Dr. Goldberger Selected for Top Science Post

NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson has announced his intention to appoint Dr. Robert F. Goldberger as NIH Deputy Director for Science.

The Deputy Director for Science is primarily responsible for coordination of the NIH intramural program, one of the largest research operations in the world, with more than 2,000 biomedical and behavioral scientists working in NIH laboratories in Bethesda, at the Research Triangle in North Carolina, and at satellite locations throughout the country.

Dr. Goldberger has served as a research scientist at NIH for 18 years. For the past 6 years, he has been chief of the Laboratory of Biochemistry in the National Cancer Institute's Division of Cancer Biology and Diagnosis.

"Dr. Goldberger has developed a highly productive laboratory staff and has gained widespread recognition for the research accomplishments of the laboratory," said Dr. Fredrickson.

"He has just the right combination of qualities to help us make the most of the splendid opportunities and to cope with the sizable problems facing biomedical and behavioral research institutions today," he added.

Dr. Goldberger was given the HEW Superior Service Award in 1973, and the Public Health Service Meritorious Service Medal in 1977 for his research contributions.

He received his A.B. degree from Harvard University in 1954, and his M.D. from New York College of Medicine in 1958. After his internship at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York, he was for 2 years a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Wisconsin's Institute for Enzyme Research.

In 1961 he joined NIH, where he has served with distinction as a research scientist in the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, and the National Cancer Institute.

He has authored more than 70 important publications in biochemistry and edited four volumes in his field of research.

Dr. Goldberger replaces Dr. DeWitt Stetten, Jr., who has served as NIH Deputy Director for Science since 1974, and was recently named Senior Scientific Advisor to the NIH Director.
Instrumentation Symposium To Be Held Oct. 3-5

The NIH Instrumentation Symposium, sponsored by the Biomedical Engineering and Instrumentation Branch, Division of Research Services, will be held at the Masur Auditorium, Wednesday through Friday, Oct. 3-5, with daily sessions from 9:30 a.m. to noon and from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

Topics to be discussed will include: Positron Tomographic Scanning, Particle Separation Techniques, Physical Methods for Structure Determination, Picosecond Spectroscopy in Biology, Modern Microscopy, and Applications of Energy-Loss Spectroscopy.

Registration is not required. For programs or further information, call 496-3771.

New Merit Pay System Final Orientation Is Oct. 12

Are you a GS-13, -14, or -15 who supervises at least one subordinate? Are you a CO or SES who supervises a GS-13, -14, or -15 supervisor? Then it's to your advantage to attend an orientation on the new merit pay system.

If you missed the last two, the final orientation will be held on Friday, Oct. 12, at 10 a.m., in the Masur Auditorium.

Two Cultural Events Mark NCI's Hispanic Heritage Week

The EEO Office of the National Cancer Institute is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Week with two cultural events. Louis Nunez, Executive Director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, will speak on Hispanics and Civil Rights at noon on Wednesday, Sept. 26, in the Masur Auditorium.

The film, "Our Hispanic Heritage," will be shown at noon on Monday, Sept. 24, in the Masur Auditorium. Local area students will view the documentary.

For further information, call 496-6266.

Work Schedules May Be Adjusted For Religious Observances

When the personal religious beliefs of an employee require absence from work during the workday or workweek, Public Law 95-390—enacted Sept. 29, 1978—provides that the employee may be granted compensatory time off rather than having to use annual leave or leave without pay.

In these situations, the employee is permitted to make up the time off by working compensatory overtime either before or after the absence for religious observance. Additional information concerning this law is available from B/1/D personnel offices and the Employee Relations and Recognition Branch, DPM.

Hispanic Heritage Celebrated This Week

National Hispanic Heritage Week is being celebrated this week through Sept. 21, with all morning programs beginning at 11:30 in the Masur Auditorium.

Today (Tuesday, Sept. 18) Gale W. McGee, U.S. Ambassador to the Organization of American States, will speak on the Changing Inter-American Scene—Current Issues.

Wednesday, Sept. 19, Dr. Leonardo Balada, Carnegie-Mellon University, will discuss Contributions of Contemporary Music by Hispanic Composers.

Thursday, Sept. 20, contemporary Caribbean-American music will be presented.

Friday, Sept. 21, a movie on U.S.-Hispanic heritage with narration by Orson Welles will be shown.

On Friday evening, at 7:30 in the Masur Auditorium, lively music, songs, and dances from different Hispanic heritages will be featured.

Boating Safety Class Offered

An adult and children's boating safety and seamanship class will be offered by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 17, on Tuesday, Sept. 25, at 7:30 p.m., Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 4.

The course is 13 sessions long; however, more advanced students may take the certification examination after only 7 classes. The courses will emphasize power boating, and will include instruction in the basic principles of piloting, seamanship, boating safety, and laws and regulations.

For further information, call Stewart Wright, 496-7513.

Blood From Tay-Sachs Carriers Needed for Screening Program

Sera and white blood cell samples from persons who are Tay-Sachs carriers are urgently needed by the Developmental and Metabolic Branch, National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke, as controls for its Tay-Sachs screening program. Volunteers should call Jane Quirk, 496-5265, in Bldg. 10, Rm. 30-07.

A screening for carriers of the disease will be sponsored by the National Capital Tay-Sachs Foundation on Sunday, Nov. 18. For an appointment, call 279-5878.

Under a Lot of Stress Lately? Relaxation Exercises Taught

A series of four half-hour relaxation exercises is being offered again by the Employee Assistance Program mental health counselor for employees who missed the earlier series in January and for those who wish to repeat it.

The first series was an extension of a Stress and Coping seminar, and the exercises are one of the most effective means of handling stress.

The meetings will be held in Bldg. 13, Conf. Rm. G313, on Tuesdays, Oct. 9, 16, 23, and 30, from noon to 12:30 p.m.

No special clothing is required, and everyone is welcome.
Fogarty Scholar Dr. Monier Talks About His Stay at NIH
And Current Research in Oncogenic Virology

Visiting NIH this summer as a Fogarty Scholar-in-Residence was Dr. Roger Monier, Director of the Scientific Research Institute on Cancer at Villejuif, France.

An expert in oncogenic virology (the study of viruses which can cause tumors), Dr. Monier came here to further collaboration between his Institute and NIH, specifically to plan future projects and exchanges of personnel. The 3-month respite from his duties in France also allowed him to “do all the reading I don’t normally have time for,” he said.

Dr. Monier’s Institute, which is the leading cancer research center in France, and NIH have collaborated for some time, he said, and “these exchanges have been very helpful.” Several NIH laboratories are working on the same virus system, simian virus 40, that the scientists at Villejuif are investigating.

SV40 is widely studied because it’s a simple virus that has a limited amount of genetic information incorporated into a small DNA molecule, the sequence of which has been determined, said Dr. Monier.

Virus Serves as Model

“It provides a model for studying the way by which a single gene of a virus controls the tumor state—the transformed state—of cells in culture.” (In transformation, viral genes are integrated into the cellular genome, thereby causing a normal cell to become tumorous.)

Scientists can make mutants of SV40, he explained, and study the molecular biology of the virus in detail to understand what its genes are doing and what the proteins made by the virus are doing in the host cell.

Researchers are progressing in their understanding of this, according to Dr. Monier. They are investigating proteins that work on cellular mechanisms in ways that may be similar to the way in which the transforming gene of RNA tumor viruses may be working.

Anticancer Drug May Cause Cancer, NCI Tests Show

Animal tests of two chemicals for carcinogenicity showed that one of the chemicals caused cancer, while the other had no activity, the National Cancer Institute reported recently.

Dimethyl terephthalate, a monomer used in the synthesis of polyester fiber, did not cause cancer in the test animals. The anticancer drug procarcabine, however, was carcinogenic in laboratory rats and mice.

Benefits Outweigh Risks

A growing body of evidence indicates that some drugs used to treat cancers may themselves cause cancer years later, NCI explained in releasing the test results. This evidence comes mainly from long-term followup of the increasing number of cancer patients treated effectively.

The benefits of the anticancer drugs outweigh the possible risk of new cancers developing in a small proportion of long-term survivors, said NCI. Procarcabine and other compounds are nonetheless being studied for carcinogenicity so that drugs with lower cancer-causing potential can be used in cancer treatment whenever possible.

The animal tests were conducted as part of NCI’s Carcinogenesis Testing Program. Chemicals that cause cancer in laboratory rats and mice are generally considered carcinogenic in humans.

Reports on the two tests performed, listed as T.R. 121 and T.R. 19, are available from the Office of Cancer Communications, NCI, Bethesda, Md. 20205.

Life Expectancy in
U.S. Increases

A baby born in this country today can be expected to live more than 73 years on the average, while a baby born in 1900 could be expected to live only 47 years.

Safe Emptied During CC Cafeteria Robbery

An armed holdup man and an accomplice allegedly threatened the life of the female manager of the Clinical Center’s CSI cafeteria, when they forced her to open a safe in a rear office, at 6:45 a.m., on Thursday, Sept. 6.

The robbery occurred just after the cafeteria opened to serve breakfast. The holdup men asked to see the manager and were led to the office. Once inside, one of the men pulled out a handgun and pointed it at the manager, telling her to open the office safe or she would be killed, say police.

No one was hurt during the incident, and there were no shots fired. After the safe was opened, the men removed an undisclosed amount of money and fled out a rear exit.

The NIH Protection and Security Management Branch, who is investigating the case, is asking for anyone with information to call them at 496-3211.
'Lady Vet' Is Former Summer Worker

Dr. Wright listens to a foxhound's heartbeat during his regular physical, while Charles D. Hatcherson, (1 rear), a technician, and Kent A. Hevner, unit supervisor, hold the dog. Animal caretaker Harry Musgrove looks on.

There are not many former NIH summer employees who return to the office where they worked as its unit chief. Dr. Karen D. Wright of the Comparative Medicine Unit, Veterinary Resources Branch, Division of Research Services, returned in June to the unit where she has previously worked as a summer worker.

Dr. Wright does not have an ordinary research job, she is a veterinarian, who graduated in May from Tuskegee Institute's School of Veterinary Medicine. Today, she supervises the care and selection of a variety of research animals that include: dogs, cats, pigs who weigh in at 300 pounds, and goats. These animals are used as models for the study of human diseases.

Previously, Dr. Wright worked several summers in the branch's surgical unit and in the unit that she now heads. Each day, the 25-year-old veterinarian makes her rounds at Bldg. 28's kennels and runs that house the laboratory animals, making sure that the animals are well taken care of and that all diet and feeding instructions left by research investigators have been followed.

Dr. Wright takes her veterinary responsibilities seriously, "I've taken an oath to protect these animals," assuring that all Federal laws and NIH guidelines regarding the care and use of experimental animals are being followed.

Although only with the unit a short time, Dr. Wright says that she sees the importance of her unit's work each day. Clinical Center physicians and other B/1/D investigators come to Bldg. 28 to conduct research on animals to find answers to questions for which there are no known cures for humans today.

Most laboratory research animals are bred for the purpose of research only, says Dr. Wright.

The dogs and pigs are used for a variety of cardiovascular surgical protocols. Many of the research dogs are foxhounds, because investigators have found them to be hardy animals with a deep chest that is well suited for cardiovascular research.

The research animals that are to have a surgical procedure performed on them are supported through an extensive animal blood donor colony located in Poolesville. This colony provides whole blood to research animals during surgery. This blood reserve enables them to survive their surgery and to have a speedy recovery during their postoperative convalescence. Eventually, many of these animals are returned to Bldg. 28, where throughout their lives their health is monitored.

Among the animals being studied are large black Newfoundland dogs which were born with congenital heart disease, subaortic stenosis, a condition that also exists in human beings. Researchers are trying to find out if there is any relationship between these dogs and the condition found in man.

Another dog that researchers are looking at is the Alaskan malamute. These furry arctic animals have the same genes that are associated with chondrodysplasia, or human dwarfism.

While inspecting their cages, Dr. Wright deftly pushes aside two friendly 300-pound Yucatan pigs that are being studied for hypertension. Previously, other swine were used in research for the effects of high cholesterol and fats in their diet for developing atherosclerosis. The animals proved to be a suitable model for further study of this common human disease.

Skin graft surgeons are also studying the use of pig skin in the development of skin grafts that will have a lower rejection rate when applied to human subjects. There are also other experiments under way in Bldg. 28 to study the pathogenesis of influenza in swine.

From the time she was a child, Dr. Wright says, she was "curious about animals" and collected frogs and lizards and "kept them in a suitable environment." She says her mother used to tell her that when she grew up she would change her mind about being a veterinarian.

A goat used in the study of Tyzzer's disease is held by animal caretaker James Law while Dr. Wright observes his condition.

Dr. Wright pulls her instrument cart along after visiting one of her "patients."
Buy Tickets Early For Fall Cultural Events

The NIH R&W Association has released its list of upcoming cultural events for the fall theatrical season. These events include:

- The New York City Ballet will perform at the Kennedy Center on Wednesday, Oct. 10. The featured dancer will be Mikhail Baryshnikov. A first balcony seat will cost $16.50.
- Shakespeare’s “The Winter Tale” will be enacted at the Arena Stage on Saturday, Oct. 17. The $12.50 price will include a bus trip.
- The Dresden State Orchestra will play at the Kennedy Center on Friday, Oct. 16. The $12.50 ticket cost will include music by Wagner, Brahms, and Beethoven.
- Chinese acrobats of Taiwan will perform at the Warner Theater on Wednesday, Nov. 21. Orchestra seats are $9.90.
- “Daisy Mayme,” starring Jean Stapleton, will be at the Kennedy Center on Wednesday, Nov. 28. Orchestra seats are $13.50.
- The New York City Ballet will perform at the Kennedy Center on Monday, Jan. 7. Front orchestra seats are available at $16.50.
- Jury’s “Irish Cabaret” will be performed at the Kennedy Center on Friday, Jan. 11. Front orchestra seats are $9.90.
- “You Can’t Take It With You,” by George S. Kaufman, will be at the Arena Stage on Wednesday, Jan. 23. The $12.50 cost includes bus transportation.

There is a 50-cent service charge for all of these events. Advance payment must be made to reserve tickets for employees.

Many well-known biologists will speak at conference on origins of Chloroplasts

The Origins of Chloroplasts will be the subject of an international conference to be held at NIH Oct. 3-5. The meeting will be sponsored by the Science and Education Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and the Fogarty International Center. It will cover such topics as plasts and their precursors, the origin and evolution of plastid proteins, the origin and evolution of chloroplast metabolism, and molecular biology and control of plastid development. Chloroplasts are organelles found in plant cells. They contain extranuclear DNA which codes for many cell constituents needed for photosynthesis. Thus, they are important for the capture of solar energy.

Organizers of the conference are Dr. Roger Stanier, a microbiologist on the staff of the Pasteur Institute and a former Fogarty Scholar-in-Residence, and Dr. Jerome Schiff, Director of the Institute of Photobiology at Brandeis University. The Bergey Award will be presented to Dr. Stanier at the meeting in honor of his outstanding contributions to bacterial taxonomy.

Many well-known biologists working in plant genetics, molecular biology, and biochemistry will speak at the conference, which will be held in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 10. For further information, call the FIC, 496-4627.

‘Know Your Body’ Child Health Education Program Will Be Discussed at International Conference

An international conference on the Know Your Body child health education program will be held in the HEW North Auditorium on Thursday, Sept. 27, at 2 p.m. Sponsored by the National Cancer Institute and the American Health Foundation, the meeting will include reports on the program’s success in various countries, and will provide an exchange of data from physical examinations of children in each country. This information will help health professionals determine which health problems are most severe worldwide.

The Know Your Body program, which is supported by NCI and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, offers a personalized approach to health education for children ages 6-14. The program focuses on preventive medicine by having children undergo a yearly physical examination or “screening test.” These exams not only provide the opportunity for early detection of risks for future illnesses, but also give health professionals a chance to educate children about the dangers associated with known health risk factors, including smoking, drug and alcohol abuse, and poor nutrition. More than 12,000 children have been screened.

The program encourages children to develop responsibility for their own health maintenance. At their first screening, children receive a “health passport” in which they record information about illnesses, vaccinations, and exposure to risk factors. Officials hope the passport, which is an abbreviated medical history, will teach children the importance of monitoring and maintaining their health.

The conference, called the International Know Your Body Program: An International Conference on Health Education, will include recognition of approximately 55 children who will be in Washington as winners of the Know Your Body photo contest. The winning posters will be displayed at HEW during the meeting.

September 18, 1979

Page 5
Synthesis of Biologically Active Peptides Is Major Topic of Symposium

A major conference on peptide chemistry and biology was held recently at the School of Medicine and Dentistry of Georgetown University. More than 500 scientists from 20 foreign countries and the U.S. attended the Sixth American Peptide Symposium. The conference was organized by Dr. Erhard Gross, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Several scientists at NIH, including Dr. Elliott Schiffmann, NIDR; Dr. Candace Pert, NIMH; and Drs. Irwin Chaiken, Jerry Gardner, and Jesse Roth, NIAMDD, spoke at the meeting.

The symposium was supported by funds from NIH, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration, and by donations from foundations and industry.

A major feature of the conference, according to Dr. Gross, was discussion on creating amino acid assemblies in the laboratory, by means of recombinant DNA techniques, in order to make specific biologically active peptides more widely available for medical treatment and research.

Elucidating procedures used in the purification of peptides and their proper chemical, physical, or biological characterization was another important topic at the meeting, Dr. Gross said.

Peptides are relatively small chains of amino acids. While early studies on peptides date back to the last century, it is only in recent years that scientists have begun to understand the important role they play in the control of physiological events in the animal and plant kingdoms. Human growth, reproduction, and other physiological events have been shown to be dependent upon peptides.

For example, it was discovered 5 years ago that in the brain a group of peptides has the same pain-killing and other physiological effects as opium-derived drugs such as morphine. These opioid peptides play an important role in the internal mediation of pain.

Many hormones are peptides, and it has only recently been discovered that another group of peptides—hormone releasing factors—play an important role in regulating the availability of certain hormones in the body such as thyrotropin, the hormone of the thyroid gland. Many events in reproductive biology are dependent upon peptides controlling the release of appropriate hormones at the proper intervals.

Other peptide hormones include insulin and the hormone responsible for regulating body growth. Natural sources of these hormones, which are needed to treat diabetes and various growth disorders, are limited and very expensive. Attempts by peptide chemists to chemically synthesize insulin, growth hormone, and other biologically active peptide hormones were described at the symposium. These efforts have not yet proven to be economically feasible.

According to Dr. Gross, the conference was optimistic that in the future scientists will be able to produce biologically active peptides such as growth hormone and insulin using techniques based on the recombinant of DNA.
'Sleep and Dreams' Topic of Tonight's Lecture at Clinical Center

Tonight's lecture, Sleep and Dreams, the second in the 12-week series, Medicine for the Layman, will be presented by Dr. J. Christian Gillin.

Dr. Gillin's presentation will be on rapid eye movement (REM) and sleep disorders such as insomnia and its possible remedies. He will also discuss narcolepsy, excessive daytime sleepiness, and evening sleepwalking.

Next Tuesday evening, Sept. 25, Dr. Reubin Andres will discuss Aging: What Happens and Why. He will talk about the aging process, the search for longevity, and the most recent theories for prolonging life.

All of the series lectures are held on Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium.

A question-and-answer period will follow each lecture, and free pamphlets and brochures are available.

For a copy of the schedule, call the Clinical Center Office of Clinical Reports and Inquiries, 496-2563.

NIH Women's Golf Ass'n Ends Regular Season; Plans Outing, Awards Banquet

Jean and George Russell monopolized the low net scores in the NIH Women's Golf Association Opens. They won first and second prizes on June 27 and again on July 31. Shirley Aud placed third at the June Open, while Sue Hamilton and Marguerite Caruso won the blind bogey prizes. Dorothy Viener was the other low net prize winner in July, and Rose Shreiber collected for blind bogey.

The Opens, an innovation this season, gave the players an opportunity to golf with members of other flights. The August Open, scheduled for the 27th, was rained out.

The regular season ended Sept. 15, but a golf outing at Martinarborfronte Inn at St. Michaels, Md., is scheduled for the Columbus Day weekend.

The R&W-sponsored Association will hold its awards banquet at Bish Thompson's on Oct. 11. In addition to awarding of trophies and prizes, the election committee headed by Dr. Marie Nylen will announce the 1980 officers and the members will vote on amendments to the constitution and bylaws.

The 1979 officers are: president, Constance Percy; secretary, Dr. Nylen; treasurer, Anne Proctor; and scorer, Toni Dunlap.

Dr. Marston Given 'Excellent' Rating

Dr. Robert Q. Marston, president of the University of Florida since August 1974, has been given an “excellent” performance rating by the Board of Regents following a mandatory 5-year evaluation.

He was commended especially for "the increase in the number of merit scholars attracted to the University and the significant increase in private support the University has received during President Marston's tenure."

Before becoming UF president, Dr. Marston was Director of NIH from 1968 to 1973.

September 18, 1979

The NIH Record
Model for Setting Priorities For Library Services Proposed at Conference

A paper proposing a model for setting priorities for library services was presented by W. Davenport Robertson, librarian at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Research Triangle Park, N.C., at the Special Libraries Association's 70th annual conference. The First Worldwide Conference on Special Libraries was held recently in Honolulu, Hawaii.

The paper was based on data gathered through questionnaires distributed at NIEHS and two other research facilities in Research Triangle Park: EPA and Burroughs Wellcome Company, a pharmaceutical company. In the questionnaires, researchers and science administrators were asked to rank the priority of 11 different library services.

The model proposed in the paper groups the 11 library services into three clusters of importance. Researchers' analysis of priorities closely matched that expressed by librarians at the research facilities.

One of the key motivations in preparing the paper was to find a sound basis for budgeting.

Highest priorities were assigned to journal purchases, computerized literature searches, interlibrary loans, and book and technical report purchases. Middle priority included other reference and information services, circulation, cataloging, and in-house photocopying. Lowest priority was assigned to physical facilities, newsletters, and audiovisual material and equipment purchase.

George Miles, Safety Specialist, Retires

George Miles, senior safety specialist with the Occupational Safety and Health Activities Section, Division of Research Services, retired Aug. 25, with 37 years of Government service.

He spent the last 15 years with the NIH Safety Office working on fire safety improvements. Prior to that, he served as safety program specialist for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, where he lectured on the radiation risks of nuclear energy.

Mr. Miles spent his first 16 years of Federal service as a civilian employee of the Navy Department, where he was responsible for fire prevention activities.

Honored for Performance

In each of the last 2 years, Mr. Miles received outstanding performance evaluations from his superiors, and upon his announcement of his retirement, received a letter commending him for his accomplishments in working with NIH's different Institutes in getting them to adopt principles of sound fire prevention.

In addition to professional and personal recognition, Mr. Miles has also received widespread praise from antique gun collectors. He is a master craftsman who has reproduced several models of antique flintlock weapons that have been exhibited widely.

NCI Scientist Goes to China

As Part of US-PRC Exchange

Dr. Li is one of the first of 12 American scientists selected under a senior scholar award exchange program to do cancer research in China this year.

Dr. Frederick P. Li, NCI Clinical Epidemiology Branch, is one of the first U.S. scientists to study the causes of cancer in the People's Republic of China, under a senior scholar award exchange program sponsored by the Committee on Scholarly Communication (CSCPRC) and the Chinese Scientific and Technical Association.

Dr. Li left for China on Aug. 20, and will stay there until the end of November. His wife, E. L. Shiang, who is also a physician, will be working with him on clinical-epidemiologic studies of cancer, including family clusters of esophageal cancer and maps of cancer mortality among communes.

He is among 15 scholars selected to begin research in China during 1979. Dr. Li was chosen on the basis of a nationwide competition among investigators who submitted research proposals. The CSCPRC project is sponsored jointly by the National Academy of Sciences, the Social Science Research Council, and the American Council of Learned Societies.


The report pointed out the need for epidemiologic study of nasopharyngeal and liver cancers in South China, esophageal cancer in North China, and trophoblastic cancer throughout the country. These cancers occur far more frequently in China than in the U.S.

Dr. Li will be working primarily at the Cancer Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Medical Science in Beijing (Peking). He is planning field visits to cancer registries and treatment centers in Shanghai, Nanjing (Nanking), Guangzhou (Canton), and Lixinian County, to evaluate patients and population groups whose medical histories may provide clues to the environmental or hereditary risk factors associated with specific cancers.

Drawing of George Miles by Al Laoang

George Miles, senior safety specialist with the Occupational Safety and Health Activities Section, Division of Research Services, retired Aug. 25, with 37 years of Government service.

He spent the last 15 years with the NIH Safety Office working on fire safety improvements. Prior to that, he served as safety program specialist for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, where he lectured on the radiation risks of nuclear energy.

Mr. Miles spent his first 16 years of Federal service as a civilian employee of the Navy Department, where he was responsible for fire prevention activities.

Honored for Performance

In each of the last 2 years, Mr. Miles received outstanding performance evaluations from his superiors, and upon his announcement of his retirement, received a letter commending him for his accomplishments in working with NIH's different Institutes in getting them to adopt principles of sound fire prevention.

In addition to professional and personal recognition, Mr. Miles has also received widespread praise from antique gun collectors. He is a master craftsman who has reproduced several models of antique flintlock weapons that have been exhibited widely.


The report pointed out the need for epidemiologic study of nasopharyngeal and liver cancers in South China, esophageal cancer in North China, and trophoblastic cancer throughout the country. These cancers occur far more frequently in China than in the U.S.

Dr. Li will be working primarily at the Cancer Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Medical Science in Beijing (Peking). He is planning field visits to cancer registries and treatment centers in Shanghai, Nanjing (Nanking), Guangzhou (Canton), and Lixinian County, to evaluate patients and population groups whose medical histories may provide clues to the environmental or hereditary risk factors associated with specific cancers.

Harold P. Simpson, chief of the Biology and Diagnostic Contracts Section of NCI's Research Contracts Branch, retired on Aug. 31 after 30 years of Government service, including 17 years with NCI. Mr. Simpson served in the U.S. Army and Air Force from 1942 to 1953, followed by a 7-year stint in private industry. He joined the Veterans Administration, and a short time later came to the NIH Research Contracts Branch, transferring to the NCI Research Contract Branch when it was formed in 1971. He plans to spend more time in the garden and on the golf links during retirement.

September 18, 1979

The NIH Record
Dr. Barry Commoner, Energy Expert, To Speak on Sept. 21


Dr. Commoner is professor of environmental science and Director, Center for the Biology of Natural Systems, at Washington University, St. Louis. Currently, Dr. Commoner is investigating the origins and significance of environmental and energy crises, especially in relation to transformations of production technology, and their consequences. He is also looking at environmental carcinogenesis.

His presentation is the second in a series of lectures being sponsored by NIH's Solar Transition Committee. The lecture will be on Friday, Sept. 21, at 10 a.m., in the Masur Auditorium. For further information, call 496-1249.

Don't Use Water Extinguishers on Flammable Liquid Fires
They Spread

---

Keep Children, Poisons Apart—Fact Sheet Tells How

Small children seem to think, "Oh, this looks interesting, I think I'll taste it." As a result, about 100,000 children will swallow substances that will poison them this year.

Those "poisons" include medicines, household cleaners, perfumes and cosmetics, rat killers, liquid polishes and waxes, fertilizers, paint, and plants.

Send Postcard for Copy

So what can you do to protect your children? The Food and Drug Administration has a new fact sheet that offers suggestions for *Keeping Poisons and Children Apart.* For your free copy, send a postcard with your name and address to the Consumer Information Center, Dept. 661G, Pueblo, Colo. 81009.

Start Kayaking—Learn Whitewater Techniques

Kayak lessons are being offered by the NIH Recreation & Welfare Association in conjunction with Washington Whitewater on Thursday, Sept. 20.

This is an excellent way to start kayaking at minimal cost. All equipment will be provided, including kayak, paddle, helmet, PFD, and spray-skirt. Those attending will be shown the basic strokes and when to apply them. They will also be introduced to flow dynamics, followed by emphasis on eddies and their uses. Whitewater technique comes next, with the basics of peel-outs, eddy turns, and ferries. River safety is always emphasized.

Participants will meet at Anglers Inn, just 15 minutes from NIH, at 6 p.m. The cost for the 2-hour class, limited to six people per class, is $16. Sign up early at Bldg. 31, Rm. 1A-18.

---

Dr. Abraham Cantarow, Recent Retiree, Dies

Dr. Abraham Cantarow, 78, an eminent scientist who retired from the National Cancer Institute this past April, died of cancer Sept. 1 in Philadelphia.

Dr. Cantarow, former chief of NCI's Program Analysis and Formulation Branch, came to NIH in 1966 (see The NIH Record, May 15, 1979).

At the time of his death, he was professor emeritus of biochemistry at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, where he had earned his medical degree and, later, served on the faculty, heading its biochemistry department.

Known for his research on liver metabolism and cancer, endocrine function, and the metabolic role of calcium, Dr. Cantarow was the author of five textbooks and almost 200 scientific papers.

He is survived by a daughter, Ellen Cantarow, Cambridge, Mass.; a sister, Rose Tulin, Hallandale, Fla.; and a brother, Peter, Hartford, Conn.

---

Combined Clinical Staff Conferences Will Start Sept. 20

The first Combined Clinical Staff Conference of the 1979-80 year will be held on Thursday, Sept. 20, at 3 p.m., in the Masur Auditorium. Dr. Ronald G. Crystal, chief, Pulmonary Branch, NHLBI, will moderate the lecture on Pathogenesis and Therapy of Destructive Lung Disease: Clinical Application of the Protease-Antiprotease Theory of Emphysema.

Other speakers on the panel include Drs. Victor J. Ferrans, chief, Ultrastructure Section, Pathology Branch; Brendan A. Keogh, chief, Clinical Research Services, Pulmonary Branch; Gary W. Hunninghake and James F. Gadek, senior investigators, Pulmonary Branch; and Bruce R. Line, senior investigator, Nuclear Medicine Department, CC.

Lectures scheduled for the next few months include:

- Nov. 8, at 8 p.m. Sickle Cell Anemia—moderated by Dr. Alan Schechter, NIAMDD
- Feb. 21, 1980, at 3:30 p.m., Dermatitis Herpetiformis—moderated by Dr. Stephen Katz, NCI
- Mar. 20, 1980, Cardiomyopathy—moderated by Dr. Charles Myers, NCI, who will lecture on cancer chemotherapeutic drugs such as Andramycin
- Apr. 24, 1980, at 3:30 p.m., Circadian Rhythms and Their Disorders: Basic and Clinical Studies—moderated by Dr. Frederick Goodwin, NIMH

There will be additional lectures planned through June 1980. These conferences are approved for category 1 credit.
Workers Will Learn About Asbestos Risks

A transfer of $3.5 million of Government funds will be used to educate American workers and their families about the occupational risks of asbestos and to increase job safety and health training grants, according to an intergovernmental agreement worked out by the National Cancer Institute and the U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

About $1.2 million of the fund will be used for an Asbestos Awareness Program to make asbestos workers and the public aware of the occupational risks of asbestos. The fund will also be used to train workers on how to repair deteriorating asbestos in schools and other public buildings.

OSHA’s New Directions grant program will receive $2.3 million to continue its job safety and health training grants program. Last fall, OSHA awarded grants to 86 employer, worker, and educational organizations to develop training programs. Increased funding by NCI’s Division of Cancer Control and Rehabilitation will allow these grants to expand their efforts.

The new asbestos projects will further develop the program that was started last year to inform workers and the public about the hazards of lung cancer and other diseases associated with exposure to asbestos dust.

Workers from a variety of shipyard trades who worked in or around areas contaminated by asbestos during World War II are now beginning to show symptoms of medical problems. These workers—painters, electricians, carpenters, machinists, boilermakers, and welders—may not know that they were exposed.

Other occupations where asbestos is found include construction, asbestos mining, automobile repair work involving clutch facings and brake linings, and the manufacture of asbestos products.

The Asbestos Awareness Program plans to carry out an overall media and education campaign. It also calls for a national conference of scientists, legal and governmental personnel, worker representatives, and employers to collect information about asbestos hazards and preventive measures.

The joint NCI-OSHA project has already begun to educate workers to the hazards of deteriorating asbestos, especially sprayed asbestos in buildings.

This summer asbestos safety demonstration projects have taken place in a number of New York City schools. Educational materials from the projects will be used nationwide to show workers how to properly decontaminate or contain deteriorating asbestos.

The new NCI funding will also permit substantial expansion of OSHA’s program to develop educational and training resources relating to occupational exposure to a number of potential cancer-causing substances other than asbestos.

William Wright, Police Training Officer, Retires

William C. Wright, police training officer for NIH, recently retired after more than 34 years of Government service.

Mr. Wright, who came to NIH in 1971, set up a training program within the Protection and Security Management Branch, DAS. He trained the officers in law enforcement practices, and conducted 32 regular police classes in addition to teaching first aid, CPR, firearms safety, and related subjects. During this time, all the Guard Force officers have been commissioned U.S. Special Policemen.

Before coming to NIH, Bill Wright was a senior officer with the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington, D.C. While there, he received more than 200 commendations. He says he has fond memories of the time he spent as an instructor in the Washington Police Academy and the Canine Corps, which he organized and commanded for a long time.

Many friends and co-workers gathered to wish him well at a retirement party held on Sept. 6. Bill and his wife, Peg, who also recently retired from NIH after more than 20 years’ service, expect to do some hunting, fishing, and traveling. They plan to spend their time in this area, the Virginia mountains, and Arizona.

Mr. Wright set up a training program on law enforcement practice for NIH Guard Force officers, enabling them to be commissioned as U.S. Special Police.

Hamsters’ Revival Depends on Interest

The R&W Association is considering a revival of the theatrical group, “The Hamsters.” Anyone interested in joining is asked to meet Wednesday, Sept. 19, from noon to 1 p.m. in the 14th floor auditorium of the Clinical Center.

(continued on page 12)

Free Education Coupon And Bike Map Offered by R&W

Tap dance, calligraphy, Suzuki, violin, and musical theater are but a few of the 125 fall courses offered by the cultural arts division of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington on Montrose Rd. in Rockville that are open to children, teens, and adults.

R&W is again offering its members a $5 tuition discount coupon, with a limit of two per family.

Registration information, fees, dates, and course descriptions are contained in the School of Performing Arts brochure for dance, and theater and the Art Department brochures for visual arts offerings.

The brochures and coupons are available at the R&W Activities Desk, Bldg. 31, and all gift shop locations.

The cultural arts office of the Jewish Community Center, 881-0100, will also provide information and registration forms.

The R&W has a limited number of free maps of bicycling routes in Lower Montgomery County. They are available at the R&W Activities Desk, Bldg. 31, and the R&W Westwood gift shop. This map was produced to assist bicyclists in planning recreation, shopping, commuting, and other types of trips. It shows 32 miles of signed bike trails, together with 165 miles of some of the better streets for cycling.

(continued on page 12)

Napper Chairs Lions Stamp Show

Chairman Louis Napper has been named chairman of the sixth annual Washington International Lions Stamp Show to be held Oct. 5-7 at the Sheraton Inn in Lanham, Md.

Mr. Napper is an administrative officer with the National Eye Institute’s Intramural Research Program.

Proceeds from the show will benefit the local Lions Eye Bank and other Lions charities.

(continued on page 12)

The NIH Record

September 18, 1979
Participation in Diabetes Research Helps Youths Make Career Plans

Five high school and college students from the U.S. and abroad used their summer to sample the challenge of biomedical investigations and the complexities of research into diabetes mellitus through a program sponsored by NIAMDD scientists and a D.C. affiliate of the American Diabetes Association.

In 1978, the ADA established an award for stipends to provide young people the opportunity to experience an active research environment and to stimulate interest in diabetes research. The laboratory of Dr. Jesse Roth, chief of the Diabetes Branch, National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, was chosen for the summer student program.

Under the direction of Dr. Roth and his research associate, Maxine Lesniak, the apprentice investigators removed organs from guinea pigs and cattle, and separated insulin from other proteins. In a related project, the group examined protozoa, worms, and insects for the presence of insulin in invertebrates.

The students brought varied backgrounds and aspirations to the training project. Among the students is Edouard Martin, a native of Guadeloupe, who will be returning this fall to enter its medical school. Edouard spent his senior year conducting research in membrane biology. Because of his prior laboratory experience, he has been working independently on a project involving the radioactive labeling of the insulin receptor on cells. His interest in molecular genetics, particularly in the application of recombinant DNA techniques, has encouraged Edouard to plan a career in clinical investigation.

In addition to his inclination toward science, he says that he sees the best of both worlds in academic medicine. "It provides not only the environment for individual research, but also the opportunity to teach the next generation of biomedical investigators."

Another student is Yaakov Glick, a resident of Israel, who recently graduated from the Technion Institute of Technology. Although his career goals are still uncertain, Yaakov's exposure to research has made a lasting impression on him. His father, Dr. Seymour Glick, is a noted endocrinologist currently working in the field of polypeptide hormones as a visiting scientist at NIH.

Avi Ganon, a high school senior, is also from Israel. He is interested in mathematics. This summer's laboratory experience has helped him in deciding whether or not to make mathematics a career.

Summer laboratory work was important to Andrew Feigin, a former National Science Foundation competition program participant, who came to NIH to gain additional laboratory experience. The Wharton senior says he is planning a career in medicine.

Summing up his feelings about his summer work, Scott McFarlane, who will be starting college in the fall, says that his summer job was a "great experience." "I've learned an awful lot this summer," he said, "and that opportunity may help me decide what I'll do in the future."

Scott's new awareness of and interest in diabetes is exactly what the ADA has hoped to accomplish with the student program.

Blood Needed for Food Allergy Program

Blood samples from NIH employees who have experienced severe allergic reaction to any food are needed by the Allergenic Products Branch, Bureau of Biologics, FDA.

Interested persons should send a written request for a food allergy questionnaire to Dr. Paul Turkelzaub, Food Allergy, Bldg. 29, Rm. 214. Qualified donors will receive $5 per donation.

Americans Today Are Healthier Than Ever

Since 1900, the death rate in the U.S. has been reduced from 17 per 1,000 persons per year to fewer than 9 per 1,000.

If mortality rates for certain diseases prevailed today as they did at the turn of the century, almost 400,000 Americans would lose their lives this year to tuberculosis, almost 300,000 to gastroenteritis, 80,000 to diphtheria, and 55,000 to poliomyelitis. Instead, the toll of all four diseases will be fewer than 10,000 lives.

Blind, Disabled Children Can Get Supplemental Income

Blind and disabled children can qualify for supplemental security income (SSI) payments no matter how young they are, according to the Silver Spring Social Security office.

SSI is a Federal program that makes monthly cash payments to aged, disabled, or blind people who do not own much in the way of property or other assets and who do not have much income.

The income and assets of a parent are considered when deciding the eligibility of a child under 18 or under 21 if in school.

To be considered disabled for SSI, a person must have a physical or mental impairment which has lasted, or is expected to last 12 months or more or which will result in death. For a person 18 or over, the condition must prevent him or her from engaging in substantial gainful work. For a child under 18, the impairment must be comparable in severity to one that would prevent an adult from engaging in substantial gainful work.

Blindness is defined as central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with the use of a corrective lens or reduction of the visual field to 20 degrees or less.

Anyone who knows of a disabled or blind child who may qualify for SSI checks should suggest to the person responsible for the child that they get in touch with any Social Security office.
Conference Will Discuss Nutrition Education Needs Of American Consumers in the 1980's

The National Conference on Nutrition Education: Directions for the 1980's will be held in the Masur Auditorium Sept. 27-28.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide direction and guidance to public and private agencies as they address the nutrition education needs of American consumers in the next decade.

Task force reports will be presented on nutrition education for:
- pregnant women, children, and adolescents,
- the general public,
- low-income populations and the elderly, and
- persons with diet-related diseases.

Sponsors of the conference include HEW; the U.S. Department of Agriculture; the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President; the Federal Trade Commission; the Society for Nutrition Education; and the Fogarty International Center.

NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, HEW Secretary Patricia Roberts Harris, and USDA Secretary Bob Bergland will deliver the opening remarks. Esther Peterson, Consumer Advisor to the White House, will give the closing remarks.

Persons wishing to attend the conference must preregister. For further information, call 496-4627.

National Toxicology Program Outlines Its Goals

Dr. Bingham; Dr. Rall; Dr. John A. Moore, NTP deputy director; and Dr. Fredrickson answer questions about the first National Toxicology Program plan.

The National Toxicology Program's first annual plan was presented to more than 300 representatives of Government, academia, industry, and the private sector in the HEW Auditorium on Aug. 10 by Program Director Dr. David P. Rall and the NTP executive committee.

The open meeting was called by Dr. Rall to give interested persons an opportunity to make comments and suggestions.

"This is an action plan," said Dr. Rall, "it outlines the Program's objectives for the first year, and we will be accountable."

Specific NTP goals presented in the plan include:
- Broadening the kinds of toxicity for which the chemicals are being tested,
- Testing a greater number of chemicals at a more rapid rate, and
- Developing and validating tests, making them more generally acceptable.

The National Toxicology Program was established by the HEW Secretary in November 1978 to strengthen the Department's activities in the testing of chemicals of public health concern and to improve test methods for chemicals and other environmental toxic agents.

Executive Committee Listed

The executive committee consists of: Dr. Eula Bingham, Assistant Secretary of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, chairman; Dr. Rall, NTP Director, who is also Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; Douglas M. Costle, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency; Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, NIH Director; Serwin Gardner, Acting Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration.

History of Medicine Society To Meet On Sept. 27

The Washington Society for the History of Medicine will hold its first meeting of the season on Thursday, Sept. 27, at 8 p.m. in the Billings Auditorium, National Library of Medicine.

Historian Dale Deaton will discuss Midwifery and Family Planning: The Frontier Nursing Service in the Kentucky Mountains.

Dr. Douglas Price, a practicing psychiatrist in this area, will speak on A Clinical-Historical Study of the Phantom Limb Phenomenon. Dr. Price is an authority on this subject.

For further information, call Manfred Waserman, 496-5961.

Susan B. King, chairman, Consumer Product Safety Commission; Dr. Julius B. Richmond, HEW Assistant Secretary for Health; Dr. Anthony Robbins, Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; and Dr. Arthur C. Upton, Director, National Cancer Institute.

Copies of the National Toxicology Program's Annual Plan Fiscal Year 1979 are available from the National Toxicology Program, P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, N.C. 27709.

During the past decade, the expected life span for Americans has increased by 2.7 years. In the previous decade, it increased by only 1 year.