

PUBLIC HEALTH

Radio Report on Health

► THE WORLD'S most extensive and intensive research upon disease, conducted by the Government's National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md., a Washington suburb, will be reported in a series of ten weekly radio interviews conducted by Watson Davis, director of SCIENCE SERVICE and editor of the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER.

Beginning on Saturday, July 20, over the Columbia Broadcasting System's nationwide radio network, Dr. James A. Shannon, who directs the gigantic group of laboratories covering all health phases, tells the objectives, accomplishments and hopes of the thousands of projects conducted by thousands of specialists.

On successive weeks, the directors of the seven institutes, the clinical center and the division of biologics standards will discuss with Mr. Davis their plans and research results. The National Institutes of Health are the research facilities of the U. S. Public Health Service, part of the Federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Part of the Adventures in Science series which Mr. Davis has conducted over the Columbia Broadcasting System beginning in 1930, these interviews will be heard in all parts of the nation.

Originating from Washington, the quarter-hour program is on the network Saturday afternoons at 1:45 p.m. EDT, with some stations recording it and presenting it later. Local CBS programs should be consulted.

The schedule for the complete series covering the Government's major medical research effort, on which more than \$240,-

000,000 of Federal funds are being spent, is as follows:

July 20—Dr. James A. Shannon, director, National Institutes of Health, will discuss "Our Research for Health."

July 27—Dr. John R. Heller, director, National Cancer Institute, will discuss "The Problem of Cancer."

Aug. 3—Dr. James Watt, director, National Heart Institute, will discuss "America's Greatest Killer."

Aug. 19—Dr. Robert H. Felix, director, National Institute of Mental Health will discuss "Mental Health."

Aug. 17—Dr. Justin M. Andrews, director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, will discuss "Research on Allergies."

Aug. 24—Dr. Roderick Murray, director, Division Biologics Standards, will discuss "The Present and Future of Vaccines."

Aug. 31—Dr. Jack Masur, director, Clinical Center, will discuss "How Patients Help Medical Research."

Sept. 7—Dr. F. A. Arnold, Jr., director, National Institute of Dental Research, will discuss "Research for Better Teeth."

Sept. 14—Dr. Floyd S. Daft, director, National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, will discuss "Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases."

Sept. 21—Dr. Henry A. Imus, assistant to the director, National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, will discuss "Neurological Diseases and Blindness."

Science News Letter, July 20, 1957

MANPOWER

Hungarian Scientists in U.S.

► COMMUNISM'S BRUTALLY enforced loss of Hungarians who fled their homeland during the October Revolution, in 1956, is our gain, a forthcoming report by the National Academy of Sciences and the National Research Council shows.

More than 1,000 of the refugees were young scientists, engineers and technicians—a substantial scoop of cream off the Hungarian crop. All will have been placed in jobs of their profession in the United States.

The report, written by Drs. Wallace W. Atwood Jr., director of the Academy's office of international relations, and M. H. Trytten, director of the Academy's office of scientific personnel, treats fully the role the Academy played both here and in Vienna in interviewing, screening, helping and placing the scientists in their respective fields.

The report states that "the arrival of young and well-trained Hungarian scientists is a valuable contribution both to the academic community and to the national economy. In money terms alone the training of these well advanced young scientists and engineers behind the Iron Curtain represents an investment of many millions of dollars.

"The true value of the Hungarian migration to the countries of the free world can perhaps never be measured adequately. The group as a whole is a young group compared to other migrations. Most of the professional people are between 25 and 35 years of age. Their contribution to the working population is significant since in our population this age group shows a proportionate deficiency in number . . ."

The report stresses the fact that "in almost all instances" the Hungarian scientists and engineers filled positions for which there were no American scientists or engineers available.

Jobs were found in the salary bracket from \$4,000 to \$15,000 for the refugee scientists. They went to work for industries, universities, research institutions, hospitals, libraries, agricultural experiment stations and Government research laboratories. Some received pre- or post-doctoral fellowships in their scientific field.

Of the 700 scientists and engineers placed through the Academy's Camp Kilmer office, 30% were engineers; 16% medical personnel; 10% chemists; 3% mathematicians or physicists; 6% in other natural sciences;

11% technicians and the remaining 24% in other non-scientific professions.

The Academy's mission to Austria, headquartered in Vienna, placed 300 scientists and engineers who will come to this country and helped 75 go to free world nations.

In describing the operation at Camp Kilmer, Drs. Atwood and Trytten wrote that "a real transformation occurred when the breadwinner of the family learned that he had a position and would shortly leave camp to commence a life of freedom in the United States. With hopes fulfilled, family smiles came easily and just as easily came tears, the universal expression of mixed emotions."

Science News Letter, July 20, 1957

MEDICINE

FTC Cracks Down on Herb Medicines

► TWO HERB medicines, advertised as a cure for arthritis and rheumatism, as well as an aid for such troubles as poor digestion and poisoned blood, have come under attack by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

The similar, if not identical, drug preparations "O-Jib-Wa Bitters" and "Oscoda Bitters" are produced in Michigan and one of them, O-Jib-Wa Bitters, is sold only in that state, most sales being made through drug stores.

It has been extensively advertised in Michigan newspapers and, because of this, the FTC has claimed legal power in the case. The commission has ordered the producers of the herb medicines to stop misrepresenting their products in interstate commerce.

The case against the herb medicines has been before the commission for some months. An initial decision against O-Jib-Wa Bitters was contested on the grounds that the FTC had no jurisdiction over a product sold exclusively within the borders of a state.

The FTC ruled, however, that the advertising was in newspapers that were delivered outside the state of Michigan and, therefore, was likely to induce sales of the drug product.

The commission's report stated that the medicines were a "10% glycerine and water decoction," made with equal parts of 11 powdered herbs plus a liquid extract of the herb mandrake, and a preservative.

O-Jib-Wa Bitters are made by a small company employing six persons and in 1954-55 grossed approximately \$180,000 annually, the FTC reported.

The other medicine, Oscoda Bitters, is produced to handle all out-of-state customers. When requests come in from other states for O-Jib-Wa Bitters, they are sent back with an order blank for Oscoda Bitters and a letter stating that the two products are almost identical.

Science News Letter, July 20, 1957

Pumping natural gas into an underground petroleum reservoir to force oil toward producing wells halted a steady drop in output at California's largest oil field.