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# NEWS AND NOTES 1971, VOL.2, NO.9

The Rockefeller University

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

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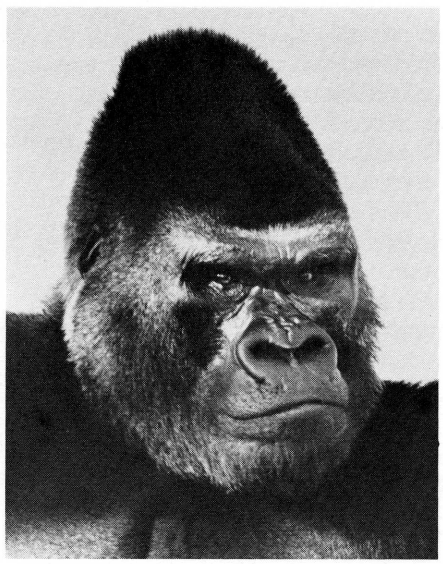
news and notes



*Two from the show: photo by V. A. Fischetti, watercolor by Walther F. Goebel.*

## Style and Skill Abound in Art Show

After a four year hiatus, the University's Sunday painters and potters, sculptors and shutterbugs had a chance once more to show each other how talented they are. The Arts and Crafts Exhibition, which was shown in the Faculty and Students Club from April 19 to May 10, contained 150 pieces by 57 contributors. Their range of styles and media was wide and imaginative, from predictably professional-looking wood carving by Cabinetmaker Leib Bobrowski, to Porter Jose Alvarez's "Naturaleza Muerta" (still life) and "Aquarium" in oils, to Professor Vincent G. Allfrey's clay copies of Michelangelo sculpture. There were watercolors and pastels, a painting done with food coloring, woodcuts, engravings, batiks, collages, and a number of ceramics. There was needlework, including a floral clock face in crewel done by Mary-Martin McSharry, the wife of Guest Investigator James J. McSharry, and hand-wrought silver jewelry by Assistant for Research Karen Peterson.

Among the more unusual entries were glass tube sculptures filled with brightly colored liquid, the work of Associate Professor John D. Gregory, and Laboratory Helper Helen Cadogan's dolls. These last, with dried-apple heads, wore delightful period costumes, including a lady in gingham and miniature "granny" glasses and a smart-looking sport in checked suit and boater.

Three large panels in the center of the Club displayed the work of the University's many able photographers, amateur and professional.

The exhibition was arranged and mounted by Patricia C. Berlin, the University's interior designer and herself an accomplished painter, potter, and wood-carver, as the show reveals. Helping her was David H. Vandercar, a postdoctoral fellow represented in the exhibition by a large contemporary Lucite and aluminum chess set.

The University will turn 70 years old on June 14. On that date in 1901 The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research was officially incorporated. It started life with a vigorous and distinguished board of directors and an annual budget of $20,000. In the words of a newspaper account of the day, "It begins its operations without flourish of trumpets and in an unpretentious way."

## Methadone Program Aids City Prisons

Late in March Dr. Vincent P. Dole initiated a program in the Manhattan House of Detention, popularly known as the Tombs, for detoxification of heroin addicts through the use of methadone. He and a small group of medical volunteers, including research assistants who are themselves former addicts, worked virtually around the clock to create administrative procedures, to train prison personnel, and to help recruit additional staff to take over the running of the program. In May, following the Tombs example, Dr. Dole started work on a comparable service at the Brooklyn House of Detention, at the prison's request.

The use of methadone is considered the most humane form of heroin detoxification, eliminating the physical and mental tortures of "cold turkey." According to Dr. Dole, at least half the inmates of the city's prisons are addicts. Until now, the help available to them while in prison has been either inadequate or nonexistent. He has been urging the Department of Correction for years to allow him to administer medical care. When his offer was finally accepted he began work on the floor of the Tombs where last year's rioting had started. Since the inception of treatment for the men, which is completely voluntary on their part, violence and suicides have ceased. It is Dr. Dole's expectation that, with the new program, 8–10 thousand prisoners a year can be treated at the Tombs and an even greater number in Brooklyn, and plans are underway to establish similar services in every prison in the city. Dr. Dole points out that, while accelerated detoxification is an essential procedure in the prisons, it is in no way a deterrent to recidivism. It will be, he hopes, a step forward toward inducing addicts to try maintenance treatment.

Vincent Dole and his wife, psychiatrist Marie Nyswander, developed the use of methadone at Rockefeller as a long-term maintenance treatment for

*Continued on page 2*

heroin addicts. Since their first programs in the early sixties, methadone centers have gone into operation all over the country. For the past two and one-half years, Dr. Nyswander has been concentrating her attention on the problem of adolescent addiction. In an expansion of this research, she and her husband and Dr. Robert B. Millman, a physician and postdoctoral fellow in the Doles' lab, have been working in collaboration with medical personnel of The New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center Department of Public Health and Pediatrics. Supported by a Rockefeller Foundation grant, they have been using the old Kips Bay Health Center, formerly a Department of Health facility, for a special project with teenage addicts referred to them by Julia Richman High School. It is not a conventional maintenance program in which it is assumed that the addict will probably have to remain on methadone indefinitely. Nor is it a conventional detoxification process in which the addict is taken off heroin quickly after which attempts are made to keep him off through medical, psychiatric, and vocational help. (The rate of success with this method has been discouragingly low.) In the Rockefeller-Cornell program, the youngsters will take daily methadone doses for at least a year, two if necessary, while they receive ongoing rehabilitation. The ultimate target will then be to see if they can be slowly detoxified until they are off all drugs completely. If they revert, the process will be repeated. There are 30 participants currently in the group. By year's end, there will be about 125. The best factors going for them, say the researchers, are their own enormous eagerness and the way they have made themselves at home at the center. "The kids really want to come."

## New York Hospital Celebrates Bicentennial

This month the University's distinguished neighbor to the north, The New York Hospital, celebrated its bicentennial. The occasion was marked by three days of ceremonies beginning on May 16 with a service at historic Trinity Church at which Dr. Kingman Brewster, president of Yale University, spoke. The site and date were chosen to commemorate another May 16 in 1769 when, in that same church, Dr. Samuel Bard, a young professor of medicine, honoring the first medical graduates of King's College (now Columbia University), made the original appeal that led to the establishment of the hospital in 1771. On May 17 and 18, a colloquium on the Future of the University-Based Hospital was held in Caspary Auditorium. Among the leaders in medicine, science, and public affairs who participated were President Seitz and Professor René J. Dubos of Rockefeller.

New York Hospital was the city's first, and is the second oldest in the country. Today its facilities and influence extend well beyond the York Avenue complex. As The New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center it includes the Cornell University Medical College, the Cornell University-New York Hospital School of Nursing, and the Cornell University School of Medical Sciences. The center's medical care facilities include the 972-bed main building, the Payne-Whitney Psychiatric Clinic and an additional 281-bed psychiatric clinic in White Plains, and the venerable Lying-In Hospital.

New York Hospital can claim an impressive list of achievements over two centuries. Among them are: the first smallpox vaccination in America (1799); the first psychiatric unit (1808); the development of the Papanicolaou or "Pap" smear for the detection of cervical cancer (1943); the first eye bank in the United States (1944); the first synthesis of penicillin with proof of its identity with the naturally occurring antibiotic; and the first synthesis of the polypeptide hormone oxytocin, used to speed childbirth, for which Dr. Vincent du Vigneaud (a Rockefeller trustee) received a Nobel Prize in 1955.

## New Treasurer Elected

The board of trustees has elected Sydney A. Woodd-Cahusac to the post of treasurer of the University. He succeeds J. Richardson Dilworth, who continues as a member of the board and chairman of its finance committee.

Mr. Woodd-Cahusac came to Rockefeller in 1969 as associate treasurer. Prior to that he had held the position of secretary and general counsel of The Perkin-Elmer Corporation, served as treasurer of American Standard Inc. for five years, and practiced law in this city. He is a member of the Board of Estimate and Taxation of the Town of Greenwich, Conn., and of the board's education committee.

## BRIEFS

Professor **Peter Marler,** Animal Behavior, has been elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Marler is director of the Institute for Research in Animal Behavior, which is operated jointly by the University and the New York Zoological Society. His own research interests are concerned primarily with experimental analysis of communication behavior in animals, particularly birds and primates.

**Dr. Francisco J. Ayala,** Population Genetics and Evolution, participated in the Conference on Evolution which was part of the Sixth Berkeley Symposium on Mathematical Statistics and Probability, held April 9–12 at the University of California at Berkeley. He spoke on Darwinian versus non-Darwinian evolution in natural populations of drosophila. The papers presented at the conference will be published in the proceedings of the symposium.

Professor **René J. Dubos,** Environmental Biomedicine, has been invited to serve as chairman of an independent group of consultants and of the editorial board which will prepare a Report on the State of the Human Environment in anticipation of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment to be held in Stockholm in June, 1972.

## Tax Changes This Year

The Internal Revenue Service has advised that, because of changes made by the Tax Reform Act of 1969, effective this year, many taxpayers are not having enough withheld from their paychecks for Federal taxes. As a result, unless they increase the sums withheld, they may have to pay large additional amounts next April. Those most likely to be affected are:

- Employees who will earn more than $11,500 in 1971 and who intend to claim the $1,500 standard deduction or to itemize deductions totaling less than 13% of their salaries.
- Single employees who will earn $15,000 or more.
- Married employees who will earn $25,000 or more and whose spouses are not working.
- All working couples.

Any Rockefeller personnel who are affected can arrange to make the necessary adjustments in their withholding deductions through the University's Accounting Office, Founder's Hall, Room 202.

## Science is Spoofed in Stories by Eisenberg

"The announcement of Duckworth's discovery caused hardly more than a raised eyebrow in the scientific community. Even Duckworth underestimated what he had done.

"'It's not much,' he said to me, apologetically. 'I was working with a series of simple monomers, building them up into a long macromolecule similar to the RNA-DNA complex. Suddenly it split into a double helix. But any kid with a home chemistry set could duplicate my results in an hour.'

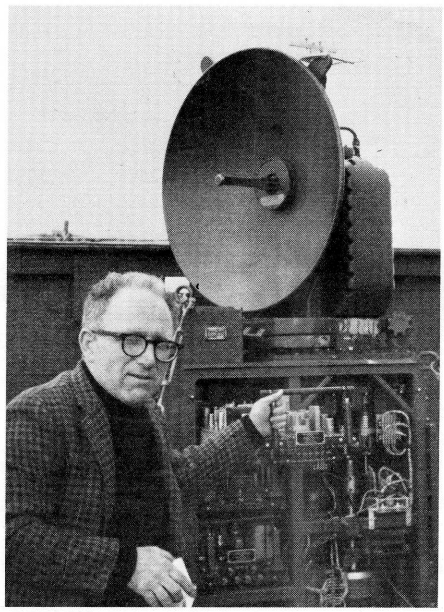
"'What are its properties?' I asked.

"'It's the most delicious substance in the world.' " (It's also 100,000 calories an ounce, a potent aphrodisiac, and more dangerous than fission.)

Thus begins "The Saga of DMM" (Duckworth's Macromolecule), first of *The Best Laid Schemes,* a collection of short stories published this month by Macmillan. Who is Emmett Duckworth? Two-time Nobel Prize winner for chemistry and peace, eccentric, indefatigable, brilliant, and the bane of the Establishment. Who is the ubiquitous narrator of the tales, Duckworth's computer-wielding Dr. Watson? He bears a strong resemblance to author Larry Eisenberg, whose science-fantasy stories have appeared in *Harper's Magazine* and *Playboy,* on British television, and in the better-known science fiction magazines. On the Rockefeller campus, from which he draws much of his inspiration, he's officially known as Affiliate Lawrence Eisenberg, cohead of the laboratories of electronics and computer sciences, designer of complex machinery for research, associate editor of the *Transactions on Bio-Medical Engineering,* and author of numerous technical papers, none of which features Duckworth.

How does a quiet, science-loving Ph.D., whose achievements include the development of the first transistorized radio-frequency heart pacemaker, become the creator of several dozen zany tales characterized by biting social satire, a healthy disrespect for sacred cows, scientific and otherwise, and a deep affection for boat-rockers? "I've always written, ever since I was a child. When I got out of the Army in 1947, I bought a typewriter and taught myself how to use it. I had the mistaken idea I was Anatole France." As fate would have it, he met a young social worker named Frances whose literary criticisms were so devastating he had no choice but to marry her. Two more critics have appeared since—Beth, 17, and Michael, 15.

Of the 22 stories in *The Best Laid Schemes,* 11 are about the exploits of Duckworth. In "The Pirokin Effect," however, our hero is a simple Second Avenue waiter and ham radio buff who discovers there *is* life on Mars—and it transmits in Hebrew! The book is Dr. Eisenberg's first published story collection. A few years back, he coauthored



*Eisenberg with radar bird-tracker he helps Professor Donald R. Griffin operate upstate.*

a paperback, *Games People Shouldn't Play,* spoofing the best seller of similar title. Word comes that a novel is halfway home.

Does Dr. Eisenberg want to become Larry Eisenberg full time? "I couldn't give up my work here. I love it. Besides, where would I get my material?"

## Seitz Delivers Talk in Puerto Rico

President Seitz was the keynote speaker on April 30 at the MetroChem '71 regional meeting held in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He discussed the current cutbacks in employment and funding for science and the growing trend toward applied research. He sees the academic leveling-off in the sciences as one that will probably prevail for a number of years, but the dip in industrial employment of scientists appears to him to be transient. While acknowledging his own "deep interest in applied research for over 35 years," Dr. Seitz expressed "grave misgivings" over aspects of the enthusiasm for mission-oriented research now emerging in Washington.

## PERSONAL MENTION

Born, January 3, to Mrs. **Luce Milord,** a night cleaner, and her husband, Fritz, their first child, a daughter, Miriane.

Born, February 2, to Mrs. **Sonia Vargas,** a night cleaner, and her husband, Gabriel, their sixth child, a son, Marco Antonio.

Miss **Stephanie Knapp,** an assistant for research in the laboratory of Dr. Edward H. Ahrens, Jr., was married February 14 to John N. Tonner, a fireman.

Born, March 2, to **Richard M. Shiffrin,** visiting assistant professor of psychology, and his wife, Susan Jane, a son, Aaron Jay. He is their second child.

Miss **Sondra Joyce Klein,** an assistant for research in the laboratory of Dr. Maria A. Rudzinska, was married April 4 to Howard W. Lewengrub, a graduate student at The New School for Social Research and a teacher of mathematics.

Miss **Cassilda Carty,** a chambermaid-cleaner in the Graduate Students Residence, was married April 17 in Jamaica, West Indies, to Luther Newman Annikie, a farmer there.

Born, April 19, to **Juan Irizarry,** an animal attendant in the laboratory of Dr. Peter Marler, and his wife, Luz, a daughter, Damary. She is their first child.

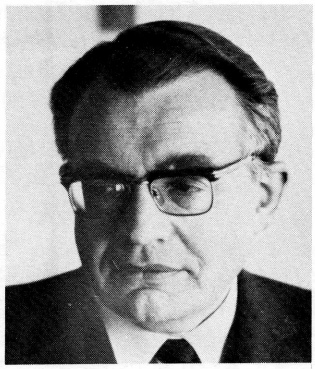
Miss **Mariann Chianese,** a junior secretary for Dr. Peter F. Woodford and for Registrar Marian E. Lucius, was married April 24 to Neil O'Connor, an employee of the New York Telephone Company.

Miss **Alison Jane Remy,** an assistant for research in the laboratory of Dr. Vincent P. Dole, was married May 1 to Jefferson Hay Crowther, a senior management trainee with the Chemical Bank of New York.

*Observed in the parking lot—bulging bike rack. Ecology effort? Physical fitness fever? Recession reaction? Who knows?*

## New Trustee

Physicist Hendrik B. G. Casimir of the Netherlands has been elected a trustee of The Rockefeller University. A member of the board of management of N. V. Philips' Gloeilampenfabrieken, Dr. Casimir is responsible for supervising the research activities of all Philips' laboratories, located in a number of



countries. Before assuming that post in 1957, he was a director of the Philips' Research Laboratories at Eindhoven.

Dr. Casimir received his Ph.D. from the University of Leyden in 1931. He studied with Niels Bohr in Copenhagen and with Wolfgang Pauli in Zurich. Before joining Philips in 1942, he held a number of research posts at Leyden.

His contributions to science have been acknowledged by honorary degrees from the Technical University of Copenhagen, the University of Louvain, the Technical University of Aachen, the University of Edinburgh, and the Cranfield Institute of Technology.

He is a Knight of the Order of the Netherlands and is a member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences and Letters, and of the Royal Flemish Academy of Science, Letters and the Arts. Dr. Casimir is also a foreign honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a corresponding member of the Heidelberger Academy of Sciences and of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. He holds foreign membership in the Royal Society, London, and is a foreign associate of the National Academy of Sciences, Washington.

## New Council Members

Nicola N. Khuri, Peter Marler, and Igor Tamm have been elected to the Academic Council, effective July 1. Their terms will run through June 30, 1974. They succeed Donald R. Griffin, A. Pais, and Norton D. Zinder.

## CURIOSA

With this issue, *news and notes* introduces a new feature, "curiosa," a column to be devoted to observations made around campus which we hope will amuse and inform a little.

*news and notes* emanates from the Nurses' Residence, now no longer a nurses' residence. So it was with some interest that we learned that the original building, only two stories high when it opened in 1910 before being added on to in 1928, was first used as an isolation area for patients with infectious diseases. Because it was believed contamination could be airborne, a special ventilating system drew the air from each room through the roof. Imagine thinking that air could be noxious!

If you look carefully at the Hospital building next door, which also dates from 1910, you'll see on it, repeated in several places, carved stone shields bearing the heraldic device of the caduceus, serpents wound around a rod surmounted by wings. From denoting heralds and messengers in ancient Greece, it gradually evolved into the symbol for physicians.

*news and notes* thanks Bernard Lupinek for help in preparing this first "curiosa." Formerly superintendent of buildings and grounds, he has been serving as a consultant since his retirement in 1967. This past April, Mr. Lupinek celebrated his 60th anniversary with the University.

*news and notes* welcomes your curiosa.

## Donald D. Van Slyke 1883-1971

Professor Emeritus Donald D. Van Slyke, renowned for his contributions in biochemistry, physiology, and medicine, died May 5 in Garden City, Long Island, at the age of 88. He had been associated with Rockefeller University for 64 years.

Dr. Van Slyke came to Rockefeller in 1907, six years after its founding. Until his retirement in 1948, he carried out extensive research on amino acids, kidney physiology, blood electrolytes, gases and acid-base balance, methods of microanalysis, and metabolic diseases, especially diabetes and renal disorders. He was noted particularly for inventing scientific apparatus and devising new analytical techniques of major importance in biochemical and medical research. His device for measuring oxygen and carbon dioxide in blood and other fluids was so simple, sturdy, and convenient that it was adopted in hospitals and laboratories all over the world. From 1948 to late last year, Dr. Van Slyke was active in research at Brookhaven National Laboratory, where he organized the departments of biology and medicine.

Of him a colleague has said, "If one can credit a single person for having brought chemistry into medicine, that person is certainly Donald D. Van Slyke."

## Blood Bank Drive

For faculty, students, and staff who are unable to donate to the annual blood drive on June 1, the day officially designated for the University at the Blood Center, 310 East 67th Street, arrangements can be made for participation at a later time. Application and scheduling can be made through the Personnel Office, Room 103, Founder's Hall. All those who enroll, even if later disqualified for medical reasons, will be entitled to draw upon the blood bank in case of an emergency affecting themselves, their spouses, dependent children, or dependent parents.

## Horses Go On Vacation

Two University workers who never worry about where to go for vacation are Joe and Ecstadt, the retired police horses who serve science from their stables in the North Animal House. In a few weeks they'll be whisked upstate to graze and gambol in country pastures on a horse farm in Bedford Village, not to return until September.

All in all, it's a pretty good life for them, according to H. O. Bagg, supervisor of the Animal Facility. In addition to expense-paid vacations, the horses get new shoes every two months, custom made by one of the city's few remaining blacksmiths who remembers them from their police days. Their slightest sniffles are tended by the University's three veterinarians ("Veterinarians just naturally love horses," says Mr. Bagg).

At the ripe old age of 24, Joe, light brown in color, has been at Rockefeller for 15 years. Ecstadt, the darker horse, is 16. He came last September to replace Flame who expired quietly after a decade of loyal service. The horses provide blood samples for several laboratories.

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