

tentative plans for testing the findings.

Inquiries about the research should be directed to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, 257 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N.Y., not Montefiore Hospital or the University of Pennsylvania.

Classification System for Carbohydrates

Conventional chemical names of carbohydrates are cumbersome and are not always sufficiently distinctive for convenient structural classification. To overcome these disadvantages, H. S. Isbell of the National Bureau of Standards has developed a simple classification system in which each carbohydrate is assigned a code number that defines its structure and configuration. By inspection of the code numbers, or by a punched-card technique, related carbohydrate derivatives can be selected readily from a heterogeneous collection.

The numerical classification system was worked out in connection with a program, sponsored at the bureau by the Office of Naval Research, for investigation of the structure, configuration, and ring conformation of the sugars and their derivatives by infrared absorption measurements. Although devised primarily for comparing infrared spectra, the system can be used for classifying structurally related carbohydrates for a variety of purposes. It should be useful to research workers who need to assemble lists of structurally related compounds for any reason.

Planned Parenthood

More than 156,000 American families went to Planned Parenthood centers in 1956 for birth control services, marriage education, and infertility therapy, according to the annual report of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. The report, which covers the work of the national federation and its 106 local affiliates throughout the country, noted general increases in service and educational activities. Particularly striking was a gain of 19 percent in the number of people, chiefly engaged couples and newlyweds, who went to Planned Parenthood for marriage education and counseling.

However, the report comments that "Recent estimates indicate that well over 10 million U.S. married adults in their childbearing years are uninformed or misinformed about medically approved contraception." The development of ways to bring accurate information to these groups was defined as the central problem facing the family planning movement in America.

In a quick roundup of experiments with newer methods of communications which Planned Parenthood groups have been conducting, the report cited a variety of different projects:

In Washington, D.C., a social worker is making a person-to-person approach to mothers in low-income housing developments.

In Kansas City volunteers are distributing informational publications at factory gates.

In New York City a program oriented toward Spanish-speaking groups has increased the patient load 39 percent.

In Kentucky a nurse-midwife team takes along information and supplies on regular tours by jeep through remote mountain areas.

The federation's educational cartoon book achieved during its first 6 months the largest distribution of any recent information booklet about birth control.

"These programs showed that much more widespread use of existing contraceptive methods can be achieved in the U.S.," the report observes. "Even more apparent, however, was the urgent need to develop simpler, less expensive methods if the goal of 'universal acceptance' of family planning is to be reached."

The report noted the formation of a strong PPFA Biologic Research Committee, led by Carl G. Hartman, director emeritus of the Ortho Research Foundation, to head the federation's program of research in methods of contraception and infertility treatment. During 1956, the federation supported eight research projects in this field.

To make possible these expanded programs, the federation and its affiliates raised close to \$1.5 million in contributions from 52,736 supporters throughout the country, a 20-percent increase over 1955.

Soviet Medicine and Surgery

The Excerpta Medica Foundation will soon begin to publish English translations of significant Soviet publications on medicine and surgery. The work is being undertaken under contract with the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. The foundation's translators will work in cooperation with Soviet medical authorities in culling notable developments from Soviet medical and surgical publications.

Excerpta Medica is a nonprofit organization that abstracts and disseminates for medical science the latest writings in every field of medicine. Its work is aided by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, the American Cancer Society, the National Heart Institute, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and

the Muscular Dystrophy Associations of America. The foundation recently established a branch office at the New York Academy of Medicine, 2 E. 103 St., New York, N.Y. Its main headquarters is in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

News Briefs

The Washington office of the Social Science Research Council will be permanently closed at the end of July and the staff—Elbridge Sibley, Bryce Wood, and Joseph B. Casagrande—transferred to the main office at 230 Park Ave., New York 17, N.Y. After 1 Aug. inquiries concerning fellowships and grants should be directed to New York.

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A course in fine particle techniques will be conducted at the Public Health Service's Robert A. Taft Sanitary Engineering Center, Cincinnati, Ohio, 5-9 Aug. Enrollment is by application. There is no tuition requirement.

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Mrs. Oakes Ames of North Easton, Mass., has deposited the Ames Botanical Library at the Texas Research Foundation, Renner, Tex., and provision is being made by the foundation to acquire it. The library contains more than 4000 volumes and many unbound items that the late Prof. Oakes Ames of Harvard University collected during his lifetime of botanical research.

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The discovery of a Byzantine castle thought to have been captured by King Richard the Lion-Hearted in 1191 has been announced by the Cyprus Antiquities Department, Nicosia, Cyprus. The fortress was discovered by archeologists excavating some ruins overlooking Paphos Harbor. Also among the ruins was a building with mosaics of a style used in 6th century churches.

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The College of Medical Evangelists School of Dentistry has become the nation's 43rd approved dental school, according to an announcement of the American Dental Association. Approval was granted just a few days before the graduation of the school's first class, which totaled 39 students.

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The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has issued a 200-page proceedings of a conference on engineering education and nuclear energy that was held last September in Gatlinburg, Tenn., under the auspices of the AEC, the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and the American Society for Engineering Education. W. W. Grigorieff, chairman of the University Relations Division of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, is editor of

the volume, TID-7527, which is now on sale for \$1 by the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D.C.

NSF Postdoctoral Awards

Applications will be accepted through 3 Sept. by the National Science Foundation for a second group of postdoctoral fellowships to be awarded during 1957, both in the regular and senior postdoctoral programs. Fellowships will be awarded in mathematical, physical, medical, biological, engineering and other sciences, including anthropology, psychology (other than clinical), geography, certain interdisciplinary fields, and areas of convergence between the natural and social sciences. Names of successful fellowship candidates will be announced on 16 and 17 Oct.

To be eligible for these awards, candidates must be citizens of the United States with special aptitude for advanced training and must hold the doctoral degree or have the equivalent in training or experience. In addition, candidates for the senior postdoctoral program must have at least 5 years' experience beyond the science doctorate.

A stipend of \$3800 per year will be awarded to successful applicants in the regular postdoctoral program. Dependency allowances will be made to married fellows. A limited allowance to aid in defraying a fellow's cost of travel will be paid as well as tuition and fees.

Annual stipends to a maximum of \$10,000, adjusted to match as closely as feasible the regular salaries of the award recipients, will be awarded under the senior program, and the recipients of these awards will engage in study or research in an accredited nonprofit institution of higher learning in the United States or abroad. A limited allowance to aid in defraying costs of travel for a fellow and his dependents will also be available.

Proposed Legislation

Of the many bills introduced in Congress, some have a special relevance to science and education. A list of such bills introduced recently follows:

HR 7875. Establish the Civic Health through Athletic and Mental Proficiency Society of the U.S. Huddleston (D Ala.) House Education and Labor.

HR 7938. Protect the public health by amending Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for safety of chemical additives in food. Sullivan (D Mo.) House Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

HR 7914. Amend Career Compensa-

tion Act of 1949 to provide incentive pay for human test subjects. Reece (R Tenn.) House Armed Services.

HR 7934. Authorize Federal assistance to the states and local communities in financing a program of atomic and disaster shelters in the nation's schools. Metcalf (D Mont.) House Armed Services.

H Res 273. Provide that a select committee be appointed to conduct a full and complete investigation and study of the use of chemicals and other additives in food, medicine, and beverages with a view of ascertaining what deleterious effects such chemicals have on human life and health. Teller (D N.Y.) House Rules.

HR 7880. Establish on public lands of the U.S. a national wilderness preservation system for the permanent good of the whole people; provide for protection and administration of areas within this system by existing Federal agencies and for gathering and dissemination of information to increase the knowledge and appreciation of wilderness for its appropriate use and enjoyment by people; establish a National Wilderness Preservation Council. Porter (D Ore.) House Interior and Insular Affairs.

HR 7884. Encourage discovery, development, and production of manganese-bearing ores and concentrates in the U.S., its territories and possessions. Mills (D Ark) House Interior and Insular Affairs.

Scientists in the News

ISIDOR I. RABI, Nobel laureate and professor of physics at Columbia University, and ROBERT REDFIELD, professor of anthropology at the University of Chicago, are the scientist members of a new ten-man committee that has been established by the Fund for the Republic to "study contemporary American life with a view to determining the conditions under which a free society may best be maintained."

The ten consultants will meet several times a year for extended sessions of study and analysis. They will direct the collection of factual and analytical material and are expected to publish findings and conclusions from time to time.

ENGLEHARDT ECKHARDT, a physicist who was formerly vice president in charge of research for the Gulf Research and Development Company, Pittsburgh, Pa., has been appointed assistant director of the National Science Foundation for the Division of Mathematical, Physical, and Engineering Sciences. RAYMOND J. SEEGER, who has filled the position in an acting capacity, will continue as deputy assistant

director for the division. Eckhardt is well known for his work in geophysics, ballistic measurements, and building acoustics.

The Navy has announced that the largest group award that has been made in the Federal Civil Service, \$20,825, has been given to a group of employees at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C., for their role in improving interceptor armament-control systems. PETER WATERMAN, an electronic scientist with the Radar Division at NRL and the key figure in directing this work, received \$10,000. Forty-four other employees who worked with Waterman shared the remaining \$10,825, which was distributed according to the significance of their contributions. Ten employees in the group received the second highest amount, \$700 each; the remaining 34 received either \$150 or \$75.

R. M. WHALEY, executive assistant head of Purdue University's department of physics, has been granted a leave of absence for 1 year to serve as director of the Advisory Board on Education of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., effective 1 Aug. He will help direct the efforts of the interdisciplinary board, which will serve as the principal agent of the National Academy in all matters relating to education in the sciences.

Among the responsibilities with which the board is charged are the following: to provide leadership for the establishment of scholarly criteria in science education; to cooperate with and assist the nation's professional societies in planning for science education at all levels; to anticipate future national requirements for scientists and engineers in all fields and to relate these requirements to the demands for education in the grade school, high school, college, and graduate school; to provide a bridge between the sciences and the other learned professions in matters of education in order to promote understanding and develop continuing cooperation among and between the schools, industry, and government.

LAWRENCE A. HYLAND, vice-president and general manager of Hughes Aircraft Company, Culver City, Calif., has received the 1957 Pioneer Award of the Institute of Radio Engineers' professional group on aeronautical and navigational electronics. He was honored for his demonstration in the early 1930's that radio waves will reflect from objects, a basic radar discovery. He first observed the principle of radar detection of aircraft in 1931 while he was an associate engineer in the Naval Research Laboratory, Anacostia, Md.