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V - BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE

Research Projects Approved During December 1949

New projects

University of Georgia - Dr. R. A. Singal - "The Effect of Nutritional Deficiencies on the Synthesis of Phospholipids and Nucleoproteins in the Rat" - \$5,600

Louisiana State University - Dr. Ralph W. Brauer - "Studies of Liver Physiology and Pathology Involving the Use of Bromsulphthalein Containing S35" - \$6,383

Renewals

Northwestern University - Dr. Howard Alt and DI. John Cooper - "Radioisotope Laboratory and Radiobiology Training Program" - \$8,200 (Transfer to AEC of ONR contract and renewal for 1 year)

Columbia University - Dr. Sidney C. Werner - "Jse of Radioactive Iodine in Developing Quantitative Assay Method for Thyrotropic Hormone" - \$5,000 (Duration: Extended 1 year February 1, 1950 - January 31, 1951)

University of Kansas - Dr. E. R. Hall - "Radium Chloride and Hemopoietic Physiology of Rodents" - \$1,287 - (Supplement to previously approved contract)

Genetic Effects of Radiation

An <u>ad hoc</u> committee consisting of Drs. George W. Beadle, C. C. Little, W. L. Russell, Curt Stern, and James V Neel has been asked by the Director of the Division of Biology and Medicine to evaluate existing information on the genetic effects of radiation and to interpret the data in terms of human populations. Such information will provide a basis for properly informing the public on this subject.

Civil Defense Activities

Training Program. The National Security Resources Board formally indicated its approval on December 22, 1947, of the program to be conducted by the Atomic Energy Commission, in conjunction with the National Security Resources Board, for training of radiological monitoring instructors and physician instructors in atomic warfare aspects of civil defense. A meeting of representatives of the seven participating institutions in the physician training program was held in Washington on December 19. Agreement was reached on the basic features of the course, and detailed

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syllabi will be submitted by the various institutions at an early date. The Atomic Energy Project, University of Rochester, Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Argonne National Laboratory, University of California, L.A., University of Alabama School of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and University of Utah School of Medicine are cooperating in this program. It is planned that the first three institutions will initiate their courses in March, the others, later in the spring. All courses will be of 1-week's duration. These courses would provide, on a national level, some 200 physicians qualified to aid in planning and teaching medical aspects of civilian defense at the state level.

A meeting of the participants in the radiological menitoring instructors training program is scheduled for January 6, 1950, in Washington. At this time final arrangements will be considered for the 5 or 6-week courses to be given at Brookhaven National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, and University of California, L.A., for monitoring instructors.

Radiation monitoring teams. In response to the comments received from the Operations Offices on the teletype dispatched by Mr. J. A. Derry on December 6, 1949, outlining the basic considerations in the establishment and operation of these teams, an explanatory memorandum has been prepared, covering the questions raised. After allowing an opportunity for further comments by the Operations Offices on the revised plan, a directive will be prepared for formal issuance by the General Manager.

Fellowships

Working jointly with the Division of Research plans have been developed for a predoctoral fellowship program in the biological and physical sciences. The program for the 1950-51 academic year will be on a regional basis comprised of the eastern, southern, midwest, and probably a western region. It is anticipated that the program will be operated by non-AEC organizations such as Associated Universities, Inc., serving the respective regions. The details of the program are now being worked out for each of the four regions.

Visits

Dr. James H. Sterner, AEC Industrial Medical Consultant; Dr. Charles L. Dunham; and Dr. George A. Hardie visited Mound Laboratory, Dayton, Ohio, on December 20 and 21, 1949, relative to the research program and industrial and medical hazards

Appointments

Dr. Max R. Zelle, formerly Professor of Bactericlogy at Cornell University, has been appointed Geneticist in the Biology

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Branch of the Division of Biology and Medicine. For the past several years Dr. Zelle's research has been concerned primarily with genetic studies with micro-organisms with emphasis upon the effects of ultraviolet irradiation. He has been on the stuff of the National Institute of Health, the Oak Ridge Nationa. Laboratory, where he was a visiting investigator the past summer, and Purdue University.

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