

about IARC being a "white-man's club." Because of shorter life expectancy in less-developed countries, cancer was viewed as a problem of rich countries. Many so-called "third-world" countries have insufficient resources to deal even with the most pressing traditional public health problems. When several early IARC projects included research in less-developed countries there was an undercurrent of complaint about ex-colonial people being used as "guinea pigs."

IARC explanations seem to have satisfied the skeptics and its architects insist that cancer must be treated as a world problem, and that a fundamental aim of the organization is to enable environmental biology to be carried out regardless of national frontiers. A lot of relevant research on cancer is already being done in industrialized countries, but very little in the nonindustrial rest of the world. Much of IARC's work will be done in the industrialized nations; a multifaceted program to determine possible etiological factors in gastrointestinal cancer and studies on carcinogenic effects of DDT will be major efforts. The special attraction of research in underdeveloped areas is that enormous variations in disease patterns can still be found among groups of people living relatively close together, but under different environmental conditions. This is no longer true in the industrialized countries and is unlikely to be true much longer in the nonindustrialized ones.

At headquarters, IARC hopes to go beyond conventional descriptive epidemiology, not to give it up. The plan is for IARC to seek to advance the cause of world standardization of cancer reporting. Efforts will also be made by IARC to get together all cancer statistics in WHO archives and bring them into conformity.

IARC has set itself an ambitious program. About 1970, it will find itself at a financial crossroads. Funds to equip the new building will have to be found, and the costs of supporting an expanding program will have outdistanced present resources. An increase in the number of member nations would raise income of course, but even with a healthy boost in membership, other sources of income will probably be necessary. (No membership campaign has been pressed and Higginson takes the view that a good performance is the best persuasion.)

The IARC staff members recruited so

far hold solid professional credentials, and most were attracted by the organizing principle of linking field work and laboratory research. As applied on the scale of the IARC, however, the idea is a new one, and staff members agree that the organization must succeed to survive.

Future recruiting will be influenced by the attractiveness of Lyons as a place for foreigners to live and work. Lyons lays strong claim to the title of gastronomic capital of the world and is a pleasant city; but its airport is really not yet in the international class, no international schooling is available, and prospective staff for international agencies do consider such factors. On the other hand, IARC's host-country agreement with France is typical of such agreements with UN agencies in granting such quasi-diplomatic privileges as remission of French income taxes. Housing is generally more readily available and cheaper than in Paris. Perhaps most important, the cooperativeness of city authorities has been exemplary for a project of this kind.

IARC is the first international biomedical research organization permitted to undertake laboratory studies and able to operate on a worldwide basis. At the same time, its voluntary character gives it greater flexibility than the mass international scientific organizations that may have to struggle to find a common denominator for policy. For the same reasons, IARC will be easier to liquidate if it disappoints its backers. Especially if it succeeds, however, IARC could be the prototype of a new kind of international scientific enterprise.

—JOHN WALSH

APPOINTMENTS

Roland F. Smith, chief, branch of shellfisheries, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, to assistant director for biological research at the bureau. . . . **Rex E. Lothrop**, assistant director of the Eastern Utilization Research and Development Division, Department of Agriculture, Wyndmoor, Pa. has retired after 30 years of service. . . . **Richard M. Head**, manager of the Aeronautics Programs Office, Electronics Research Center, NASA, to chief scientist at the center. . . . **Gerald J. Mossinghoff**, director of the Office of Legislative Planning, U.S. Patent Office, to director of the Congressional Liaison

Division, Office of Legislative Affairs, NASA. . . . **Ernest D. Riggsby**, professor of science, Troy State College, to visiting professor, Auburn University. . . . **Scott C. Daubin**, head of the marine sciences section of General Motors Corporation, to senior scientist and chairman of the department of ocean engineering, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. . . . **William Todd**, acting chairman of the department of microbiology, College of Basic Sciences, University of Tennessee Medical Units, to chairman of the department at the university. . . . **John T. Ellis**, chairman of the department of pathology, Emory University School of Medicine, to chairman of the department of pathology at the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. . . . **David F. Kefauver**, acting associate director of the National Library of Medicine, to associate director of the library. . . . **Arpad Pusztai**, principal scientific officer, Rowett Research Institute, Aberdeen, Scotland, to visiting associate professor of biological chemistry, College of Medicine, University of Illinois. . . . **Sidney F. Borg**, professor of civil engineering, Stevens Institute of Technology, has been awarded a visiting professorship by the National Academy of Sciences and the Polish Academy of Science to lecture at several institutions in Poland. . . . **Norman F. Ramsey**, Higgins professor of physics, Harvard University and president of the Universities Research Associates, Inc., to visiting professor of physics, Middlebury College during the second semester of the 1968-69 academic year. . . . **Milford E. Barnes, Jr.**, director of the Des Moines Child Guidance Clinic, to director of the Children's Service Center of Wyoming Valley, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. . . . **Thomas J. Campbell**, associate director, Kansas City, Missouri, Medical Center, to director of the Medical Center Cost Allocation Study Program sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges and HEW. . . . **Leo H. von Euler**, biochemist, National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, NIH, to program administrator for research training in pathology, Research Training Grants Branch, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, NIH. . . . **Joseph M. Yoffey**, professor emeritus, department of anatomy, University of Bristol, England, to visiting professor, Laboratory of Radiobiology and department of anatomy, University of California Medical Center, San Francisco. . . .