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Energy Saving Efforts To Continue This Year, Says Sec'y Harris

The end of March will mark the completion of a year-long effort by Federal agencies to reduce their overall energy consumption by 5 percent and, within that figure, reduce vehicle fuel energy by 10 percent.

Although final statistics have not yet been compiled, HEW Secretary Patricia Roberts Harris has asked HEW employees to redouble their efforts to conserve energy consumption. In addition, she said that vehicles should be used only for essential purposes for the rest of 1980.

Since 1974, NIH has had an annual overall energy consumption reduction of 10 percent each year. Using last year's new energy conservation formula, NIH statistics show that, from April through December 1979, it has had an 8.3 percent reduction of vehicle fuel energy and a 7.8 percent reduction of total energy consumption. □

HEW Ethics Advisory Board Hears NIH Proposal For FOIA Exemption of Certain Clinical Trial Data

HEW Ethics Advisory Board members meeting Apr. 18 will decide whether to recommend that certain clinical trial data be exempt from release under the Freedom of Information Act.

The board heard NIH and public witnesses give testimony on the question at a meeting Mar. 14-15.

NIH wants to amend the Public Health Service Act to give the HEW Secretary discretion to withhold certain data. The protection against release would last while clinical observations were being made or verified, but assurances that the safety of participants in the trials was being protected would be required.

At the March meeting, NIH representatives pointed out that premature release of preliminary trend data could affect the behavior of participants and others involved

in the trial. They said that this could bias a trial and preclude the gathering of further useful information.

"The Freedom of Information Act is designed for the release of useful information, not to prevent useful information being acquired," said Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson, NIH Director.

Implications Discussed

Dr. Robert S. Gordon, Special Assistant to the NIH Director, introduced the NIH presentation. Three scientists described how data accumulated as a clinical trial progressed, were monitored, and what the implications were for modifying the protocol.

National Eye Institute Director Dr. Carl Kupfer told of protection for participants in the Diabetic Retinopathy Study. In the initial

(See EXEMPTION, Page 10)

Speed and Efficiency Mark CC Surgical Services Department

On any day of the week, as many as five operating rooms at the Clinical Center may be in operation, with at least three and usually more surgical support personnel at work in each.

Some Thursdays, in one of the Clinical Center's 10th floor operating rooms, cancer patients needing radiation therapy as part of their surgery have their operation interrupted so that they can receive treatment in another part of the research facility.

While still on the operating table, they are taken to the B3 level for radiation therapy. The transfer is necessary because heavy radiation therapy apparatus could not be installed safely on the 10th floor.

Before the operating table can be moved, the corridors and elevators through which the patient will travel, as well as the radiation therapy room itself, are washed down by CC housekeeping staff dressed in surgical garb.

All exits and entrances to areas through which the patient must travel are closed and guarded by NIH police.

When the signal is given, the CC Surgical Services Department, a staff of nurses, techni-

(Continued on Page 3)



Technicians Majett (r) and Dance.—Photos by Gary Best.

Information Center at FASEB Meeting To Aid Minority, Women Researchers

NIH will operate an Information Center at the 64th annual meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology in Anaheim, Calif., Apr. 13-18.

As part of NIH's initiative to increase participation by women and minority scientists in Federally supported biomedical research, the center will be available to the 15 to 20,000 biologists expected to attend.

The center will make it possible for researchers not familiar with NIH programs and procedures to get informal advice from agency officials and scientists on the submission of grant proposals.

A number of NIH'ers attending the FASEB meeting will "staff" the center on a rotating schedule. Scientists interested in securing information not available at the center will have access to a direct telephone link with the Bethesda campus.

In addition, many of our scientists are actively participating in the FASEB meeting, chairing numerous scientific sessions or presenting papers on their research.

Dr. Gerald F. Combs, nutrition program director in the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, is president of FASEB. □

The NIH Record

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Center Drive Detour Slated for May 5

Now that spring has arrived and the weather allows outside road construction to proceed, it is expected that Center Drive, between Memorial Road and West Drive in front of the new ACRF project, will be opened to traffic on or about May 5.

When this detour is opened, contractors will close Center Drive between West Drive and Convent Drive to permit construction of two bus stop aprons and curb realignment. It is anticipated that this work will require about 3 months.

'Record' Will Notify Employees

NIH employees can look forward to the present detour of Center Drive being moved from the east to the west portion of this section of the roadway.

As roadway construction makes progress, *The NIH Record* will notify employees in advance as to when the switch in detours will go into effect. □

TRAINING TIPS

The following courses, sponsored by the Division of Personnel Management, will be given in Bldg. 31.

	Course	Starts	Deadline
Office Skills			
	Advanced Mag Card II	May 9	Apr. 23
Communications Skills			
	Reading Management	May 1	Apr. 10

To learn more about courses in office skills and communications, contact the Training Assistance Branch, 496-2146.

For information on supervisory and management courses, call the Executive Management Branch, 496-6371. □

R&W Offers Variety in Recreation

During April and May R&W will sponsor the following events for NIH employees.

- "Beatlemania," a Broadway hit, features the Beatles' music. R&W has a limited supply of discount tickets available for Friday evening, Apr. 18, at the Warner Theatre. The \$14.50 per person ticket cost includes a service charge.

- Enjoy the thrills and excitement of thoroughbred racing on Friday, Apr. 25, at Charlestown Raceway. The \$15.25 per person cost includes bus fare, clubhouse admission, racing forms, gratuities, and dinner at the Starlight Terrace. Buses will leave Bldg. 31C at

5:15 p.m.

- R&W is going to the National Theatre on Wednesday, Apr. 30, for a dazzling performance of "A Chorus Line"—\$18 tickets are R&W-discounted to \$15.80, including service charge. Order early, supply is limited.

- On Saturday, May 3, R&W is sponsoring a raft trip down the Cheat River in West Virginia. Shooting the rapids is an exhilarating experience. The \$35 cost includes lodging arrangements if desired.

All tickets are available for events at the Activities Desk, Bldg. 31, Rm. 1A-17. □

ATTENTION: Men and Women Golfers

The NIH Golf League swings into a new season on Thursday, May 1. Its first evening meeting will be held on Thursday, Apr. 24, at 7:30 p.m., in Bldg. 31, Rm. 4A-04.

The evening's agenda will include: awards for the Betty Sanders spring outing, team and flight placements, election of team captains,

and announcement of plans for out-of-town golf weekends.

There will be ample parking in the Bldg. 1 parking lot located across from the A-wing side of Bldg. 31 on the night of the meeting. □

3 Speakers at STEP Seminar To Discuss Behavioral Sciences In Health and Illness

A seminar on Behavioral Sciences in Health and Illness on Tuesday, Apr. 8, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 10, is being sponsored by the Staff Training in Extramural Programs Committee.

The seminar, demonstrating how behavioral and social science research can contribute to a broader understanding of health and illness, will feature three speakers.

Dr. Joseph V. Brady, professor of behavioral biology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, will speak on Experimental

Psychosomatics.

Dr. Judith Rodin, professor of psychology, Yale University, will present The Case of Obesity: Separating Cause from Consequence.

Dr. Daniel J. Levinson, professor of psychology, Yale University, will discuss The Seasons of Adult Life.

Discussion will follow each presentation. This seminar is open to the public. For further information, call Arlene M. Bowles, 496-5358. □

We're Counting on You—Answer the Census Today

The Bureau of the Census is urging everyone to answer the census mail and be counted. It is a valuable tool.

On Mar. 28 every household will receive, through the mail, a census questionnaire. About 90 percent of the households will be asked to fill out the questionnaires and to return them by mail in postage-free envelopes. Please answer all the questions and return by today (Apr. 1).

The remaining 10 percent of the Nation's households—mostly in sparsely settled areas—will be asked to complete the question-

naires and hold them for census takers to pick up personally.

By Federal law, every person's answers to the 1980 census are confidential.

The census provides the basis for fair apportionment of seats for members of Congress, helps Government planning and sharing, and assists many segments of the Nation in a multitude of ways.

Every man, woman, and child in the Nation has a stake in the census. The gathering of accurate and complete information will ultimately benefit everyone. □

Are You Talented? R&W Wants You

If you sing, dance, play a musical instrument, or belong to a musical group, you are needed at lunchtime.

R&W is looking for talented people willing to perform in different NIH areas during lunch hours.

If interested, send your name, NIH address, telephone number, and talent resume to the R&W Office, Bldg. 31, Rm. 1A-17. You will be contacted by a staff member and given further details. □

DO YOU FEEL TRAPPED?
Call 496-3164
Employee Assistance Program

NHLBI Accomplishments Now Available in Report

The *Seventh Report of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Advisory Council* is now available.

This 17-page report describes in non-technical language recent accomplishments in the prevention and control of diseases of the heart, lungs, blood vessels, and blood. It also includes comments on issues which presently affect scientific progress and recommends a budget to meet national program goals.

Copies of NIH Publication No. 80-1673 are available from the Publication Section, Office of Information, NHLBI, Bethesda, Md. 20205. □

CC SURGICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT RELIES ON STAFF'S SKILLS

(Continued from Page 1)

cians, unit clerks, secretaries, and housekeepers coordinate their activities to permit a surgical team to move the patient.

Everything moves—the patient, sterile equipment, lights, surgical pedestals, patient monitors, and drug trays.

When the new CC intraoperative radiation facility is completed, these transfers will no longer be necessary.

In the meantime, the moves are an example of extraordinary teamwork.

The Surgical Services Department at the Clinical Center provides support for as many as 200 operations a month. There are three surgical areas in the CC: the 10th floor operating rooms in which cancer, eye, and general surgery are performed; and the second and fourth floors of the surgical wing in which heart and neurosurgical operations take place. "It's a constant cycle of surgery and preparation for surgery," says Miguel Jaureguizar, department chief.

The basic surgical team includes a scrub nurse, who works directly with the surgeons, and a circulating nurse, who receives the patient in the OR and makes certain that required equipment and supplies are available for the surgical staff.

Nurses Are Trained To Anticipate

Surgical nurses are trained to anticipate which instruments will be required at each step of surgery. Although each nurse is expected to work primarily in one surgical area, all are cross-trained to supplement other staffs when necessary.

Depending on the type of operation, four or more additional support personnel may join the nurses in the OR. A patient care technician brings the patient to the operating room and then remains to assist in getting any supplies needed during surgery.

Others in the OR maintain the equipment used during the operation and assist the anesthesiologists. In heart surgery, a pump technician operates the heart-lung machine which functions as long as the patient's own heart is stopped.

An anesthesia technician assists the anesthesiologists by maintaining anesthesia equipment and ensures that the necessary drugs and



Surgical Nurse Zorah Andres works side by side with neurosurgeons during a brain operation.

other materials, such as intravenous fluids, are available.

A recording technician handles the patient monitoring equipment in the operating room. Throughout surgery, this equipment monitors and records a patient's blood pressure, heart rate, and other indicators of how the patient's body is functioning in the course of surgery.

Head Nurses Supervise

Finally, the head nurses in each area—Adrian Strong in cancer, Dorothy Tripodi in heart, and Levering Keely in neurology—make sure that everything goes smoothly during the operation.

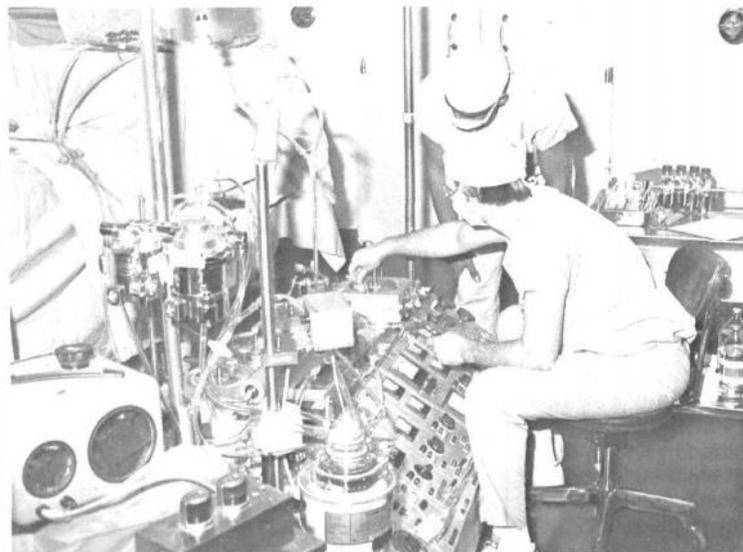
Even though all surgical services staff have responsibilities outside of surgery, there are

some important personnel who never participate in the actual surgery.

Housekeepers are responsible for keeping the operating rooms and ancillary space clean, and for making sure operating tables are prepared in advance of an operation.

Unit clerks and secretaries handle the administrative duties of each operating area, ordering surgical supplies and blood for transfusions. They schedule surgery and maintain records of how much and what type of surgery is performed each year.

Other NIH components, such as biomedical engineering, maintenance engineering, and the Blood Bank, also assist the Surgical Services Department. □



At left, heart-lung pump technicians Joe Dance (seated l) and James Majett operate their machine during open heart surgery. Respiratory technician Robert Fruchtbaum (r) monitors blood gases throughout the procedure.



NINCDS, West African Scientists Collaborate To Study Neurological Disorders in Nigeria

By Doris Parker

Do West Africans have as many strokes as American Blacks? Is hypertension as great a risk factor for stroke in West Africa as it is in the U.S.? Is Parkinson's disease—a relatively uncommon disorder among American Blacks—a significant health problem in West Africa?

To help answer these and other questions, scientists at the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke are collaborating with West African colleagues to develop protocols for the first epidemiological studies of neurological disorders in Nigeria.

Dr. Benjamin Osuntokun, professor of neurology at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, is working on the pilot project with Dr. Bruce Schoenberg, chief of the NINCDS Neuroepidemiology Section.

The investigators are developing descriptive and case control studies to identify incidence and risk factors for four types of neurological disorders in Nigeria.

Cerebrovascular disorders, such as stroke, will be studied, as will extrapyramidal disorders, such as Parkinson's disease. Data also will be collected and analyzed on peripheral neuropathies and convulsive disorders.

The data will help the Nigerian government set priorities for prevention and treatment programs. This pilot project is intended to serve as a model for epidemiological studies elsewhere. Its progress is being closely followed by many developing countries and the World Health Organization.

Within the next year, representatives from other countries interested in using the protocols will participate in a special 2-week course on neuroepidemiology and will



Dr. Osuntokun (l) discusses with Dr. Schoenberg protocols for the first epidemiological studies of neurological disorders in Nigeria.

observe actual survey procedures in Nigeria.

Collecting epidemiological data in developing countries poses special problems. In Nigeria, about 60 percent of people needing health care go first to native herb doctors, Dr. Osuntokun says, and are seen by modern medical practitioners only when they find they are not getting any better.

By the time Dr. Osuntokun and his colleagues see patients it is often too late to learn much about events preceding an illness.

In addition, the cause of death for many Nigerians is not recorded—greatly complicating the process of compiling accurate data.

Lay health workers will play key roles in gathering data for the new study. These workers will interview people, collect answers on a questionnaire and conduct a simple examination of patients. Anyone suspected of having neurological problems

will be referred to a neurologist for diagnosis and treatment.

The study will include an effort to gather data on an important Nigerian health problem: cassava poisoning. The extremely hardy cassava shrub, which may grow as high as 10 feet, was introduced to Nigeria in the late 19th century by former slaves returning from Brazil.

Cassava—eaten as tapioca in the U.S.—is a major source of carbohydrate for Nigerians as well as nearly 300 million people around the world, Dr. Osuntokun says. Proper preparation of cassava's fleshy tubers includes a 2-week fermentation; if improperly prepared, cassava has a high cyanide content.

Whole families have been wiped out from a single meal of improperly prepared cassava. Chronic degenerative neuropathies leading to blindness, deafness, and crippling are also common among people who eat diets that are high in cassava and low in protein.

Dr. Osuntokun's study will help to determine the frequency of death and debility due to cassava poisoning in Nigeria.

The data-gathering phase of the Nigerian pilot project will begin in May or June. Data will be processed by neuroepidemiologists in Bethesda.

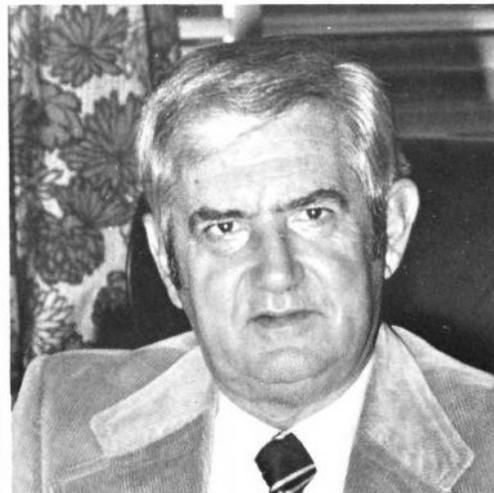
Dr. Osuntokun, whose recent visit to NIH was his sixth, says that the facilities for neurological research here are unparalleled.

In the last few years, Dr. Osuntokun has logged nearly 200,000 miles visiting medical research institutions around the world. In 1976, while dean of the Medical School at Ibadan, he led a delegation of Nigerian physicians that "visited nearly every U.S. medical school."

Dr. Osuntokun's work is supported by the NINCDS, private foundations, and the Nigerian government. □

James Schriver Retires After 17 Years at NIH

James W. Schriver, director of the Division of Management Survey and Review, OD, has retired after 34 years of Government service, 17 with the division.



Mr. Schriver received the HEW Superior Service Honor Award in 1972 "in recognition of his high professional standards and leadership. . . ."

Mr. Schriver, who joined NIH in 1963, established the Internal Audit Branch to conduct internal audits of various NIH programs. The branch later became the Division of Management Survey and Review.

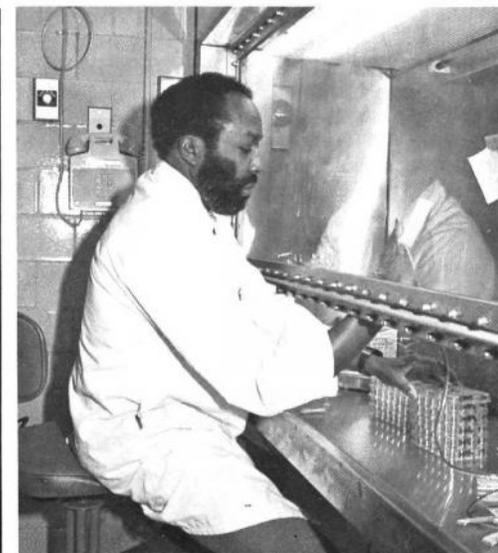
He conducted investigations of such cases as the misuse of funds involving grants or conflict of interest. During these investigations Mr. Schriver worked closely with the FBI and Justice Department.

Investigated Complaints

He also answered numerous inquiries resulting from complaints by "whistle blowers" made through a recently established hotline. The majority of calls concerned fraud, waste, and abuse.

After obtaining a B.S. degree in business administration from the University of Oregon, Mr. Schriver began Government service in 1945 as a supervisory auditor with the Navy Department, and later as a supervisory auditor and branch chief with the Department of the Army.

Mr. Schriver's retirement plans include working as a consultant, traveling with his wife, and pursuing his many hobbies. □



Dr. Edgar E. Hanna, a senior investigator in the Laboratory of Molecular Genetics, NICHD, is seeding "hybridomas" or hybrid immune cells which are used in the study of cellular targets of microbial agents. He was recently elected chairman of the immunology division of the American Society for Microbiology, which has a membership of about 23,000 and is divided into 18 closely coordinated divisions.

Linden F. Neff, NIAMDD Grants Management Officer, Retires--Recalls NIH's Early Days



Dr. Leventhal (l), Don Cyphers (c), and Mr. Neff look at "NIH Record" articles circa 1950.

Linden F. Neff, grants management officer for the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases since 1968, retired on Feb. 28 after 33 years at NIH and 37 years of total Government service.

Mr. Neff joined the Procurement and Voucher Section at NIH in 1946 following a 3-year assignment in the Marine Corps. He worked for a short time for the Public Health Service and for the Office of the Surgeon General.

He returned to NIH and worked at NCI, the Experimental Biology and Medicine Institute (later NIAMDD), and the National Institute of Dental Research. He was also administrative officer for the Plant Engineering Branch, OD. Since 1960 he has worked in the NIAMDD Extramural Programs Branch.

Career Noted

His career has paralleled the growth that has transformed the NIH campus since the late 1940's. In the early years of NIH, Mr. Neff was responsible for an inventory of all land, buildings, and permanent fixtures of the growing NIH campus.

He also worked with the Clinical Center staff to assure that appropriate equipment was in place in each laboratory prior to its opening in 1953.

Mr. Neff recalls the early days at NIH, when the total staff barely exceeded 1,000 people, and when the guest house of the Luke I. Wilson estate, Top Cottage, was the site of many gatherings for the first NIH'ers.

Mr. Neff recalls the changeover in the system of grants administration from the DRG

Hay Fever Volunteers Needed for Allergy Study

Volunteers who have spring and/or fall hay fever are needed to participate in studies of the diagnostic effectiveness of allergy extracts. Participants will undergo allergy skin testing, blood withdrawal (approximately 2-3 tablespoons), and will fill out daily symptom diaries during the hay fever months.

Later, selected volunteers may participate in an allergy injection program to study the effectiveness of allergy extracts in the treat-



Dr. Brooks (standing) addresses the group attending the retirement luncheon of Mr. Neff (r).

to various B/I/D's. He watched the grants administration function grow into a complex organization responding to the many requirements of HEW, PHS, and the research community.

He has served on a variety of NIH committees, including the committee that initiated Staff Training for Extramural Program, and he has directed many STEP modules. He also participated in the organization of the first NIAMDD National Advisory Council meeting in 1950.

Dr. Leventhal Speaks

At a retirement luncheon on Feb. 25, Dr. Carl Leventhal, NIAMDD deputy director, commended Mr. Neff for his long years of service to NIH and the American people. Dr. George T. Brooks, associate director for extramural activities program, NIAMDD, said, "Not only are we losing a good colleague, we are losing a friend." Dr. Edward Offutt, former NIAID associate director for extramural activities program, also spoke to the group.

A member of the Society for Research Administration and the National Assistance Management Association, Mr. Neff has conducted grants administration workshops and seminars for SRA and for the business officers section of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Mr. Neff is active in community affairs and has served as chancellor commander of the Knights of Pythias.

After retiring, he plans to work as a managerial consultant for organizations in the Washington metropolitan area. □

ment of hay fever.

Dr. Paul Turkeltaub of the Allergenic Products Branch, Bureau of Biologics, is conducting these studies in cooperation with the Occupational Medical Services at NIH.

Employees who are interested should fill out a hay fever questionnaire that may be obtained from OMS, Bldg. 31, Rm. B2B-47.

Volunteers will receive a modest remuneration for their participation. □

Free Book Details EEO Court Decisions

A 146-page book summarizing more than 100 significant U.S. Supreme Court and U.S. Court of Appeals cases dealing with major legal issues of equal employment opportunity has been published by the Office of Personnel Management.

The 1979 edition of *Equal Employment Opportunity Court Cases* replaces a 1976 version and will become the basic reference with supplements issued annually.

The book clearly and concisely sets forth the Supreme Court's decisions in such landmark cases as *McDonnell Douglas vs. Green* and *Griggs vs. Duke Power*. These cases involved issues of job requirements and discrimination in hiring.

It also summarizes all of the Supreme Court's opinions in the controversial *Bakke* and *Weber* decisions.

Summaries are broken down into three categories: the facts of the case, the main issues involved, and a discussion of the meaning and significance of the rulings.

The book is designed to help readers understand the reasoning of the Federal courts on such important questions as the elements of a prima facie (self evident) case of discrimination, the acceptable scope of affirmative action, the propriety of quota relief, the extent of religious accommodation required by law, and other matters of critical concern to employers.

Single copies may be obtained without charge from OPM regional offices, or from OPM, Office of Intergovernmental Personnel Programs, Box 14184, Washington, D.C. 20044. □

**Don't Use
Elevator
During Fire
Emergency
Use Stairways**



Prevent Fires—Save Lives!!

NIEHS Biological Laboratory Technician Receives Award for Scientific Paper

Cynthia Hall recently received one of three awards for graduate student presentations of scientific papers at the Southern Poultry Science Society meeting in Atlanta. She coauthored a paper with Drs. Michael Galvin and Donald I. McRee of the NIEHS Laboratory of Environmental Biophysics.

Ms. Hall is a biological laboratory technician at NIEHS and a graduate student at North Carolina State University.

Her research on Microwave Interaction with Isolated Cardiac Cells involved microwave exposure of heart muscle cells derived from 9-day-old Japanese quail embryos. It suggested that microwave radiation induces subtle alterations, though not extensive damage, in cell membrane permeability at the lower levels tested (10 and 50 mW/g).

The paper is the result of Ms. Hall's thesis research for her master's degree in physiology. After receiving the M.S. degree she plans to enter medical school.

As part of an ongoing training program in environmental health sciences, NIEHS scientists work closely with graduate students, postdoctorals, and young scientific investigators to cultivate scientific enthusiasm and pro-



Dr. Galvin and Ms. Hall adjust equipment in the laboratory.

vide expertise necessary to meet the challenge of present and future environmental health concerns. □

Five New Members Join Dental Institute's National Advisory Council

Four new appointees have recently been named to the National Advisory Dental Research Council: Dr. Zoila Acevedo, Dr. D. Walter Cohen, Sheri Jacks Hansen, and Dr. Ralph R. Lopez. In addition, Dr. William H. Hiatt was appointed an *ex officio* member.

Dr. Acevedo is a research writer with Alliance for Perinatal Research and Services, Alexandria, Va. She is active in community affairs, and is especially interested in the feminist movement and the role of minority women as health professionals.

A member of several national organizations for women, including the Feminist Women's Press Association, Dr. Acevedo has published a number of articles concerning parenting, prepared childbirth, and the nursing profession.

Dr. Cohen Acclaimed

Dr. Cohen, dean of the School of Dental Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, is widely acclaimed for his research in the fields of periodontology and juvenile diabetes.

He has served as director of a Public Health Service dental training grant in basic sciences and periodontology.

The American Academy of Periodontology presented to Dr. Cohen a gold medal award for his outstanding achievements. He is also the recipient of the super achievers award from the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.

In addition to publishing numerous books and articles on periodontology and juvenile diabetes, Dr. Cohen has been instrumental in the production of over a dozen teaching films for the Veterans Administration Training Center.

Ms. Hansen, from Los Angeles, Calif., is extensively involved in the activities of the

Cleft Parent Guild, which she has served as president.

Ms. Hansen has been invited to speak at numerous seminars and conventions, and has published several articles concerning parents and their cleft lip/palate children.

She has also served as a consultant to establish self-help programs for these parents. She is active in the La Leche League and, in particular, assists mothers interested in breast-feeding babies with clefts.

Dr. Lopez Honored

Dr. Lopez, a practicing dentist in Santa Fe, N.M., has received many honors during his career. He was the main force in establishing the New Mexico plan (Lopez Plan) for a dental education and scholarship program for qualified New Mexico students.

As a tribute to his accomplishments, Nov. 12, 1977, was proclaimed as Dr. Ralph Lopez Day for the State of New Mexico.

Dr. Lopez has also made major contributions to the dental profession and the Board of Trustees of the American Dental Association recently presented him with its highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Hiatt represents the Veterans Administration. His area of expertise is periodontology.

In addition to his dental practice in Denver, Colo., he is a clinical professor at the University of Colorado School of Dentistry, and a staff dentist at the Va Hospital. □

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Book on 'Issues in Research With Human Subjects' Available

A publication entitled *Issues in Research with Human Subjects*, proceedings of an Anglo-American symposium held at NIH in March 1978, has been issued by the Fogarty International Center.

At the meeting both laymen and professionals examined issues pertinent to the clinical research that precedes the introduction of new medical procedures, drugs, and biologics. In addition, the role of the public in planning, approving, and monitoring clinical studies was discussed.

Each issue was presented by a speaker from the United States and one from the United Kingdom. The participants also considered the establishment of international standards for clinical research.

Sponsors of the meeting were the Royal Society of Medicine; the Royal Society of Medicine Foundation, Inc.; Bureaus of Drugs and Biologics, FDA; CDC; NCI; NEI, NHLBI; NIA; NIAID; NICHD; FIC; NIMH; and the Veterans Administration.

Single copies of the book are available from the FIC Publications Office, Bldg. 16A, Rm. 205. Quantities may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, GPO. □

J. Harrison Ager Reappointed To Maryland State Board Of Higher Education

J. Harrison Ager, National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases equal employment opportunity coordinator, has been reappointed to a 5-year term on the Maryland State Board of Higher Education.

The 11-member board serves as a coordinating agency for all higher education in Maryland, including community and 4-year colleges, state universities, and private postsecondary schools receiving state funds.



Mr. Ager was first appointed in 1976, when the board was created by the Maryland General Assembly in response to the Rosenberg Commission study on education.

He currently is on the board's institutional approval and program committee and chairman of the education coordinating committee.

Joins NIAMDD in 1956

Mr. Ager joined NIAMDD in 1956 as a research scientist in the Laboratory of Chemistry after completing graduate studies in physical organic chemistry at Howard University.

Mr. Ager has been a member of the National Council of Christians and Jews and the Prince George's Coalition for School Desegregation. He is currently the first vice-president of the Maryland Congress of Parents and Teachers and will attend the June National Congress of Parents and Teachers in Honolulu, Hawaii. □

If You Have the Spring and Summer Blahs, R&W Has the Answer



If you don't have anything special planned for this spring and summer, don't blame R&W!

Among the more exciting NIH Recreation & Welfare Association activities will be a white water rafting trip on the Cheat River in West Virginia (May 3), a fishing trip to Tilghman Island on the Eastern Shore that includes an overnight stay in a country inn (June 6 and 7), and a camping and canoeing trip down the Shenandoah River (June 27 and 28).

Overnight trips to Atlantic City for sun and games and to Charlestown for the races will be held once a month during the summer.

Baseball fans will be delighted to learn that R&W is planning many trips to Baltimore to see the Orioles play.

Music and dance aficionados can get tickets to Wolf Trap for performances like the National Symphony, the Joffrey Ballet, and Big

Professor of Classics Traces Derivation of Medical Words

A professor of classics in Texas has nailed down—for everybody interested in words—the derivation of vocabulary in the medical sciences.

Dr. Roy T. Butler, chairman of the department of classics at Baylor University in Waco, analyzed about 49,500 words in *Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary*. He found that 58.5 percent are derived from Greek and 21.77 percent from Latin and that 13.23 percent have a combined Greek-Latin derivation.

Of the 6.5 percent of the words in the medical dictionary that do not have their source in Greek or Latin or a combination of the two, Dr. Butler found that 2.91 percent are strictly English words, that 1.13 percent are derived from French, and that the rest have their source in Arabic, German, Spanish, and Italian, in proper names, and in numerous other languages.

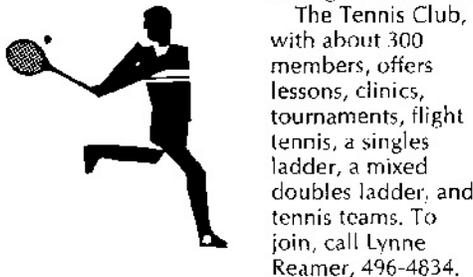
In an article published in the February issue of the *Journal of Medical Education*, Dr. Butler writes that he was motivated to make the analysis by the ambiguity of statements in many writings on medical etymology—and by his own curiosity. The *Journal of Medical Education* is published in Washington, D.C., by the Association of American Medical Colleges. □

Band Sounds from the Summer of '42, among others.

Adventurous types can learn to kayak on the Potomac. Those with wanderlust can arrange a trip through R&W's travel program. Working with travel agencies, the association offers package deals to Hawaii, Greece, Israel, San Francisco, Las Vegas, the Caribbean, and other vacation spots.

R&W sponsors numerous organized activities, including fencing, karate, judo, bowling, soccer, basketball, chamber music, golf, jogging, table tennis, and badminton.

The association's tennis, softball, and sailing clubs are particularly popular during the summer.



The Tennis Club, with about 300 members, offers lessons, clinics, tournaments, flight tennis, a singles ladder, a mixed doubles ladder, and tennis teams. To join, call Lynne Reamer, 496-4834.

There are two softball leagues at NIH: Men's Slo Pitch and Co-Rec. The men's league, which has eight teams, starts practice in mid-April. The season runs through mid-August, when a 3-week tournament begins. Anyone interested in joining the men's league should call John Haczewski, 496-6454, during April.

Dr. Makela Receives Top Finnish Prize For Medical Research

Dr. Helena Mäkelä, an NIAID-supported investigator, recently received Finland's most prestigious award for medical research, the Matti Äyräpää Prize.

A noted authority on infectious diseases, Dr. Mäkelä received the award on Jan. 6 in Helsinki for her "exceptional achievements in basic and clinical microbiology."

Dr. Mäkelä has played an important role in developing and evaluating experimental meningitis vaccines. In 1974, during a meningitis epidemic in Finland, she was awarded a contract by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases to conduct an efficacy trial of a group A meningococcal vaccine in infants and young children.

The study showed that the vaccine was highly effective in preventing disease in children as young as 3 months of age. This was the first time a meningitis vaccine was reported to protect children this young—the age group at high risk for all type of bacterial meningitis.

Dr. Mäkelä is continuing her study to evaluate the duration of protective antibody levels.



The co-recreational league's season starts in May. At the end of the season, players participate in a round robin tournament. To join, call Ernest Lunsford, 496-3353.

The Sailing Club, with over 200 members, offers a variety of activities to NIH patients, employees, and their families. Basic training for novices, an on-the-water cruising course, a classroom course in piloting, and a lecture series on the Chesapeake Bay are scheduled for this spring and summer.



The R&W owns four 19-foot Flying Scots, which Sailing Club members race against each other and against members of local clubs. The boats, which are docked near

Annapolis, are used through Nov. 15.

The club has chartered boats for several cruises: 3-day cruises on Memorial Day and Columbus Day weekends, a week-long New England cruise in June, and two 1-week cruises of the lower Chesapeake in August.

Among the social activities scheduled by the club are a May dinner meeting and a crab feast. Members meet on the last Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in Bldg. 30, Rm. 117, and everyone is welcome.

For further information about the sailing club or its activities, call Theresa Warren, 530-2161 (evenings and weekends).

Got anything special planned for spring and summer? R&W does. □

In addition to her clinical work, Dr. Mäkelä has conducted basic microbiological studies to elucidate the genetic basis for lipopolysaccharide synthesis by gram-negative bacteria.

A polysaccharide capsule surrounds the meningococci—one of the major causes of meningitis in young children—and is believed to be involved in the disease process. Current meningitis vaccines are purified preparations of the polysaccharide capsule.

Dr. Mäkelä is currently with the Central Public Health Laboratories in Helsinki. In 1976 she was a distinguished visiting scientist at the Bureau of Biologics, FDA, in Bethesda. □

Minority Biomedical Researchers Will Meet In Atlanta Next Week

Atlanta will host the Nation's largest gathering ever of minority biomedical researchers on Apr. 7-10, when 1,700 people convene for the Eighth Annual Minority Biomedical Support Symposium.

The 4-day symposium, which features the presentation of more than 450 scientific papers, is sponsored by the Division of Research Resources and the Atlanta University Center.

The center is a consortium of five Atlanta-area colleges and universities—Atlanta University, Morehouse College, Clark College, Morris-Brown College, and Spelman College.



An MBS student researcher lectured at last year's MBS Symposium. More than 450 similar presentations will be made at this year's meeting.

Principal speakers at the symposium include the winner of the 1975 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine, Dr. David Baltimore, Center for Cancer Research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. Howard

Bern, president of Beckman Instruments, Inc., a company that develops and manufactures scientific equipment; and U.S. Representative Louis Stokes of Ohio, a member of the House Appropriations Committee.

Other notable speakers include Dr. Leodis Davis, chairman of the chemistry department at the University of Iowa and one of the people who helped start the Minority Biomedical Support Program.

Also, Dr. Eugene Cota-Robles, professor of biology, University of California, Santa Cruz; Dr. Rose Mary Gutierrez-Cernosek, a principal chemist at Beckman Instruments; Dr. Thomas G. Bowery, DRR Director; and Dr. Ciriaco Gonzalez, director of DRR's Minority Biomedical Support Program.

A majority of the symposium presentations will be made by student researchers who are supported by the MBS program, which encourages increased involvement of ethnic minority students and faculty in the biomedical sciences and health professions.

The funding allows grantee institutions (minority institutions or those with a history of providing opportunities for minorities in the biomedical sciences) to pay the salaries of students who serve as research personnel.

It releases faculty scientists from heavy teaching loads to conduct research protocols, and provides travel expenses for students and faculty to participate in biomedical meetings.

According to Dr. Joe Johnson, assistant chancellor for scientific research and development at Atlanta University Center and director of this year's MBS symposium, the meeting provides a forum for students to present information about their research projects.

In addition, faculty and students are able to discuss research ideas and administrative issues with representatives of NIH and other Federal agencies, and students are able to learn about opportunities for graduate and professional studies. □



Bob White (l) is congratulated by NIH Wednesday Night Bowling League President George Loveridge for the outstanding 243-pin game that he bowled on Jan. 9. The Brunswick Corporation awarded Mr. White a plaque for his high game, 100 pins over his average. Any NIH'er interested in bowling in this tenpin league next year should contact the league secretary, Rick Weiner, at 496-7075.

VISITING SCIENTIST PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Reported by
Fogarty International Center

3/1—**Dr. Valerie Quarmby**, United Kingdom, Laboratory of Experimental Toxicology. Sponsor: Dr. Kenneth Korach, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, N.C.

3/1—**Dr. Matyas Sandor**, Hungary, Laboratory of Immunobiology. Sponsor: Dr. John Langone, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 2B13.

3/1—**Dr. Anna Shekhtman**, Stateless, Laboratory of Cell Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Hayden Coon, NCI, Bg. 8, Rm. 105.

3/3—**Dr. John F. Fowler**, United Kingdom, Radiation Therapy Section. Sponsor: Dr. Eli Glatstein, NCI, Bg. 10, Rm. B3B38.

3/3—**Dr. Settimo Grimaldi**, Italy, Clinical Endocrinology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Jacob Robbins, NIAMDD, Bg. 10, Rm. 8N315.

3/3—**Dr. Masanori Ito**, Japan, Laboratory of Cerebral Metabolism. Sponsor: Dr. Louis Sokoloff, NIMH, Bg. 36, Rm. 1A27.

3/6—**Dr. Sarojani Angal**, India, Laboratory of Chemical Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Irwin Chaiken, NIAMDD, Bg. 10, Rm. 9N313.

3/6—**Dr. Antonella Circolo**, Italy, Surgical Neurology Branch. Sponsor: Dr. Paul McKeever, NINCDS, Bg. 10A, Rm. 3E68.

3/9—**Dr. Maria Olianias**, Italy, Laboratory of Preclinical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Erminio Costa, NIMH, St. Elizabeths Hospital.

3/10—**Dr. R. Balachandran**, India, Animal Virology and Field Studies Section. Sponsor: Dr. Padman Sarma, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 1D15.

3/10—**Dr. Thangavel Kuberampath**, India, Laboratory of Biological Structure. Sponsor: Dr. A. H. Reddi, NIDR, Bg. 30, Rm. 207.

3/14—**Dr. Eduardo Consiglio**, Italy, Laboratory of Biochemical Pharmacology. Sponsor: Dr. Leonard Kohn, NIAMDD, Bg. 4, Rm. B1-31.

3/17—**Dr. Peter Buchs**, Switzerland, Laboratory of Chemistry. Sponsor: Dr. Arnold Brossi, NIAMDD, Bg. 4, Rm. 135.

3/17—**Dr. Masao Hayashi**, Japan, Laboratory of Molecular Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Kenneth Yamada, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 4E16.

3/17—**Dr. Vinod Verma**, India, Laboratory of Neuropathology and Neuroanatomical Sciences. Sponsor: Dr. Thomas Reese, NINCDS, Bg. 36, Rm. 3B26.

3/18—**Dr. Marcelo L. Larramendy**, Argentina, Laboratory of Biology. Sponsor: Dr. Nicolae Popescu, NCI, Bg. 37, Rm. 2A13.

3/23—**Dr. Dieter Naber**, West Germany, Biological Psychiatry Branch. Sponsor: Dr. William E. Bunney, Jr., NIMH, Bg. 10, Rm. 3N212. □

Dr. Malone Gives First Carver Lecture

Dr. Thomas E. Malone, Deputy Director of NIH, delivered the first George Washington Carver Lecture at a convocation at Tuskegee Institute on Mar. 17. □

Translators Find Right Word for NIH Researchers

Today all types of scientific information are under constant surveillance and the world's published scientific literature is scrutinized by many nations hoping to find clues that will advance their research.

Despite the technological achievements of computerized libraries and their immense storage and retrieval capacities, access to new knowledge can come down to understanding another person's language and how he expresses himself in scientific terminology.

Every day, foreign manuscripts, journal articles, and letters from overseas researchers are turned into useful and practical information by the NIH Library Translation Unit.

Paul De Porte, who first came to work at NIH in 1945, and Ted Crump, who recently joined the Translation Unit, labor each day over the intricacies of foreign-language syntax and scientific terminology in their offices located at the rear of the Library. Their valuable time is scheduled by Audrey Hundetmark, library technician.

Half Century of Experience

The two translators have a half century of experience in dealing with a variety of foreign languages and with foreign scientific material.

Mr. De Porte, who majored in biology at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and has done additional work at Princeton, George Washington, and Rutgers Universities and elsewhere, has navigated his way since World War II through the lexicographical labyrinth of scientific research in: Russian-, German-, French-, Italian-, Spanish-, and Portuguese-language publications.

Mr. Crump, who also speaks Russian, German, French, is proficient in Serbo-Croatian. Currently, he is completing a doctorate in Russian literature at Bryn Mawr College. Prior to coming to NIH, he worked for 4 years at Biosciences Information Service, Philadelphia—the largest indexer of biomedical information—as well as at the Franklin Institute.

Although both are able to translate most foreign languages where biomedical information appears, sometimes the two translators are faced with a problem when a researcher comes in with a publication in a language they do not know.

Summer Apprenticeships Open To Minority Students

Forty-five universities and health professional schools in 21 states are being awarded grants in late March or early April for the support of summer research apprenticeships for minority high school students.

The awards are based on proposals made by the institutions, and a total of 200 apprenticeships will be provided through the NIH program.

Each institution will receive \$2,000 for each position.

Minority students interested in finding out more about where to apply can write: Dr. Doris H. Merritt, Bldg. 1, Rm. 118, Bethesda, Md. 20205, for a list of local institutions and contact persons. □



Mr. Crump (l), Ms. Hundetmark (c), and Mr. De Porte take a break in their search for the correct meanings of foreign biomedical terminologies.

The material is turned over to one of five translation services that can have an English-language text ready within 3 weeks.

"We get requests from all over NIH," says Mr. De Porte, "even NIAID's Rocky Mountain Laboratory." Sometimes the Translation Unit is able to save an Institute money and time by scanning a lengthy document before a scientist has it translated. A quick look at a publication can often determine its significance.

Experience Is Essential

"Experience is the biggest factor," says Mr. Crump in making a good translation of foreign scientific material. Both he and Mr. De Porte are able to save researchers time in other ways, such as making immediate oral translations of recently received letters from foreign scientists or by recording translations on tape.

In an alcove just outside their offices there is a long bookcase containing row after row of foreign dictionaries and scientific reference books.

U.S. Civil Servants' Poems Published In British Poetry Anthology

The 1980 issue of *Civil Service Poetry*, an anthology published in England each April, is the first issue to include poems by U.S. civil servants.

Of the 44 poems in the anthology, 16 were written by U.S. civil servants. The rest are by civil servants in Europe and poets in the Commonwealth nations.

The publishers now are accepting orders for copies of the 1980 issue which will be available in April. The cost is \$1 per copy.

Orders go to EMMA Printers and Publishers, Arden House, Sunny Point, Walton-on-Naze, Essex CO 14 8 LD, England. □

These are the tools that translators constantly call upon. Instinctively, Mr. De Porte thumbed through his well-used Russian dictionary, which he has updated in the margins with current scientific terminology, when asked about its importance in translating biomedical information.

Another tool that translators call upon is the NIH Library with its complete array of current scientific publications.

Over the last few months, the Translation Unit has translated from Italian a manuscript on the Experience of the Accident of Seveso; a French newspaper article on The Mental Equilibrium of Children Threatened by Lead Disease; and a Russian manuscript on The Module Artificial Heart System.

"All a scientist has to do is come down with a filled out NIH-75 form," says Ms. Hundetmark, to have a written translation done. "Usually, he can have an oral translation done immediately without any paperwork."

NIH researchers in need of a foreign-language translation can call 496-2257. □

Medical Thesaurus Available From DRG

The 1979 *Medical and Health Related Sciences Thesaurus* is available in limited supply. The thesaurus is the subject heading authority list for the *Research Awards Index*, a classified index of research projects supported by the PHS.

It is also an integral component of CRISP, a computerized system for retrieval of scientific and fiscal data pertaining to research grants, contracts, and intramural programs.

Copies of the thesaurus and index, as well as data from CRISP, are available from the Research Documentation Section, SAB, Division of Research Grants, Westwood Bldg., Rm. 148, 496-7543. □



Marjorie Meehan recently retired after more than 14 years as a dental assistant in the NIDR Clinical Dental Services Section. Part of the periodontal therapeutic team that performed surgical procedures on dental clinic patients, she developed and conducted the dental orientation-prevention program for patients undergoing head and neck radiation and chemotherapy. She is holding a gold tooth, a gift from co-workers presented at her retirement party.

Dr. Scantlebury Dies; Retired Grants, Liaison Official

Dr. Ronald E. Scantlebury, 79, a retired NIH physiologist and research fellowship and grants administrator, died Mar. 9 in Gaithersburg after a brief illness.

Prior to joining NIH in 1949, Dr. Scantlebury taught at medical schools of Wayne State University and the University of Arkansas, and was chairman of the section on applied biology at the Stanford Research Institute.

In 1951 he became chief of the Division of Research Grants Research Fellowship Branch, and 7 years later headed the new Section on Foreign Grants and Awards, OD.

Dr. Scantlebury was assigned to the State Department in 1961. During this assignment, until his retirement in 1971, he served as liaison policy officer for U.S. Government agencies proposing to carry on research in foreign countries.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Knight, of Asbury Methodist Village, Gaithersburg; two brothers; and two sisters. □

U. of Pittsburgh Offers Scientific Writing Seminar

The University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Division of Continuing Education, is offering a seminar in Medical and Scientific

EXEMPTION

(Continued from Page 1)

stages, ophthalmologists used photocoagulation to treat only one eye of each participant.

Early findings showed the treatment was effective in reducing the chance of visual loss, and that without treatment many eyes with certain high risk characteristics were likely to suffer visual loss. The study protocol was quickly altered to allow consideration of treatment for initially untreated eyes having those high risk characteristics.

An example cited by Dr. T. Friedewald, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, was that of how some lipid-affecting drugs were dropped from the Coronary Drug Project when they appeared to be harmful.

Another drug, which appeared very promising 2 years after the initiation of the study, proved later to have no advantages over a placebo, and to have produced some harmful effects.

Dr. Herschel S. Horowitz, National Institute of Dental Research, said that fluoride-containing toothpaste appeared to be ineffective in reducing cavities the first year it was tested, but was proven later to be highly effective.

Release of early data could have ruined the last two trials, according to the testimony. Participants would have dropped out, and they and others involved in the trials might have altered their behavior.

Others who took part in the meeting included Dr. Thomas Chalmers, Mt. Sinai Medical School; Dr. Paul Meier, U. of Chicago; and Dr. Hyman J. Zimmerman, G.W.U. □



Mary Frances Spears has been appointed Equal Employment Opportunity coordinator for the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. Mrs. Spears has been with the Institute for 17 years, 13 years as a chemist in the Laboratory of Kidney and Electrolyte Metabolism, and 4 years as an EEO specialist. She succeeds Juanita Cooke, who has been appointed director, Office of Special Concerns, NHLBI.

Writing, June 13-14, at the Pittsburgh Hilton.

This two-part program is designed to enhance understanding of journal publications and to help participants write more effectively. Featured speakers will include Dr. Arnold S. Relman, editor of *The New England Journal of*

Roy Perry Has Exhibition Of Photos at NYC Museum



"Shoe Shine Man"—Photo by Roy Perry.

Roy Perry, a highly successful NIH photographer for 25 years prior to his retirement in 1967, has been honored with a one-man exhibition at the Museum of the City of New York.

Composed of 130 black and white prints made by Mr. Perry for the museum, the exhibition, entitled "New York in the Depression," opened Mar. 4. It will remain open until Apr. 27.

His photographs are in the collection of the National Library of Medicine, the National Archives, and the Museum of the City of New York.

Mr. Perry has had one-man shows at the Rockville Civic Center Art Gallery and at the Clinical Center here. □

Guide for Elderly Issued by NIA

A Guide to Medical Self-Care and Self-Help Groups, for persons who work with the elderly, has been issued by the National Institute on Aging.

Self-care is defined as "actions that we as individuals perform on behalf of our own, our family's, or our neighbor's well-being."

Understanding how our bodies work, what's good for them, and how to tell when something goes awry is basic to self-care. Reading materials on these areas are suggested in the guide.

Copies of the guide are available from: NIA/Self-Help, c/o Expand Associates, 8630 Fenton Ave., Suite 508, Silver Spring, Md. 20910. □

Medicine, and Dr. Edward J. Huth, editor, *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

For more information write the University of Pittsburgh, 1022 Scaife Hall, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15261, or phone (412) 624-2653. □

National Plan Seeks To Alleviate Primate Shortage

A plan for ensuring that adequate supplies of nonhuman primates will be available for scientific research and testing has been released by Dr. Julius B. Richmond, HEW Assistant Secretary for Health and Surgeon General.

Nonhuman primates—monkeys, apes, and related mammals—are used for vaccine production and testing, drug safety testing, and biomedical research. They are also used in behavioral research and in studies of primate biology.

Essential Activities Threatened

A severe and long-term shortage of primates threatens the continuation of many essential health activities, warns the Interagency Primate Steering Committee, which prepared the National Primate Plan.

In recent years the destruction of primate habitats and embargoes on the exportation of primates from their native countries have decreased the supply of these animals at an alarming rate.

Federal Action Needed

The primate shortage has not been met by private industry, according to the IPSC, so Federal action is needed.

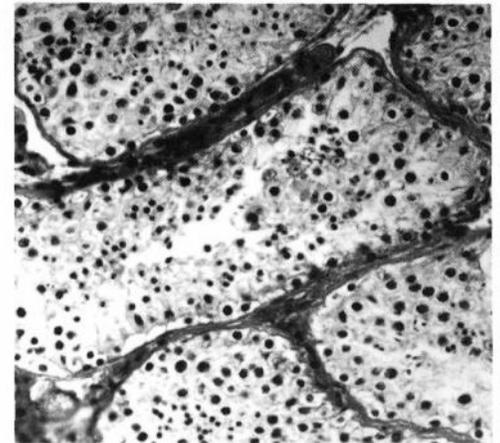
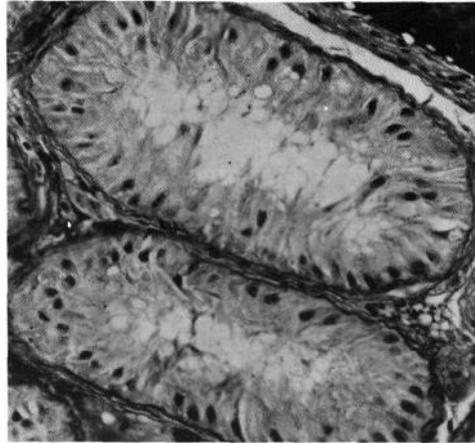
The Government's plan, which contains 35 recommendations, seeks to ensure the most effective use of primates, to expand domestic primate production, and to ensure a stable supply of primates from their native countries.

It reviews the events that have led to a shortage of primates, assesses current needs and supply capabilities, and summarizes actions which have been taken towards implementing the recommendations.

Copies of the National Primate Plan are available from the IPSC, Bldg. 31, Rm. 4B-30, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Md. 20205, phone (301) 496-5424.



Findings Suggest Heavy Drinking Can Cause Impotency, Sterility, Femininity in Men



Severe cell damage in the testes: cells affected by chronic alcohol abuse (l) are easily distinguished from normal cells (r).

Many men may be making themselves impotent, sterile, and more feminized by chronic alcohol abuse, according to a recent report by the Division of Research Resources.

While it is difficult to identify the amount of alcohol consumed that will cause sexual function loss, Dr. David Van Thiel, associate professor of medicine at the School of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh, is certain that these problems are not restricted to skid row or end-stage alcoholics. The early signs of alcohol damage to the reproductive system can appear after a single binge.

Studies conducted at DRR's General Clinical Research Center of the Presbyterian-University Hospital in Pittsburgh show that drinking enough alcohol to cause a hangover can decrease testosterone (key male sex hormone) levels in normal, healthy men who may be occasional drinkers. Dr. Van Thiel finds symptoms of alcohol abuse in many young men complaining of infertility.

About 9 million adult Americans are alcoholics and most appear to function normally, however, sexual dysfunction is a major problem, and can occur at a comparatively young age.

Drinking an average of a pint or more of hard liquor per day for 5 to 8 years may cause loss of sexual function entirely, suggests Dr. Van Thiel.

Seventy to eighty percent of male alcoholics suffer decreased libido, impotence, and sterility. These effects of chronic drinking may persist between intervals of drinking and possibly after the alcoholic completely "dries out."

Although many men may regain some sexual function if they stop consuming liquor, for others the damage may be irreversible.

The clinical researchers in Pittsburgh believe they have determined, in part, the process by which alcohol upsets normal function.

Previously, scientists thought that sexual

dysfunction resulted indirectly from alcohol-induced liver damage, but, according to Dr. Van Thiel's 6-year study, alcohol directly damages the gonads (primary sex glands) and parts of the brain.

Specifically, it seems to damage sections of the hypothalamus and pituitary that control the function of the testes. The hypothalamus produces a series of hormones, or peptides, that stimulate the pituitary which, in turn, releases two hormones (LH, luteinizing hormone, and FSH, follicle stimulating hormone).

In males, these two important hormones stimulate the testes to produce testosterone and sperm. Any disruption results in varying degrees of sexual or reproductive function loss.

A low sperm count makes men sterile, and their low testosterone levels may make them impotent and decrease their sex drive.

Chronic alcohol abuse also makes men appear more feminine. Alcoholic men may exhibit changes in secondary sex characteristics, such as redistribution of hair and fat to patterns more like those of females.

The Pittsburgh investigators have researched the biochemical mechanism by which this occurs: a combination of reduced testosterone levels and increased estrogen levels. Dr. Van Thiel says that alcoholic men have increased estrogen levels in peripheral cells—for instance, in their breasts.

One of the most important aspects of the study, he believes, is that infertility caused by alcohol abuse can now be diagnosed early. No elaborate tests are necessary, he says.

If infertility due to alcohol can be diagnosed early, sexual functions may improve. Regardless of the extent of the damage, the best treatment for the problem, according to Dr. Van Thiel, is to stop drinking.

There is no other current therapy of proved value. He believes that the effects of alcohol on sexuality may be additional persuasive evidence for patient education in the prevention of alcohol abuse.

The studies in Pittsburgh were supported by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States, Inc., and the General Clinical Research Centers Program of DRR. □

Historically the rhesus monkey has been the most widely used primate in health programs. The National Primate Plan recommends that production of these animals be expanded to 9,000 per year.



HEW Undersecretary Nathan Stark (l) is greeted by Dr. Richard M. Krause, NIAID Director, in the Bldg. 8 lobby prior to a tour to observe how the Institute is conducting malaria research. Mr. Stark was accompanied by Frederick Bohlen (c), HEW Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget. They visited NIH recently to learn about its research programs and to speak



with the senior staff. Among the locations visited was the Clinical Center's Pharmacy Department, where Dr. Joseph F. Gallelli (second from left) and Clinical Center Director Dr. Mortimer B. Lipsett (r) explained the department's operation. NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson (l) guided the tour around NIH.—Photos by Gary Best.

Use of Clot-Dissolving Agents To Combat Thrombosis To Be Discussed at Consensus Conference

Clot-dissolving (fibrinolytic) agents have been available for more than 30 years, but there has been no widespread agreement in medical circles as to how and when these agents should be used in combatting clotting complications (thrombosis) of heart and blood-vessel diseases.

To resolve some of the questions concerning fibrinolytic therapy in thrombosis, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, in collaboration with the Food and Drug Administration, is sponsoring a 3-day consensus conference on Fibrinolytic Therapy in Thrombosis.

The conference sessions will be held Apr. 10 and 11 in the Masur Auditorium and Apr. 12 in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 10.

The first day of the conference will feature presentations on the basic physiology and biochemistry of the fibrinolytic system. The second day will be devoted to the clinical aspects of fibrinolysis; and on the third day a consensus statement will be presented.

For further information contact: Dr. Anne Ball, chief of the Blood Diseases Branch, NHLBI, Bethesda, Md. 20205, (301) 496-5911, or the NHLBI Information Office, (301) 496-4236. □

Public, Scientists Show Great Interest In Fed'l Radiation Research Agenda

Some 600 scientists and interested members of the public attended the meeting, held at NIH Mar. 10 and 11, on A Proposed Federal Radiation Research Agenda.

The conference, sponsored by the Committee on Federal Research Into the Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation, was chaired by NIH Director Dr. Donald S. Fredrickson.

More than 30 individuals—including physical scientists, radiobiologists, physicists, chemists, epidemiologists, and geneticists, sociologists, lawyers, and leaders from related biomedical research areas, as well as representatives of public interest groups—made presentations.

Proceedings To Be Available

These presentations, together with the public discussions concerning them, will be printed as formal proceedings, which may be available after July 1.

The sponsoring committee will develop a draft research agenda based on the presentations and public comments, which will be submitted May 1 to the National Academy of Sciences for review by a standing committee on radiation.

The academy's critique will be returned by July 1 to the Interagency Committee, which will then prepare the final draft of the Federal Radiation Research Agenda and submit it to the White House and to Congress by Dec. 31. □



Dr. Bruce D. Weintraub (r), Clinical Endocrinology Branch, NIAMDD, discusses a recent experiment with two co-workers. The 1979 Van Meter-Armour Prize of the American Thyroid Association was recently awarded to Dr. Weintraub for the work he and colleagues Bethel Stannard (c) and Dr. Fredrika Pekonen (l), and Drs. Linda Giudice and Ione Kourides (not pictured) have done to elucidate the mechanisms of thyroid-stimulating hormone biosynthesis, secretion, and receptor interaction. (See The NIH Record, Mar. 18, 1980.)

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