal that takes 4 years to complete is to help develop an employee's



Apprentice David Berry works in the Shops Branch.

job skills so that eventually "they will be tomorrow's foremen," said W. Elbert Wilson, chief of the Career Development Branch.

Last year when the program selected its first training class there were 60 applicants for the eight positions. The present class is composed of six men and two women who are working in trades jobs.

The apprenticeship program combines on-the-job training, where an apprentice is assigned to any of the more experienced journeymen in their speciality, and special classroom work at Montgomery County College on Wednesdays.

"Sometimes it's hard to judge. We usually look for those with the most determination," said Stan Allen, Shops Branch chief, about how apprentices are selected for the program. "We are looking for potential," he said.

Like many of his apprentices, Mr. Allen started learning trade skills as a "helper" 25 years ago when he began at NIH. He says that many of the apprentices in the program now are older and that for many of them this program amounts to a mid-career occupational change. Mr. Allen said that some of the



Ms. White paints grill work near the Clinical Center.

program's apprentices had not completed high school nor did they have any prior trades skills.

He said that the apprenticeship program has attracted employees who have held clerical jobs and have worked at different NIH laboratories. He stated that the program is set up so that each apprentice is assigned specific job tasks and his other training progress is monitored.

"She is doing well on the job and in school," said Mr. Allen about apprentice Michelle White. Since last November, Ms. White has been an apprentice painter.

Prior to getting into the program, she worked for 4 years in the Clinical Center's Medical Records Office and prior to that in the mailroom. Ms. White said that she decided to try a new job to improve her chances for advancement and that its beginning salary was attractive to her.

"It's been fantastic," said Ms. White about her work. She said that she has not had any difficulties in working in the male dominated paint shop. "We get along fine. I like to work with men," she said.

She commented that the program's emphasis on education—even though its entrance requirement only requires that an apprentice be able to read at a sixth-grade level—has helped her brush up on her knowledge of English and mathematics. "Once you learn something, no one can take it away from you," she said.

Program organizers have scheduled a question and answer session for 10 a.m. Thursday, May 24, in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 7, for those interested employees who wish to attend and learn more about the program.

Save SF 50's To Reconstruct OPF's

Losing an official personnel folder (OPF) doesn't happen very often. But if it does happen, this is how you can help.

Reconstruction of an OPF can be made much easier if you retain your *personal* copies of employment records (Standard Form 50).

Code of Conduct for Federal Personnel Defined by Law

For the first time, nine basic merit principles govern all personnel practices in the Federal Government by law requiring:

- Recruitment from all segments of society, and selection and advancement on the basis of ability, knowledge, and skills, under fair and open competition.
- Fair and equitable treatment in all personnel management matters, without regard to politics, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, age, or handicapping condition, and with proper regard for individual privacy and constitutional rights.
- Equal pay for work of equal value, considering both national and local rates paid by private employers, with incentives and recognition for excellent performance.
- High standards of integrity, conduct, and concern for the public interest.
- Efficient and effective use of the Federal work force.
- Retention of employees who perform well, correcting the performance of those whose work is inadequate, and separation of those who cannot or will not meet required standards.
- Improved performance through effective education and training.
- Protection of employees from arbitrary action, personal favoritism, or political coercion.
- Protection of employees against reprisal for lawful disclosures of information.

The law also defines prohibited practices for officials and employees who are authorized to take personnel actions as:

- Discriminating (see second merit principle) against any employee or applicant.
- Soliciting or considering any recommendation on an employee/applicant unless the material is an evaluation of the person's work

performance, ability, aptitude, or general qualifications, or character, loyalty, and suitability.

- Using official authority to coerce political actions, to require political contributions, or to retaliate for refusal to do these things.
- Interfering with an individual's right to compete for Federal employment.
- Influencing anyone to withdraw from competition, whether to improve or worsen the prospects of any other applicants.
- Granting any special preferential treatment or advantage not authorized by law to a job applicant or employee.
- Appointing, employing, promoting, or advancing relatives in their agencies.
- Taking or failing to take a personnel action as a reprisal against employees who exercise their appeal rights; refuse to engage in political activity; or lawfully disclose violations of law, rule, or regulation, or mismanagement, gross waste of funds, abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety.
- Taking or failing to take any other personnel action violating a law, rule, or regulation directly related to merit system principles.

A Special Counsel, appointed by the President, has the power to investigate charges of prohibited personnel practices, including reprisals against whistleblowers; to ask the Merit Systems Protection Board to stop personnel actions in cases involving prohibited personnel practices; and to bring disciplinary charges before the Board against those who violate merit system law.

Disciplinary charges may include removals, suspensions, and fines.

Employees may contact their personnel office or the Labor Management Branch, DPM, for further information.

DR. CANTAROW

(Continued from Page 5)

led later to the development of the widely used anticancer drug, 5-fluorouracil.

He was also one of the first scientists to study the effects of steroid metabolism and nutrition on the growth of normal and cancer cells. He published one of the earliest papers on the importance of cholesterol metabolism.

Dr. Cantarow served as chief of NCI's Program Analysis and Formulation Branch from 1973 to 1975. This branch was established in 1972 as part of the office of Program Planning and Analysis to participate in the development of an overall national strategy against cancer under the then newly mandated National Cancer Program.

In 1975, he was named a special medical consultant and was instrumental in planning NCI's intramural research; particularly, as they related to the establishment of a program for chemical carcinogenesis.

While on the board of the American Association for Cancer Research, Dr. Cantarow became its president and served from 1969 to 1970.

After graduating from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia in 1924, he remained there for the next 42 years holding a variety of posts, beginning as a resident physician, and later from 1944 to 1966, was professor and head of its biochemistry department.

Dr. Cantarow began his association with NIH in 1960 as a member of the chemotherapy grants review section. In 1966, he left Jefferson Medical College to become associate chief of NCI's Program Planning, Awards Review and Technical Administration Branch. He was also named to head the Program Analysis and Formulation Branch in 1973.

Although a native of Hartford, Conn., Dr. Cantarow spent most his life in Philadelphia and plans to return there. His retirement plans include writing a book on medical education in the U.S. and an autobiography.

Book on English Community Medicine Tells Role Of Health Officer

Dr. William S. Jordan, Jr., is the author of a new book, *Community Medicine in the United Kingdom*, favorably reviewed in *Lancet*, Nov. 4, 1978.

A copy is available in the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Library in Bldg. 31, Rm. 7A-11C.

Dr. Jordan's study details the role of the medical health officer in the community from 1847 into the 1970's. This includes the complete reorganization of the National Health Service in 1974.

Dr. Jordan, who is director of the Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Program, NIAID, joined NIH in September 1976. He was formerly Dean of the College of Medicine at the University of Kentucky.

In 1974, while on sabbatical from the University, Dr. Jordan spent a year at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine conducting research on the development and teaching of community medicine in England.



Nurses Tanya Crow (seated, r), chief of Neurology Nursing Service, Virginia Dodds (standing), chief of Heart, Lung and Blood Nursing Service, and Janice M. Feldman, chief of Child Health and Human Development Nursing Service, were officially commended for the "leadership" they provided in coordinating the successful evacuation of all patients during the Apr. 21 Clinical Center fire. Their commendations were presented in the offices of Vernice Ferguson, chief of the Nursing Department, CC.

Smoking Shown To Be Harmful to Fetuses

By Joyce McCarthy

Expectant mothers in late pregnancy who smoke a pack or more cigarettes a day are running the risk of increasing the fetal heart rate and possibly reducing the level of oxygen supply to their unborn infants, according to a recently completed study by the Department of Reproductive Medicine at the University of California, San Diego.

Researchers studied 8 women volunteers who regularly smoked between 20 and 40 cigarettes a day and were 8 months pregnant. These women were recruited from the University of California's General Clinical Research Center.

While the pregnant mothers were being studied at the center they were kept at bed rest and each woman's blood pressure and pulse were continually recorded. External fetal heart monitors were also applied to each of the women's abdomen for continuous recording of the unborn infants' heart beat.

Prior to the experiment's beginning and during it, blood samples were taken at 10-minute intervals from each woman. The experiment began with a period of "sham smoking" with the women "smoking" drinking straws for 10 minutes.

This phase of the experiment was followed by each woman smoking two standard non-filtered 8.5 cm cigarettes. After smoking their cigarettes, blood samples again were taken at 10-minute intervals over the next hour.

During the experiment at every 2½-minute interval, the maternal pulse and blood pressure rate were recorded on each mother, and the fetal heart rate of their infants was constantly monitored.

The blood samples showed that cigarette smoking, but not the sham smoking, had induced rapid and significant elevations of maternal pulse rate, blood pressure, and carbon monoxide concentrations.

The blood samples also showed that there were significant rises in maternal blood pres-



Smoking during pregnancy could result in low birth weight and other complications, according to University of California's General Clinical Research Center in San Diego. It is one of 75 such centers funded by DRR.

sure as a result of smoking cigarettes. These rises showed up from between 2½ to 5 minutes from the time smoking began. It was also noted that after 5 minutes, rises in carbon monoxide concentrations also occurred.

The study also noted that after 2½ minutes of smoking there were significant changes in the levels of norepinephrine and epinephrine, but that the level of dopamine

did not change significantly. These chemicals are plasma catecholamines—complex chemical substances derived from an amino acid whose actions resemble sympathetic nerve impulses and cause stimulation of blood pressure, metabolic, and heart rates.

After the mothers smoked for 7½ minutes, the fetal heart rate of their babies increased progressively until it peaked at 17½ minutes. Eventually, the heart rate returned to normal as did the fetus' catecholamine levels. However, the study showed that the woman's maternal carbon monoxide concentration continued to increase.

Previous studies on experimental animals showed that nicotine crosses the placenta rapidly and it appears to do the same in humans, according to the University of California study. The inhaled nicotine from the mothers' cigarettes appears to be responsible for the rapid catecholamine release and peripheral blood vessel constrictions, in each of the women tested, researchers said.

The investigators have learned that because of the internal maternal catecholamine changes there is a corresponding change in fetal heart rates. Also there is a reduced amount of oxygen reaching the fetus; which was probably due to a reduced blood flow in the womb. Another possible explanation for increases in fetal heart rate is that stress is caused by uteroplacental constrictions in the womb.

The research center's study was supported in part by the Division of Research Resources and was reported in the March issue of the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*.

In summarizing their research, the investigators said that chronic cigarette smoking during late pregnancy results in acute changes in maternal neuroendocrine and cardiovascular functions.

Nicotine, along with an increased inhalation of carbon monoxide, may be direct contributors to increased fetal heart rates and could result in low birth weight infants and other complications, say researchers.

Council Assistant Gwen Northcutt Retires After 19-1/2 Years

Gwen Northcutt, NIAID's committee management assistant, recently retired after 19½ years of Federal service.

Mrs. Northcutt began her career as a secretary in the Clinical Center. She joined NIAID in 1967 as secretary to Dr. Al Webb, chief, Program Planning and Projection. She later became one of the first council assistants at NIH, a position that was established in 1970 when Congress decreed that Advisory Councils were to be managed.

At her retirement luncheon, Dr. Richard M. Krause, NIAID Director, complimented Mrs. Northcutt for her dedication and loyalty and presented her with a camera, a gift from her many colleagues and friends.

In retirement, Mrs. Northcutt plans to pursue her favorite hobbies, photography and horticulture.

Book Chronicles Disease-Oriented Research

A new National Cancer Institute book, entitled *Today's Medicine, Tomorrow's Science: Essays on Paths of Discovery in the Biomedical Sciences*, puts into historical and scientific perspective the contributions of disease-oriented research to the fundamental understanding of life processes.

The book, which grew out of a shared interest of NCI and two science historians, challenges the popular notion that advances in our basic knowledge of biology come only from so-called "basic" research.

"We are mapping routes that run from the patient's bedside to the laboratory bench rather than the more frequently charted routes from the bench to the bedside," wrote authors Dr. Judith P. Swazey of Boston University and Dr. Karen M. Reeds of the University of California, Berkeley, referring to the complex interrelationship between medical research and practice.

After surveying 19th and 20th century medical and biological works, the authors chose five disease-oriented research problems

for close historical study.

Their first example focuses on the contributions of Louis Pasteur's research on "diseases" of wine and vinegar to basic advances in bacteriology and immunology.

Next they document how efforts to halt the ravaging disease of beriberi played a central role in the discovery of vitamins and their biochemical role in the body.

The book's third case shows the interrelations between the medical problems of diseases of the ductless glands and the developments in biology, medicine, and endocrinology.

Its fourth example examines the role that work on sickle cell anemia played in defining the genetic control of protein structure.

Finally, they trace how studies on multiple myeloma ended with the first complete mapping of an antibody's molecular structure.

The 119-page book is available for \$5.75 from the U.S. Government Printing Office (stock number 017-042-00137-4).

Black American Survey Results Will Provide Data on Social, Health-Related Areas

Nearly 5,000 Black Americans will be interviewed by the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research in landmark studies funded by the National Institute on Aging and the National Institute of Mental Health.

The national studies will incorporate sample surveys of the adult Black population, the Black elderly population, and three generations of Black Americans in the most extensive examination of the Nation's largest minority group ever conducted.

The principal investigator is Dr. James S. Jackson, associate professor of psychology and ISR faculty associate. In addition to other senior researchers, the study staff includes Black graduate students from several disciplines. An interdisciplinary advisory committee of experts on Black life from all over the country has assisted in the design of the surveys.

Between March and August of this year more than 200 trained interviewers will conduct interviews in more than 100 communities across the country. The data collection

will be supervised by a team of regional field coordinators.

Survey results are expected to provide—for the first time—social scientists, policymakers, and the Black community with information about the entire Black population in a number of important social and health-related areas. According to the researchers, this new data should help clear up common myths and misconceptions about Blacks in the United States.

Reports on the results are expected early in 1980, and will continue to be produced throughout the decade. The surveys will be concerned with virtually all aspects of Black American life, but the main focus of the study is the health status of Black Americans.

In addition to personal well-being, social support and help-seeking, the survey will examine the current social and economic conditions of the Black population. The questions will deal with family relationships, community life, religion, racial identity, political participation as well as education, employment, retirement, and income.



Dr. Jacob A. Brody, associate director, Epidemiology, Demography and Biometry Program, National Institute on Aging, has been elected vice president of the American Epidemiological Society for 1979-80 and then will become president in 1980. Established over 50 years ago, the Society provides a forum for research epidemiologists to discuss important scientific topics.

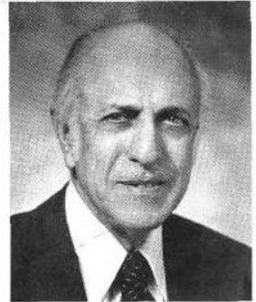
Dr. Almy believes that public attitudes, often expressed in humorous terms, have had a lot to do with "the neglect of this category of illness." He attributes to childhood taboos the current social embarrassment associated with talk of bowel movements, flatulence, or stomach "gurgles."

He cites an attitude of "benign humorous neglect" concerning digestive tract diseases that "we have to see reversed if we are going to make progress—if ever the academic community is to give the proper attention to this because they too are influenced by public opinion."

Dr. Richard Feinberg Retires From NINCDS

Dr. Richard Feinberg, chief of the Visual Abnormalities Section, Collaborative Perinatal Project, Fundamental Neurology Branch, NINCDS, retired recently after more than 13 years' service with the Institute.

Dr. Feinberg came to NIH as a program analyst for vision and diseases of the eye with the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness (now NINCDS). He held this position for 7 years before moving to the Collaborative Perinatal Project.



Dr. Feinberg

Before joining NIH, he served the Federal Aviation Agency as director of the Georgetown Research Institute, Vision and Hearing Laboratory, where he conducted research directed toward establishing vision qualifications for pilots.

In the course of his career, Dr. Feinberg served from 1956 to 1960 as director of the division of applied visual sciences, Titmus Optical Company, Petersburg, Va. He was president of the Northern Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago from 1951 to 1955, and before that, professor of psychology and dean, College of Optometry, Pacific University, Forest Grove, Ore.

During World War II, he was director of the eye department of the Sperry Gyroscope Company, Great Neck, N.Y. Dr. Feinberg began his career as an optometrist in private practice in New York City, where he was one of the pioneers in the use of contact lenses. A graduate of the University of Rochester, in optometry, Dr. Feinberg received his Ph.D. from Purdue University.

Dr. Feinberg's hobbies are music and photography. His photographs have won several honors in NIH Camera Club competitions and a best-in-show award in the 1977 Rehoboth art league photography show. In retirement, he intends to devote more time to these interests, and plans to travel, write, and lecture.

Spring Choral Concert to Feature NIH Singers

A spring concert of a *cappella* choral music will be presented on Wednesday, May 23, at noon in the Masur Auditorium.

The NIH Singers, directed by Lewis M. Norton, and the NIH Madrigal Singers, led by Glenn Ricart, will perform compositions by Mendelssohn, Schütz, Bruckner, and others.

All NIH employees, patients, and their guests are invited to attend this R&W-sponsored event.

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NCI to Present EEO Awards At Wednesday Forum

The National Cancer Institute's First Annual EEO awards will be presented at NCI's Wednesday forum. The meeting will be held May 30, the fifth Wednesday, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Thomas E. Malone, NIH Deputy Director. Dr. Guy R. Newell, NCI deputy director, will serve as master of ceremonies. Dr. Arthur C. Upton, NCI Director, will present Special Achievement Awards to three outstanding individuals for their contributions to the NCI Equal Employment Opportunity Program.

In addition, past EEO Advisory Group members will be recognized.

Digestive Diseases No Laughing Matter

Dr. Thomas P. Almy, a Dartmouth Medical School professor who has just completed 2 years of service on the National Commission on Digestive Diseases, is urging that Americans stop viewing with "inappropriate humor" the massive problems associated with digestive disease in the United States.

18 Million Affected

Digestive diseases are the third most costly illness in the U.S. and affect 18 million Americans. Yet, these diseases are being seriously neglected, said the national commission and Dr. Almy.

The commission found that the Nation now spends less than \$100 million a year on digestive disease research and prevention efforts. In its report, it recommended that Federal agencies increase their digestive disease expenditure by \$56 million in the next fiscal year.

National Voluntary Guidelines Proposed For Use, Manufacture of Sphygmomanometers

An NIH Consensus Development Conference on improving clinical and consumer blood pressure measuring devices has issued a series of proposed national voluntary guidelines for the use and manufacture of sphygmomanometers. Among those taking part in the Apr. 26-27 sessions were representatives of medicine, engineering, consumer groups, and government.

The group agreed that manufacturers should work toward developing an artificial arm on which to test blood pressure measuring devices before marketing them. Any method of testing or evaluation, said the consensus group, must be confirmed by clinical data.

The group discussed an important manufacturing guideline that would require a manufacturer to estimate the performance life of a device before its sale. The proposed guidelines would also require blood pressure measuring devices to have labeling that would state when certain mechanical features should be checked.

On the question of labeling for consumer use, the group recommended that:

- The cuff of the measuring device should be labeled, built, and prominently marked to specify limb diameter or circumference.
- Labeling should be inclusive to cover any potential hazards to the patient, such as an

arm injury due to prolonged use of an over-inflated measuring device.

- The manufacturer's labeling should not indicate how the patient-user should interpret the reading and make it clear that a patient should consult with his physician about his blood pressure reading.

The voluntary guidelines developed at the NIH conference are now being considered by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the National Bureau of Standards.

The consensus development meeting was held because of the recent availability of blood pressure measuring devices to consumers without the existence of specific standards to cover the accuracy and life span of the devices or the way in which the public should use them. Within the past 2 years at drugstores, airports, and other public buildings coin operated devices have been introduced and for the last 3 years "take home" blood pressure kits have been on the market, said conference participants.

The consensus development meeting was sponsored by the American College of Cardiology, the American Medical Association, the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the National Bureau of Standards, and the NHLBI.

Dr. Gardner Appointed NIGMS Prog. Director

Dr. Sara A. Gardner was appointed director of the Pharmacology-Toxicology Program, NIGMS, in April. She succeeds Dr. Byron B. Clark, who has retired. Prior to her appointment, Dr. Gardner was deputy director of the Pharmacology-Toxicology Program.

Dr. Gardner will administer and develop research support designed to learn more about the mechanisms of drug action and the basis of their effects in man.

She predicts that research efforts in pharmacology will become more interdisciplinary and integrated with other areas of biomedical research. During the next year the Pharmacology-Toxicology Program will be planning a series of workshops to explore these areas.

Was Grants Associate

Dr. Gardner began her career at NIH in 1973. After a year as a DRG grants associate, she joined NIGMS as a program administrator in the Pharmacology-Toxicology Program. In that position, Dr. Gardner was responsible for coordinating the Institute's only intramural program, the Pharmacology Research Associate Program, in which 22 postdoctoral fellows were assigned to do research at various NIH Institute laboratories.

A native of San Diego, she received her A.B. degree from San Diego State College in 1960 with honors in chemistry, and her Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Purdue University in 1964.



Dr. Gardner is a member of the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics and the American Society of Biological Chemists.

Following several years of postdoctoral work in neurochemistry and neuropharmacology, she joined the faculty of the department of psychiatry, University of Iowa. In 1973, while on sabbatical from the university, she served as a visiting scientist in the department of biochemistry, Roche Institute of Molecular Biology.

Office Skills Program Accepting Applications

Applications to the Office Skills Career Development Program will continue to be accepted year round, said the Career Development Branch.

The program provides training for employees who desire clerical careers; but are not in clerical positions now.

Selected trainees will receive instruction in typing, English usage, office coping skills, and use of general office equipment. The program's goal is to qualify participants for placement in clerk-typist positions. Experience as a clerk or clerk-typist is not needed in order to apply for the program.

To be eligible an employee:

- Must not be certified as a clerk-typist by the Office of Personnel Management.
- Must be either working as a full-time career or career conditional employee. A permanent part-time employee seeking full-time permanent status will also be eligible.
- Must have worked at NIH for at least 1 year prior to making application; and
- Must be in grades GS 1 to 3 or Wage Grade equivalent.

For further information and a copy of the Office Skills Career Development Program Application Handbook, contact the Career Development Branch, DPM, 496-6211, or stop by Bldg. 31, Rm. B2C-39.

SCD CONSENSUS

(Continued from Page 1)

which has been funded by NIH for the past 5 years and involves 15 medical centers and 23 hospitals.

Also recommended at the meeting was the creation of a study to determine the value of therapeutic versus prophylactic transfusion in the treatment of pregnant sickle cell disease patients. The participants said that any study must cover psychological problems which may arise as a result of transfusion therapy for sickle cell disease patients.

Among those problems that were discussed were the pressures on a patient's family for repeated blood donations and possible intimidation by the community regarding the presence of needle marks, which might be confused with drug addiction. Other problems that were considered were the possibility of a patient developing a psychological dependence on transfusions as his only treatment and the negative effects of the patient's family being overprotective of him.

Conference participants agreed that the presence of hemoglobin-SS, SC, or sickle thalassemia, which constitute the sickle cell disease, should not be the sole justification for either abortion or sterilization. These procedures should be performed on the basis of medical indications and patient desire. In addition, the group said that the medical and legal communities need to be apprised of this consensus.

The sickle cell consensus development was sponsored by NHLBI's Division of Blood Diseases and Resources.

NIH Ham Radio Club 'Speaks to the World'

Some people after their lunch take a walk, others finish reading their newspaper, still others attempt to "speak to the world" through the radio equipment at the NIH Ham Radio Club.

Recently during a noon lunch break, John Bartko, a statistician with NIMH, spoke to another ham operator in Rome, Italy. With the turn of a dial, Dr. Bartko was able to make a 6-hour time difference and thousands of miles distance disappear.

Dr. Bartko is one of 62 members in the ham club that has been active since the early 1960's. Since last December the club has been operating out of a top floor room of Bldg. 11, located just below its large outside antenna.

Dr. Bartko's interest in ham radio operation is shared by Russ Kulp, a mechanical engineer with DES, who along with his wife, Judy, is interested in acquiring the knowledge and enjoying comradery that ham radio operators share with each other.

Last month Dr. Bartko and Mr. Kulp teamed up to pursue their common interest: calling "exotic places" by radio. Their equipment reached out to the legendary tiny south seas island of Pitcairn. Officially, this island is listed as one of the 317 recognized "countries" known to ham operators throughout the world.

Contact with the island is considered to be a prize for any ham operator because it has only one ham operator. He is Tom Christian, a direct descendant of the leader of the mutinous crew from the ship, *The Bounty*.

Besides "ragchewing" or talking with other ham operators, the NIH Radio Amateur Club serves as a major link in the HEW emergency communications network and can serve in any local emergency if needed.

In the early 1960's, the club passed messages between NIH and different cities in Alaska that had been hit by a series of earthquakes. In 1969, the club's image as a valuable asset in any civil disaster was firmly established when it aided in coordinating HEW activities for southern states affected by



Wendell Pugh and club president, Len Aberbach, discuss the club's equipment inventory.

Hurricane Camille.

In June 1977, visiting NINCDS scientist Dr. Knut Baczko from Germany received an emergency medical assistance call from Lima, Peru, for a young boy who had been badly burned. Dr. Baczko purchased the drugs himself and made sure that they got to Peru.

The fun side of ham radio has kept Wendell Pugh, of NIAID, interested over the years. "You never know who you will be talking to," he says. Mr. Pugh has spoken to two famous persons who go by the radio name or "handle" of "King" and "Barry." The two ham operators were King Hussein of Jordan and Arizona U.S. Senator Barry Goldwater.

Locally, the NIH Radio Club is affiliated with Montgomery County's RACES; an acronym for Radio Amateurs Civil Emergency Services and can be used in any local emergency.

The club has the capability to "go to the field" and set up their equipment with power generators. Each year the club invites the public to see them operate their equipment during a weekend emergency exercise. This year's exercise will be held at the multilevel parking garage MLP-6 on June 23-24.

The club possesses equipment that also allows a ham operator to transmit a television signal to any place in the world. The club even has a small conference room that can be used as a television studio for such transmissions.

Some club members like to "moon bounce" radio messages off the moon to other hams. Others like to relay messages through amateur satellites that are presently circling the earth.

"We have animal handlers, engineers, scientists, and physicians," says Len Aberbach, club president for the past 6 years and an active operator since 1934, referring to the diversity of backgrounds among club members. He says that any new member can be helped by other members to pass through the five levels of FCC testing to become fully

qualified to operate the club's equipment and to be familiar with Federal communications procedure. He says that even new members can have a chance to operate the club's equipment while they learn.

Anyone interested in joining the NIH Ham Radio Club can contact Len Aberbach at 496-4131. He says that a dollar a year dues should not "keep anyone away."

Fed'l Agencies Must Support Employee Participation In Nat'l Guard, Reserve

HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano, Jr., recently affirmed his continuing assistance in making good the President's pledge that all Federal agencies will support their employees' participation in the programs of the National Guard and Reserve.

Thomas S. McFee, Assistant Secretary for Personnel Administration, OS, reemphasized the Department's support of employee participation in these programs in a memorandum dated Mar. 26.

He stated, "Although Federal agencies generally recognize that their employees are entitled to 15 days paid military leave each year, supervisors sometimes overlook the fact that most Guardsmen and Reservists also must train at least 1 weekend per month and attend special courses in order to maintain their military proficiency.

"Satisfactory participation in reserve training activities is particularly difficult for employees who work on a rotating shift."

Mr. McFee requested that HEW managers and supervisors support the National Guard and Reserve by facilitating participation by their employees and assuring that career opportunities will not be limited because of membership in the National Guard and Reserve.



Russ Kulp (r) adjusts the radio while Dr. Bartko talks to a fellow "ham" in Rome.

NIH Hosts 16th Annual Meeting Of the European Medical Research Councils

The 16th meeting of the European Medical Research Councils, a standing committee of the European Foundation, was held Apr. 26-27 at NIH and in Washington, D.C. The meeting was held to exchange information on scientific and administrative matters and to further European cooperation in medical research. Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, NIH Director, served as general host and chairman.

European representatives included Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom, as well as observers from Iceland, the World Health Organization and the European Science Foundation. Representatives of the Canadian Medical Research Council also attended the meeting.

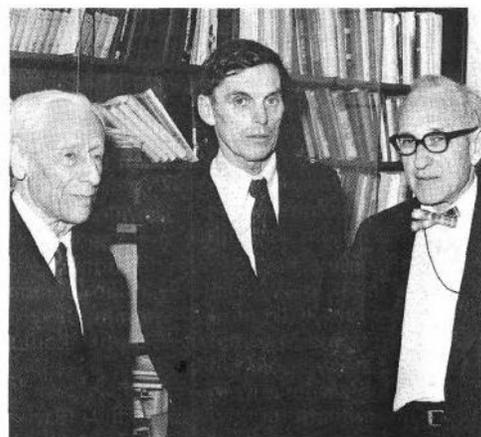
Throughout the day, groups met to discuss the latest research on human reproduction, the economics of health, toxicology, mental illness research, biomedical research, and technology transfer.

Heidelberger Lecture Delivered by Dr. Potter

Dr. Michael Potter of NCI's Division of Cancer Biology and Diagnosis delivered the prestigious Michael Heidelberger Lecture Apr. 25, sponsored by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University.

Dr. Potter joins 17 previous speakers who were chosen to deliver the annual lecture on immunochemistry. The series was named in honor of the 90-year-old Dr. Heidelberger, a pioneer in immunochemistry, who attended the lecture.

In an announcement of the selection, Dr. Elvin A. Kabat, professor of microbiology and of human genetics and development at Columbia said, "Dr. Potter's work on plasma cell tumors has been crucial to the understanding of antibody structure and specificities. His collecting and maintaining of hundreds of these plasmacytomas in inbred mice and his search to identify and study those with various



Dr. Heidelberger (l), meets with Drs. Potter and Kabat (r), before Dr. Potter delivered the 18th Annual Michael Heidelberger Lecture on Immunochemistry at Columbia University.

—Photo by Jerry Liao, Columbia.

As host, NIH provided presentations on the U.S. National Cancer Program, the National Toxicology Program, and the U.S. technology transfer effort. The European scientists also visited the Clinical Center where the clinical research program and Ambulatory Care Research Facility were described.

On the second day, the European scientists were addressed by Dr. David P. Rall, NTP Director and Director of NIEHS, on the problems of toxicology in the world.

Dr. Rall told the group that the National Toxicology Program was established last November by HEW Secretary Califano to coordinate toxicological research and test development and validation within HEW, including components of NIEHS, NCI, FDA, and NIOSH/CDC.

The first annual plan has been completed and sent to the Secretary for his approval, Dr. Rall noted. A second more comprehensive plan is being prepared for submission by Sept. 1.

antibody specificities have provided an invaluable resource for investigators throughout the world."

Dr. Potter, head of the Immunochemistry Section of the Laboratory of Cell Biology, is the second NCI scientist honored as a Heidelberger lecturer. Dr. Thomas W. Waldman, chief of the Metabolism Branch, was chosen in 1976.

VISITING SCIENTIST PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

4/23—**Dr. Yasuhiro Okada**, Japan, Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Stuart Aaronson, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 1A07.

4/23—**Dr. Stefan Zawadzki**, Poland, Section on Macromolecules. Sponsor: Dr. Joseph Pitha, NIA, Gerontology Research Center, BCH, Baltimore, Md.

4/30—**Dr. Philip Tempest**, UK, Laboratory of Environmental Mutagenesis. Sponsor: Dr. John Drake, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, NC.

4/30—**Dr. Haruaki Warabi**, Japan, Laboratory of Developmental Biology and Anomalies. Sponsor: Dr. Elliott Schiffman, NIDR, Bg. 30, Rm. 410.

5/1—**Dr. Hideki Ito**, Japan, Clinical Physiology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. George Roth, NIA, Gerontology Research Center, BCH, Baltimore, Md.

5/1—**Dr. Nirbhay Kumar**, India, Laboratory of Biochemistry. Sponsor: Dr. Martin Flavin, NHLBI, Bg. 3, Rm. 125.

5/1—**Dr. Daniela Seminara**, Italy, Laboratory of Chemistry. Sponsor: Dr. Cornelius Glaudemans, NIAMDD, Bg. 4, Rm. 205.

5/1—**Dr. Maria DeSouza**, Brazil, Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases. Sponsor: Dr. Franklin Neva, NIAID, Bg. 5, Rm. 116.

"The magnitude of the problem we face in toxicology testing is reflected in the observation that, of 20,000 chemicals in commercial production, only about 500 have been studied adequately to determine whether they pose any health hazard to those who will come in contact with them," Dr. Rall said.

Several European representatives were invited to attend hearings involving legislation introduced on many of NIH's biomedical research programs. The hearings were conducted by the Senate Labor and Human Resources Subcommittee on Health and Scientific Research, under the chairmanship of Sen. Edward M. Kennedy.

The scientists also were invited to hold part of its session at the Institute of Medicine, where Dr. David Hamburg presided over an exchange of views on health research principles. This was the subject of a U.S. conference held in October 1978 at NIH, the results of which have been reviewed by the Institute of Medicine.

Dr. M. H. Gordon, Former NCI Branch Chief, Dies

Dr. Mordecai H. Gordon, who retired from NCI in 1976, died of a heart ailment on May 2. At the time of his retirement, he was chief of the Review and Referral Branch, Division of Cancer Research Resources and Centers.

Dr. Gordon joined NIH in 1959 as staff adviser in the Perinatal Research Program of the then National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness. From 1961 to 1962 he served as executive secretary of the Mental Health Study Section, Research Grants Review Branch, DRG. He then joined the Research Grants and Fellowship Branch, NIMH. In 1964, he returned to DRG as deputy chief of the Research Grants and Fellowship Branch.

He later served as assistant director, Review and Referral Staff, Office of Extramural Programs, Office of the Surgeon General, PHS. And in 1969, Dr. Gordon returned to NIH when he was named program director for Epidemiology Award, Review and Technical Administration, NCI.

Dr. Gordon received his B.S. in English from New York University, an M.A. in education of the mentally handicapped from Columbia University, and his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Tennessee.

Prior to joining NIH in 1959, he held several positions in clinical psychology, including chief of the Clinical Psychology Service at the VA Psychiatric Hospital in Iowa.

Survivors include his wife, Edna, Kensington, Md.; a daughter, Joan Gordon, Iowa City, Iowa; a sister, Leah Bernstein, Huntington Woods, Mich.; and two brothers, David, Larchmont, N.Y., and Harry H., Mamaroneck, N.Y.

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Antihypertensive Drug Reserpine Causes Cancer in Mice, Rats

Reserpine, a prescription drug used to lower blood pressure, has been found to cause three kinds of cancer in rats and mice in a feeding study conducted by NCI's Carcinogenesis Testing Program.

A draft report on the reserpine study, was reviewed earlier this month at a public meeting of the Clearinghouse on Environmental Carcinogens, an NCI advisory committee.

Scientists generally agree that a substance found to be carcinogenic in animals must be regarded as a probable carcinogen for humans, but the level of risks for humans in commonly used therapeutic levels cannot be established. In the case of reserpine, a dozen reports analyzing human experience have focused on its possible association with cancer. Several reported an association between reserpine use and breast cancer in women, while others failed to find such an association.

NHLBI and NCI scientists noted that the risk to life from untreated hypertension—from stroke, heart disease, and kidney failure—far exceeds the potential risk of breast cancer. They advised that discontinuing the drug without alternate hypertensive therapy under the guidance of a physician is strongly discouraged. If a patient receiving reserpine is concerned, he or she should discuss the matter with his or her physician to consider changing to an alternative drug to achieve the same measure of blood pressure control.

Results of the carcinogenesis bioassay have been forwarded to the FDA and other regulatory agencies and to the data monitoring and policy boards of the clinical trials conducted under the auspices of NHLBI. These trials use reserpine in some patients as a part of anti-hypertensive treatment. Results of the existing studies will be considered in the light of the clinical experience with the drug, its therapeutic benefits, and the features of alternative drugs which may be used in place of reserpine.

In the bioassay, female mice fed reserpine developed breast cancers, male mice developed cancers of a reproductive gland, and male rats developed adrenal gland tumors. Reserpine was not carcinogenic for female rats.

Reserpine is a pure crystalline alkaloid from the root of *Rauwolfia serpentina*, a shrub native to the Orient. Introduced in 1954 as the first of the tranquilizers, it was soon largely replaced by more effective agents, but quickly became one of the most widely used anti-hypertensive drugs in the late 1950's and early 1960's.

As other antihypertensive agents with more potent effects and fewer side effects became

available, reserpine came to have a less important place in treatment of high blood pressure. It is not the first drug used in the "stepcare treatment" of high blood pressure recommended by the National High Blood Pressure Education Program, but is one of the "second step" drugs which may be used to improve the control of hypertension. Many millions of patients have taken reserpine, and it is believed that more than a million hypertensive Americans currently take this drug.

No U.S. production data are available for reserpine because it is derived almost exclusively from natural sources. According to a reviewed by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) an estimated 200,000 kilograms (440,000 pounds) of reserpine for use in human medicine are sold annually in this country. Medication for hypertension is usually on a lifetime basis. At least 18 U.S. companies, including most of the major firms, market reserpine in tablet form, alone or in combination with diuretics.

The first suggestion that reserpine might be linked to increased risk of breast cancer was raised during analysis of routine drug monitoring data in the Boston Collaborative Drug Study. Results of this study and of two others reporting similar findings, one in the United Kingdom and one in Finland, were published together in *Lancet* in 1974.

In response to these reports, an ad hoc committee appointed by the HEW Secretary examined available epidemiological and animal data with the drug, the epidemiology of breast cancer, and the epidemiology of hypertension. The epidemiological studies and other relevant data have also been examined by other groups, such as the data monitoring committees of clinical trials of NHLBI in which reserpine was one of the antihypertensive drugs.

Clinical data were interpreted to show a possible increased risk of breast cancer for women receiving reserpine, with a relative risk of a low order, perhaps on the order of 1.5 or 2.0, compared to controls; others felt that the true risk ratio was lower. Some evidence suggested that the risk was higher in older women with long-term use who were overweight. But in assessing these studies, none of these reviews or advisory groups recommended discontinuing reserpine use.

A later review by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, presented at the International Symposium on Epidemiological Evaluation of Drugs held in Milan, Italy, in May 1977, concluded that a risk ratio of 1 to 1.5 existed for women on reserpine for moderately severe hypertension, but that the relationship between hypotensive agents and breast cancer "is very unlikely to be one of cause and effect."

In January 1979, however, IARC again reviewed the data, which by then included six more studies. This report concluded that taken together, the studies give considerable support to the proposition that long-term use of reserpine increases risk for breast cancer by some 50 to 100 percent.

Grants Associates Nominations Being Taken

The Office of Grants Associates is accepting applications for its 1979-80 grants associates weekly seminar series tentatively set to begin Sept. 17. The seminars will run for 9 months and generally will be held Monday mornings.

As in previous series, a limited number of other scientists will be accepted.

Topics to be discussed will be: the Federal Government—DHEW, NIH, other agencies; the legislative and budget processes; policy and ethical considerations in biomedical and behavioral research—protection of human subjects, conflicts of interest; NIH extramural programs—funding mechanisms, awards; and program planning and evaluation.

Deadline is June 25

Anyone interested should forward a curriculum vitae and requests through their immediate supervisor to the B/I/D Director. In making final nominations, B/I/D Directors should submit no more than two names accompanied by the nominees' curricula vitae to the Office of Grants Associates, DRG, Bldg. 31, Rm. 1A-10, no later than COB Monday, June 25.

Final selections will be made by Dr. William Raub, NIH Associate Director for Extramural Research and Training. All nominees whose curricula vitae reach the OGA through B/I/D Directors by June 25, 1979, will be notified of final action in late August.

Form 350 Requested

Those selected will be asked to submit a completed Form HEW-350 (DHEW Training Nomination and Authorization) to the Office of Grants Associates before the series begins. This will serve as official approval and will permit selectees to obtain training credit (a minimum of 150 hours). A request to participate carries a commitment of regular attendance through the entire series.

For further information, contact A. Robert Polcari, executive secretary, Office of Grants Associates, 496-1736.

NIAID Viral Hepatitis Program Seeks Adult Volunteers

The NIAID Viral Hepatitis Program is seeking healthy adult volunteers from the NIH scientist administrator staff to participate in clinical evaluation of experimental hepatitis B vaccines. Different preparations of the subunit vaccine will be tested.

In previous tests, inactivated hepatitis B vaccines were shown to be safe and effective in chimpanzees, and safe, but poorly immunogenic, in man. The current studies will examine the safety and effectiveness of adjuvant-treated vaccines in boosting antibody response in humans.

For additional information, contact Dr. Vincent McAuliffe or Dr. Robert Purcell, Hepatitis Viruses Section, Laboratory of Infectious Diseases, 496-6227.

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Chevy Chase Woman's Club Discusses Custody of Children

A discussion on New Perspectives on Child Custody will be the subject at the annual meeting of the Community Psychiatric Clinic on Wednesday, May 23, at the Woman's Club of Chevy Chase, 7931 Connecticut Ave., Chevy Chase, Md., at 8 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.