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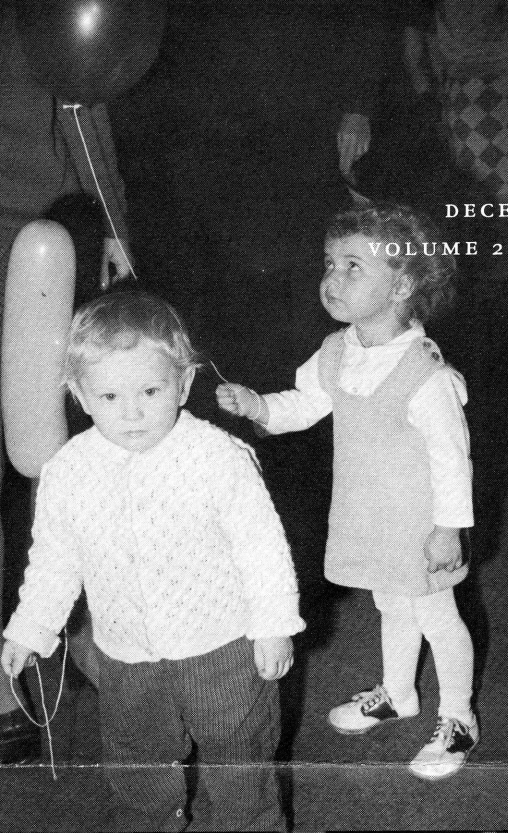
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THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY
news and notes

DECEMBER, 1970
VOLUME 2 NUMBER 4



Learning Is Lively For Small Scholars



Children's School Rhythms Class

A low-keyed, companionable buzz runs through the brightly decorated halls and rooms of the Children's School at Rockefeller. A gerbil snoozes under a display of shell paintings. A block city balances delicately in an empty room while its architects are off to rhythms class. From somewhere comes the sound of a recorded story about going to the supermarket.

In another room small hands are busy with abacuses, workbooks, and science kits. Denise and Kathleen stop for a look at the incubators where maybe chickens will hatch. (Last time the children tried, the thermometer wasn't working and the eggs cooked.) "I don't *always* watch them," says Kathleen, but her eagerness for the birth is obvious. Denise describes the contents of a tank with labels marked "peat," "water," "rock," "oil," "clay," "sand." She explains: "It's the things in the ground."

Ty has just discovered that the film projector needs fixing. Miss Kendall comes in with equipment to start work on Japanese paper-mache masks. Next door, three- and four-year-olds sprawl on a bright blue rug in the library corner. They study picture books or climb up on the handiest adult lap to chat. Carolyne talks about her house and garden in England, and Sharon about a visit to her grandmother in Taiwan. Out beyond the jungle gyms and roundabout in the playground, the absent block builders reappear. With mittens flapping, they are returning

from rhythms, held in the graduate students' lounge, to their homerooms on the first floor of Sophie Fricke Hall.

The Children's School was begun in 1966 by Dr. Theodore Shedlovsky, still its chairman. From one group of 15 children with two teachers and two rooms, it has grown to 48 children with five teachers, three of them full-time. The children range in age from three to seven years and are divided into three levels, more or less determined by age. The A and B groups attend half days. The older children of C group stay for a full day. Their parents are students, faculty, and staff members of Rockefeller. So far, despite real space limitations, every applicant has been accommodated with no more than a six month wait. Originally the only cost was a \$50 charge for materials and trips. This year, however, it has been necessary to add a \$200 tuition fee—still quite a bargain by New York City standards.

The school's curriculum reflects the eclectic background and philosophical orientation of Joann Cooper, its director since the beginning and its first teacher. She was educated at New York University, the Bank Street College of Education, and the University

IN PRINT

Professor Peter Marler, Animal Behavior, reports on some of his findings in an article "Birdsong and Speech Development: Could There Be Parallels?" in the November-December issue of *American Scientist*. He observes that there is often a reluctance to accept the validity of animal studies as relevant to the study of human development on the psychological level, especially in the area of language. However, in his work with certain species of wild birds Dr. Marler finds parallels in the ways in which young birds and children sort out sounds, and react to isolation and to deafness. His colleague, Dr. Fernando Nottebohm, also finds significant similarities in the organization of nervous control in their sound-producing organs. Through these studies Dr. Marler feels that we can learn more about the biological framework of speech development and the "limits of modifiability." Such research may have broader implications touching on other aspects of what we consider to be culturally influenced behavior.

of London, and was a teacher and a deputy headmistress in England for 17 years.

Classes are small and ungraded. Reading begins around five years, if the child is ready for it. (One three-year-old, already a fluent reader, sometimes has to be enticed away from the library for other activities.) All the children have music and rhythms. They are eased into mathematics and science through related play materials and activities. Social studies reflect the cosmopolitan background of the children. They begin with New York City, but after that the children's own home countries determine the curriculum. This year it's Japan, Korea, England, Scotland, India, Germany, and Australia. By C level, the children are studying French, mostly through songs, folk dances, and stories read by Elise Schriqui, whose native language is French. She is also in charge of the school's music program.

Like Miss Schriqui, the teachers, chosen by Mrs. Cooper and Dr. Shedlovsky, are each specialists in different areas. Mrs. Barbara Gardiner, whose main responsibility is A group, also teaches art and creative writing. Mrs. Candice Sanford, B group's teacher, is also an art specialist, as is Mrs. Judith Vogel of C group. Penny Kendall, who works mornings with A group, takes charge of C group's social studies. Mrs. Cooper, herself, is everywhere. One thing they share is an abiding respect for the individuality of every child's needs and accomplishments.

Dr. Bronk Speaks At AAAS Symposium

President Emeritus Detlev W. Bronk was one of the major speakers at the 137th meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held December 26-31 in Chicago. He spoke at a General Science Symposium on Science and the Federal Government-1970.

Other Rockefeller participants who delivered papers or took part in panel discussions included Francisco J. Ayala, Rodney W. Nichols, Donald W. Pfaff, and R. Haven Wiley. Eugene H. Kone, University public relations associate, organized a session on Science Literature for Children.

The AAAS numbers 130,000 members. Its annual meeting is the largest general meeting of scientists held anywhere in the world.

This year's meeting was the eighth held by the association in Chicago.

Miller and Dworkin In TV Documentary

Professor Neal E. Miller, the Rockefeller psychologist who upset traditional beliefs about the nature of so-called "involuntary" life processes, has been demonstrating his findings on television. With Graduate Fellow Barry R. Dworkin, he was featured in a segment of *The Mind of Man*, a British Broadcasting Company documentary which has been shown in major European countries, and across the United States on the National Educational Television network. It was aired locally on Channel 13 on November 16 and 21.

For many years, Dr. Miller has been in the forefront of a small band of scientists who have been training laboratory animals to change at will, for a reward, such supposedly autonomic responses as salivation, heart rate, intestinal contractions, kidney function, stomach activity, peripheral blood flow, and blood pressure. In collaboration with Associate Professor Leo V. Di Cara, he has been able to induce control to such a fine point that rats have been trained to dilate blood vessels in one ear but not the other. Many of the experiments have been duplicated with human subjects.

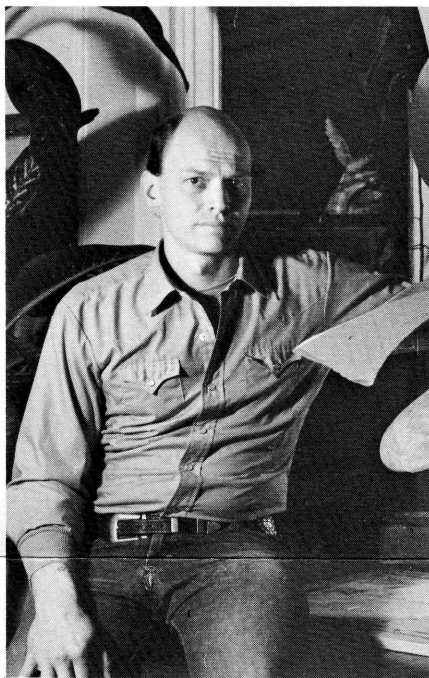
On television Mr. Dworkin, who was primarily responsible for designing the equipment, served as the "patient." He was instructed to lower his blood pressure. Each downward fluctuation of blood pressure was rewarded with a tone which signaled success.

Award to Merrifield

Professor Bruce Merrifield, Biochemistry, was corecipient of the 1970 Intra-Science Award presented at the Fourth Annual Intra-Science Research Conference held in Santa Monica, California on December 3-4. The conference, sponsored by the Intra-Science Research Foundation, is called to hear reports on recent progress in peptide chemistry and biochemistry. Dr. Merrifield and Dr. Ralph F. Hirschmann of the Merck, Sharp & Dohme Laboratories, were honored for their independent studies leading to the synthesis of the first man-made enzyme, ribonuclease. Dr. Merrifield's work was done in collaboration with Dr. Bernd Gutte.

about page one

Better than thousands of words, these photographs reflect the spirit of fellowship and joy that prevailed at Yuletide festivities on campus.



WILLIAM REIMANN

New Sculpture in Abby

The newest piece of art to arrive on campus hangs dramatically from the ceiling of the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller lounge. Titled *Dispersal Four, 1970*, the 13½ foot, double-winged construction of translucent Plexiglas is the work of William Reimann. It was commissioned for the University last spring through the Fine Arts Fund established by David Rockefeller in 1958 to acquire an art collection for Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall. It was installed by the artist in late October.

Mr. Reimann, who holds a master's degree from the Yale School of Fine Arts, is an assistant professor of art at Harvard University. His work has appeared in exhibition at a number of major museums including the Whitney and the Museum of Modern Art.

Like many contemporary artists who work in nontraditional materials, Mr. Reimann had to learn new techniques. In 1959-60, with the help of a fellowship, he studied plastic structures in the technical laboratories of British Imperial Industries in England. *Dispersal Four, 1970* is, he says, "the logical spatial extension of ideas that I've been generating for 13 years. It was a radical experiment for me because it's the largest piece I've ever attempted. The lounge presented an interesting and challenging space to make a sculpture for."

Mr. Reimann is planning a return visit to Rockefeller to talk about his art. The lecture is tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 1, at 8:00 p.m. in Caspary Auditorium.

PERSONAL MENTION

Mrs. **Minna Edwards**, a laboratory helper in media and glassware, has retired after 13 years of service at the University.

Born, August 9, to Mrs. **Luz Luayon**, assistant for research to Dr. John Nelson, and her husband, José, a resident physician at New York Infirmary, a daughter, Liesl. She is their first child.

H. Osborn Bagg, supervisor of the animal facilities, was married September 6 to Miss Dorcas Maddocks, a fashion designer.

Born, September 28, to **Dr. Neil Kaplowitz**, guest investigator, and his wife, Joan, a daughter, Hillary. She is their first child.

Married, October 17, in New Milford, Connecticut, **Carl D. Hopkins**, graduate fellow, to Kathryn Harpham, a secretary at the Hospital for Special Surgery.

Miss **Christiane Larbalétrier**, secretary to Dr. Alexandre Rothen, was married October 17 to David Chessler, a doctoral candidate in economics at Columbia University.

Born, October 26, to **Edward Garcia**, a University guard, and his wife, Maria, their second daughter, Judith Ann.

Born, November 18, to **Douglas L. Medin**, an assistant professor of psychology, and his wife, Virginia, tutoring coordinator for Interfaith Neighbors, Inc., a son, Joshua Eliot, their first child.

Married, November 28, **Rostyslaw Elyjiw**, a research assistant in Dr. Merrill W. Chase's laboratory, to Michélene Husar, a junior executive with Benjamin Moore & Co.

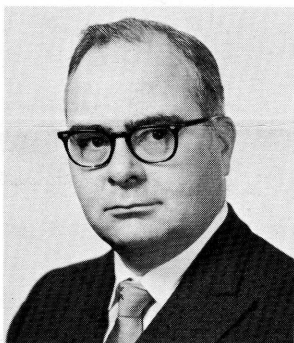
Miss **Barbara Rzempoluch**, an X-ray technician, was married on November 28 to John Gordon, a bank teller, in North Bergen, New Jersey.

Born, November 29, to **Oscar Irizarry**, an animal attendant in Professor Neal E. Miller's laboratory, and his wife, Olga, their first child, Olga Yanira.

Born, December 9, to **Dr. Sarah F. Leibowitz**, Physiological Psychology, and her husband, Martin, a daughter, Kimara Joy. She is their first child.

Safety and Security Manager Appointed

Warren H. Munroe, the University's first manager of safety and security, is an expert in his field, a teacher and doctoral candidate, and a New Yorker born and raised on East 66th Street. Since coming to Rockefeller on December 1, he has been studying procedures here in order to learn what the problems are and what their solutions might be. So far, he says, he is "very



impressed" with the University's "extremely competent people."

After 25 years in industry where he worked his way up from cargo checker on the docks in the thirties to positions of responsibility in finance and personnel, Mr. Munroe turned to safety work 7 years ago. For the past 2 years, he has been coordinator of safety and security at Columbia University. Despite the troubles he lived through there, he remains a firm supporter of the students' right to peaceful protest and demonstration. A night-school graduate of New York University where he is currently a doctoral candidate, he has taught at NYU's Center for Safety Education for the past 6 years. Recently he was invited to speak on a panel examining problems of physical threats—bombs, fire, riots, and explosions—for a conference sponsored by the American Management Association.

New Receptionist

When chic, dark-haired Regina P. Weinberg decided to go back to work last fall, she was determined to go where people were "doing some good for mankind." As the new receptionist in Caspary, she welcomes President Seitz's guests, makes travel arrangements for faculty and students and their guests, and oversees reservations for the squash courts and for the MacInnes Cottage. On weekends she works as a volunteer at the New York Foundling Hospital.

BRIEFS

Professor **Christian de Duve**, Biochemistry, received an honorary degree in medicine on October 24 from the University of Sherbrooke in Quebec. He also delivered the main address at the ceremonies.

Dr. Raymond B. Griffiths, executive editor of *The Journal of Cell Biology*, was guest of honor at a luncheon on December 5 marking his 10th year at the University. Past and present members of the journal's editorial board attended. Since Griffiths became editor in the winter of 1960, the subscriptions and manuscript submissions to this prestigious journal have more than doubled.

Professor **René Dubos** has been awarded the Harold Terry Clark Medal by the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The award was created to honor outstanding citizens who inspire a love and respect for nature. "With his rare combination of scientific talent, perceptive writing, and philosophical attitude toward the natural world," the citation noted, "Dr. Dubos has contributed to all people a choice of ways to judge themselves and their actions in relation to nature. Under the stress of today's environmental problems and others of equal rank, the viewpoints expressed by Dr. Dubos offer challenges and solutions to be thoughtfully considered."

Three Receive Degrees

Three graduate fellows received their doctoral degrees in October. W. W. Lowrance, Jr., has taken a position as research chemist with the Tennessee Eastman Company in Kingsport. Robert M. Shapley and David D. Wood have received Helen Hay Whitney Foundation fellowships. Dr. Shapley is at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, and Dr. Wood is with the Department of Pathology, Harvard Medical School, Boston.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Page 1 by Henrik Boudakian and Misak Sarafian. Pages 2 and 4 by Boudakian.

Journals Veterans Take Long Look Back

Long service at Rockefeller is certainly not uncommon, and the Journals Office has its share. When Gertrude C. Smith began there, she had planned to stay a year. She had a brand-new history teacher's license from Hunter College, but teaching jobs were hard to find just then. So she learned the techniques of producing scholarly publications, found she liked the work, and today, 42 years later, she is senior production editor. The teacher's license is still unused, but the volumes of journals on her office shelves attest to the scientific history she has helped record.

By comparison, Margaret E. Broadbent, journals manager since 1963, is a newcomer with only 30 years of University service. Like Miss Smith, she came to Rockefeller with no science background, a lack she jokingly terms as "quite helpful," and one that most of her production editors share. "We verify spelling of unfamiliar words, recognize new terms quickly, and we're not distracted by great discoveries."

When Miss Broadbent began working as secretary to the then manager, the two of them, Miss Smith, and an assistant constituted the journals staff of four. They were responsible for copy editing and production of one monthly, *The Journal of Experimental Medicine*, a Rockefeller publication since 1905, one bimonthly, *The Journal of General Physiology*, which, now a monthly, is Miss Smith's primary concern, and the now discontinued *Studies From The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research*. Subscribers for all three numbered around 2,000. Today, Miss Broadbent heads a staff of 15, including 11 copy editors, with responsibility for the production of five monthly journals, the two mentioned before and the *Biophysical Journal*, *The Journal of Cell Biology*, and *The Journal of Clinical Investigation*. An Order Service staff of 4, also under the Journals Office, oversees distribution of the journals and books. Yearly page count is up to 12,000. Subscribers now total 20,000, half of them abroad. To cope with its expansion, the office moved from Founder's Hall in 1967 to the former Nurses' Residence.

Away from the University, both Miss Smith and Miss Broadbent pursue interests in music and art. Miss Broadbent is also an active conservationist, a Greek archeology buff, and a member of the Council of Biology Editors. Miss Smith teaches English to foreign scientists working in New York.