RESEARCH EXPANSION BILL PASSED

A bill permitting MDAH to add research sections to the present building was passed by the State Senate and the House of Representatives Feb. 6.

Introduced by Senator Robert Baker of Houston, Senate Concurrent Resolution 11 authorized the Board of Regents of The University of Texas to accept grants, donations, gifts and matching grants from Federal and State agencies for the expansion.

Approximately 49,000 square feet will be added on six floors for research laboratories, offices, and operating suites; a new east wing will provide space for experimental animal quarters, laboratories, educational facilities, and storage space.

The bill was signed into law by Governor Price Daniel in March.

ACS LEADERS MEET

Volunteer leaders of the Harris County Unit of the American Cancer Society met at MDAH March 14 to stimulate interest in the society’s 1961 fund campaign, which begins in April.

Vernon W. Frost, general chairman of the campaign, and William D. Seybold, president of the county unit, told the Houston business leaders, division heads for the crusade, that the drive’s goal in Harris County is $200,000, while the national and state chapters have allocated more than twice that amount to the county for research, education and service activities in 1961.

Dr. Murray Copeland, assistant director for education at MDAH, who is also a director-at-large for the national society and the Texas Division as well as a member of the board of the county unit, said that the $142,241 the society granted MDAH for research and education during 1961 represented five per cent of the hospital's research budget. The State of Texas, he noted, supports the largest part of the budget for research at MDAH, with the N.C.I. second.

NON-SUTURE METHOD REPAIRS MAJOR VEINS

A method by which large venous channels may be repaired without suture has been described by John E. Healey, Jr., associate experimental surgeon at MDAH.

Working with Benjy F. Brooks, research assistant, H. S. Gallager, assistant pathologist, E. B. Moore, engineer designer, physics department, and K. S. Sheena, resident in experimental surgery, Dr. Healey experimented with the application of methyl 2 cyanoacrylate to the incised veins of 25 dogs during experimental procedures.

The animals underwent liver isolation and perfusion and incisions were made in the inferior vena cava above and below the liver and in the portal vein. Special clamps were applied to the vessels, evertting the edges of the incision and bringing the intimal surfaces tightly together. This allowed 2 to 3 mm. of cuff for gluing and prevented the plastic from leaking into the lumen of the vessel.

The liquid plastic was applied to the incision and the cuffs were pressed together with the blades of a flat tipped siliconized forcep, thereby causing polymerization. Setting was rapid, and the clamps were removed after a period of one minute.

Of the 25 dogs, 15 lived. Eight died of hepatic necrosis and two were sacrificed to study the repaired vessels. There were no deaths from hemorrhage, nor evidence of luminal stenosis, thrombosis, or infection at the anastomosis site.

Within 24 hours of the operation the intima was partially re-established and no inflammatory reaction was observed. Two weeks later, sections taken showed the luminal endothelium to be intact with no foreign body reaction, but the adhesive could be seen in the vessel wall (Fig. 1).

After three months, biopsy showed the intima intact and the incision firmly healed by a narrow scar. However, there was no evidence of the presence of the plastic (Fig. 2).
Guest speakers at recent Research Seminars on Molecular Biology and Monthly Staff Meetings at MDAH have included the following well-known authorities in the physical and biological sciences:

Dr. Roger Wallace, Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, University of California, spoke on “Neutron Spectroscopy and Dosimetry” at the January 18 Research Seminar on Molecular Biology. Dr. Wallace received his Ph.D. in physics at the University of California in 1953. He has spent his career at the university, where his interests are in the field of nuclear physics, with special emphasis on neutron scattering.

On January 31, Dr. Harlyn Halvorson, department of bacteriology, University of Wisconsin, lectured on “Studies on the Control of Enzyme Synthesis in Yeast” at the Seminar. Dr. Halvorson received his Ph.D. in bacteriology at the University of Minnesota in 1949. He held positions at Northwestern University from 1950 until his appointment at Brandeis University. Dr. Sussman’s research has been in the field of microbiology, with studies on microbial biosynthesis, enzymatic adaptations, and physiology and genetics of slime molds.

Dr. D. G. Doherty, biology division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, spoke on “Enzyme Substrate Complex Formation” at the February 21 Seminar. Dr. Doherty received his Ph.D. in biochemistry in 1948, and has held positions at Rockefeller Institute, the University of Wisconsin, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. Doherty’s studies have been on amino acid, protein analysis and methods, and nucleic acids.

At the March 10 Seminar, Dr. C. M. Pomerat, University of Southern California, and The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Hospital, and the Warrendale Clinic. Dr. Pomerat’s research has centered on tissue cultures of the adult human brain.

Dr. Jerome Vinograd, Gates and Crellin Laboratories of Chemistry, California Institute of Technology, spoke on “Theory and Application of Sedimentation Equilibrium in Density Gradient” March 21. Dr. Vinograd received his Ph.D. in chemistry from Stanford in 1940. He has held positions with Shell Developing Company and Shell Refining and Marketing Company in the U.S. and England. His studies have included lyophobic colloids, and solutions of proteins and nucleic acids.

At the General Monthly Staff Meeting February 8, Lewis E. Etter, M.D., professor of radiology, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, spoke on “Some Normal and Pathologic Roentgen Features of the Skull and Paranasal Sinuses”. Dr. Etter was awarded his M.D. degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1927, and has spent his career at the university, specializing in radiology and roentgenology. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Radiologists and received certificates of merit from the Roentgen Ray Society in 1946 and 1949. Dr. Etter is a consultant for the U.S. Veterans Administration, Western Psychiatric Institute, Pittsburgh Tuberculosis Hospital, and the Warrendale Clinic.
FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM HELD

More than 600 research scientists and physicians registered for the 15th Annual Symposium on Fundamental Cancer Research February 23, 24, and 25, sponsored by The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute. This was a record attendance for the symposia, which have gained increasing recognition among scientists as meetings at which the latest developments in cancer research are discussed.

There were 251 out-of-state registrants, 229 from Houston, and 94 from other Texas cities and towns. Foreign countries were represented by 18 registrants from Canada, two from England, and one each from Scotland, Germany, Israel and Argentina.

Subject of the symposium was “The Molecular Basis of Neoplasia.” The meeting was divided into six sessions, during which 35 researchers presented papers on nucleic acids and proteins and their relation to cancer.

Thursday's morning session was devoted to nucleic acids, with papers presented by Julius Marmur, Brandeis University; Liebe Cavalieri, Sloan-Kettering Division, Cornell University Medical College; K. S. Kirby, Institute of Cancer Research, England; E. S. Canellakis, Yale University; John Josse, Stanford University; and Gary Felsenfeld, University of Pittsburgh.

Nucleic acids and proteins was the subject of Thursday's afternoon session, with papers presented by P. D. Lawley, Chester Beatty Research Institute, England; Saul Kit, MDAH; W. Szybalski, McArdle Memorial Laboratory, Wisconsin; Irwin Tesman, Purdue University; Max Lauffer, University of Pittsburgh; and Harris Busch, Baylor University College of Medicine.

Friday's morning session was concerned with protein conformation and sequence. Charles Tanford, Duke University; Bruno Jirgensons, MDAH; Alfred Holtzer, Washington University, Missouri; Geoffrey Zubay, Rockefeller Institute; Vernon Ingram, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and William J. Dreyer, National Heart Institute, presented papers.

Controlling mechanism and enzyme synthesis was the subject of the Friday afternoon session. Papers were delivered by S. R. Suskind, McCollum-Pratt Institute; Bruce N. Ames, National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases; N. H. Horowitz, Kerckhoff Laboratories of Biology; and R. P. Wagner, The University of Texas.

The 11th Bertner Foundation Award was presented to Van R. Potter, professor of oncology and assistant director of the McArdle Memorial Laboratory, University of Wisconsin Medical School, by R. Lee Clark, Director and Surgeon-in-Chief at MDAH.

Saturday's morning program was devoted to controlling mechanisms and biochemical alterations induced by viral nucleic acids. Speakers were J. B. Walker, Baylor University College of Medicine; J. N. Davidson, University of Glasgow, Scotland; G. David Novelli, Oak Ridge National Laboratory; Norman P. Salzman, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; R. Dulbecco, California Institute of Technology; and Stanfield Rogers, University of Tennessee Research Center.

The concluding session was devoted to ribosomes and protein synthesis. Papers were presented by A. Tissieres, Harvard University; Richard Roberts, Carnegie Institution of Washington; David Elson, Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel; David Ezekiel, MDAH; Mary L. Petermann, Sloan-Kettering Institute; and Vincent Allfrey, Rockefeller Institute, New York.

Announcement of Philip O'Neill as recipient of the Heuermann Cancer Research Fellowship and Nikola Franicic as recipient of the Jesse H. Jones Fellowship in Cancer Education was made by R. Lee Clark, Director and Surgeon-in-Chief at MDAH.

Chairman of the symposium was Saul Kit, chief of the section of nucleo-protein metabolism, department of biochemistry, at MDAH. The meeting was co-sponsored by the National Science Foundation, State Department of Health, and The University of Texas Postgraduate School of Medicine.

A monograph of the papers presented at the symposium will be published. For further information write to: Publications Department, The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute, Texas Medical Center, Houston.

BERTNER AWARD PRESENTED

Van Rensselaer Potter, professor of oncology and assistant director of the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research, The University of Wisconsin, was presented the Eleventh Annual Bertner Foundation Award at the Fifteenth Annual Symposium on Fundamental Cancer Research held at MDAH February 23 to 25.

Dr. Potter received the award for the “unsurpassed excellence of his experimental work, his lucid exposition and rationalization of complex biochemical phenomena, his ability to recognize and inspire new areas of fruitful investigation, his major role in stimulating many talented students of biochemistry to work in the fields of enzymes and nucleic acids, and for his many theoretical and experimental contributions to the biochemistry of cancer,” said R. Lee Clark, Director and Surgeon-in-Chief at MDAH, who presented the award to Dr. Potter.

Van R. Potter, left, McArdle Memorial Laboratory, University of Wisconsin, receives the 11th Bertner Foundation Award from R. Lee Clark, right, Director and Surgeon-in-Chief at MDAH.

The Bertner Foundation Award was established in 1950 to honor the late Dr. E. W. Bertner, first acting director of M. D. Anderson Hospital, and first director of the Texas Medical Center, and is presented annually for outstanding contribution to some field of cancer research.

Dr. Potter has been engaged in cancer research for most of his scientific career, having made valuable contributions in the fields of biological oxidation, enzymology, and nucleic acid metabolism.

Born in Day County, South Dakota, in 1911, Dr. Potter received his B.S. degree from South Dakota State College in 1933. At the University of Wisconsin, he received his M.S. degree in 1936 and his Ph.D. degree in 1938.

As a National Research Council Fellow, Dr. Potter studied enzyme chemistry at the Universities of Stockholm, Sheffield, and Chicago. In 1940 he (BERTNER AWARD, cont’d on page 4.)
STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Beaury C. Burns, Jr., was appointed assistant gynecologist in the department of surgery. Dr. Burns received his B.S. degree from the University of Alabama and his M.D. degree from Johns Hopkins University, School of Medicine. His residency training was obtained at Johns Hopkins under the supervision of Dr. Richard W. TeLinde and Dr. Howard Jones, where he developed an interest in surgery for diseases of the female pelvis as well as in clinical research in this field.

Luis S. Delclos was appointed associate in radiotherapy, department of radiology. He received B.S. and M.D. degrees at the Barcelona University, Catalonia, Spain, where he also served as clinical assistant at the Hospital Clinico. His previous appointments include: radiologist, Militar Hospital, Tarragona, Spain; house surgeon, Bolton Royal Infirmary, England; resident medical officer, radiotherapy, and senior house officer (clinical assistant in radiotherapy) at the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Manchester, England, one of the principal radiotherapy training centers in the world. Dr. Delclos' training in radiotherapy was obtained under the direct supervision of Dr. Ralston Patterson, director of the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute. He has served as a fellow in the department of radiology at MDAH since February, 1960.

John F. Dominick was appointed executive for research and development in the office of research. Dr. Dominick was awarded his M.D. degree by the George Washington University Medical School and served his internship at Sibley Hospital and his residencies at Sibley Hospital and Columbia Hospital for Women, both in Washington, D.C. His professional career has been with the U.S. Air Force, where he held appointments in medical administration and supervision of aviation medical programs, including those of flight surgeon, base surgeon and hospital commander in Kansas and Texas; medical staff officer and chief of professional services for the 8th Air Force in Okinawa; chief of the surgical branch, chief of the consultant branch and chief of the clinical medical division at the Headquarters, U.S. Air Force in Washington; chief of professional services for the Air Force in Europe; and chief of professional services, office of the inspector general, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force, Washington. Dr. Dominick served as chief of medical education and training for the Air Force from 1957 through 1960.

Frederick Gibson Dorsey was appointed clinical assistant (part-time) in the department of medicine. He received his B.S. degree from Stephen F. Austin College and his M.D. degree from The University of Texas Medical Branch. He served his internship in the United States Navy and his residency at Hermann Hospital. Dr. Dorsey has held appointments as chief medical resident at the Veterans Administration Hospital and instructor in clinical pathology at Baylor University College of Medicine in Houston. He has been a member of the Volunteer Staff of MDAH since 1950.

Del Rose M. Dubbs was appointed research associate in the section of nucleoprotein metabolism, department of biochemistry. Dr. Dubbs received her B.A., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Minnesota. During her doctoral study, she held an appointment as teaching and research assistant at the University of Minnesota.
CANCER INSTITUTE
DIRECTORS MEET

The association of Cancer Institute Directors met at MDAH January 20 to hear reports from each institutional head and discuss mutual problems and interests.

R. Lee Clark, Director and Surgeon-in-Chief at MDAH, welcomed the following directors, who attended the meeting: James T. Grace, Jr., Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, New York; James R. Heller, Memorial-Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York City; W. B. Patterson, Pondville Hospital, Walpole, Massachusetts; Harold P. Ruch, University Hospital-McArdle Memorial Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin; William L. Simpson, Detroit Institute for Cancer Research, Detroit, Michigan, and Timothy R. Talbot, Jr., Institute for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The Association of Cancer Institute Directors was organized in 1959 to exchange information between the institutes.

STAFF ACTIVITIES

D. E. Bergsagel, associate internist presented a paper on “The Activation of Factor V (Proaccelerin) by Components of Intrinsic Blood Thromboplastin and Thrombin” to the Western Regional Group of the National Research Council in Saskatoon, Canada, January 27.

R. Lee Clark, Director and Surgeon-in-Chief, attended the Cancer Control Committee meeting at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, January 11 to 13. He also presented “Local Cancer Chemotherapy by Perfusion” at the sectional meeting of the American College of Surgeons held in Mexico City, January 23 to 26, and at the College of Surgeons Cancer Workshop in Philadelphia, March 9, presented the “Organization and Essential Elements of an Improved Cancer Service”.

Murray M. Copeland, assistant director for education, was a member of a workshop group on “The Role of Training Professional Personnel” at the White House Conference on Ageing in Washington, D.C., January 8 to 12. As vice-chairman of the Committee on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons, he participated in a panel discussion on “Activities of the College” and was moderator of a discussion on “Management of Advanced Cancer” at the Birmingham Sectional Meeting, American College of Surgeons in Birmingham, Alabama, January 16 to 17. As a Director-at-large, Dr. Copeland attended a meeting of the Board of Directors, American Cancer Society in New York City January 18 to 19, where he also attended meetings of the Medical and Scientific Committee and the Professional Committee.

As chairman, Dr. Copeland attended the annual meeting of the Joint Committee on Cancer Staging and End Results Reporting of the American College of Surgeons in Chicago February 10 to 11. He lectured on “Benign Tumors of the Bone” and “Diagnosis and Treatment of Certain Forms of Chronic Cystic Mastitis”, and participated in a round-table discussion of breast cancer at the 72nd Annual Meeting of the Mid-South Postgraduate Medical Assembly in Memphis February 14 to 17. In Miami, he attended the Southeastern Surgical Congress meeting March 4 to 6 as past president. Dr. Copeland was present at the meeting of the National Advisory Cancer Council of the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, March 6 to 8.


Leon Dmochowski, virologist, spoke on “Viruses and Cancer” at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Harris County Unit of the American Cancer Association in Houston December 1.

Joe B. Drane, clinical associate prosthodontist, spoke on “Maxillofacial Prosthetics” at the Galveston District Dental Society meeting in Galveston February 7. He presented a paper on “Surgical Prostheses” to the Houston Naval Dental Reserve February 23.

Nylene E. Eckles, associate internist, addressed the Virginia Peninsula Academy of Medicine at Newport News, Virginia, on “Management of Metastatic Breast Cancer” January 18.

George Ehni, clinical associate neurosurgeon, lectured on “Cervical Disc in the Acute Extruded State” at the Southern Neurosurgical Association meeting in San Antonio February 3.

A. Clark Griffin, biochemist, attended the meeting of the American Cancer Society Committee on Pathogenesis in New York City February 28 to 29. He participated in the American Cancer Society Science Writers’ Symposium in St. Petersburg, Florida, held March 19 to March 21.

Felix L. Haas, biologist, presented a seminar on “Mechanisms of Radiation-Induced Mutation in Bacteria” to the faculty and graduate students of the departments of zoology and bacteriology at The University of Texas in Austin, March 15.

Renilda Hilkemeyer, director of nursing, and H. S. Gallager, assistant pathologist, spoke to the Student Nurses of Texas Women’s University in Houston. On January 10, Dr. Gallager talked on “Introduction to Oncological Nursing” and Miss Hilkemeyer spoke on “Psychological Aspects in Care of the Cancer Patient” January 11. At the Institute on Nursing Service Administration sponsored by the National League for Nursing and the American Hospital Association in Houston, February 27 to March 3, Miss Hilkemeyer participated in a panel discussion on “Administrative Understanding and Support—The Director of Nurses’ Role on the Hospital Administrative Team.” On January 18, she attended a meeting of the Service Committee of the American Cancer Society. Miss Hilkemeyer attended the first meeting of the Committee on Nursing in International Affairs of the American Nurses’ Association January 4 to 6.

T. C. Hsu, associate biologist, participated in a conference on “Biology of Connective Tissues” in Princeton, New Jersey, February 3 to 4. With Carolyn E. Somers, research associate in experimental cytology, Dr. Hsu participated in a conference on “Neurospora Genetics” in La Jolla, California, March 2 to 4.

R. M. Humphrey, radiation biologist, attended a conference on “The Use of Animal Cell Tissue and Organ Cultures in Radiobiology,” sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences, in New York City, February 16 to 18.

Michael L. Ibanez, assistant pathologist, presented a paper on “Cold Chamber Frozen Sections in Surgical Pathology” to the annual meeting of the Texas Society of Pathologists in Fort Worth January 27 to 29.


James D. McKinley, Jr., chief pharmacist, was chairman of a session of the Thirteenth Annual Hospital Pharmacist Scientific Assembly, held March 19 to March 21.
CANCER CARE INSTITUTE HELD

An institute on cancer care, sponsored by the MDAH social service department, was held in the MDAH auditorium March 8 to 10 for social workers and public health nurses from various sections of the state.

More than 100 workers gathered to learn how to help people understand cancer and the treatment for patients with the disease. How to spot possible trouble, so that the person can be encouraged to see a local physician was also emphasized.

Medical and psycho-social problems of the cancer patient were discussed by speakers from MDAH departments of social service, medicine, biology, pathology, patient care, radiology, and nursing. Topics ranged from “Helping the Cancer Patient Accept Treatment” to “Cancer Research Today.”

Mrs. W. Aubrey Smith, vice-president of the Texas Division of the American Cancer Society, discussed “Follow-Up Care in the Community,” assisted by a social service staff panel.

STAFF PUBLICATIONS

Recent papers published by staff members include the following:

Chang, Jeffrey P., Clark, R. Lee, Dmochowski, L., and Kit, Saul: Papers presented at the 14th Annual Symposium on Fundamental Cancer Research, collected in Cell Physiology of Neoplasia. (The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute) University of Texas Press, Austin, December 1960.


