



MOST IMPORTANT DRUGS—These drugs, regarded by the American Medical Association as among the most important developed during the past 30 years, were selected for entombment in the medical time capsule. (Story below)

PUBLIC HEALTH

Overseas Health Aid Basic

Keeping the United States healthy and helping other nations to maintain their health standards is an important investment toward world peace—By Faye Marley

► INVESTMENT in a nation's health pays more dividends than technical assistance, the National Citizens Committee for the World Health Organization was told in Washington, D. C.

"Without a healthy community to work on our new industrial projects," said Dr. H. O. Thomas, dean of the University of Lagos Medical School, Lagos, Nigeria, "all other forms of assistance will yield a poor return."

Trying to economize by setting up three-year medical schools has not paid off in his recently liberated country, he said.

He suggested bringing in good medical teachers and research workers from overseas for two or more years.

David E. Bell, administrator of the U.S. Department of State's agency for international development, pointed out that it is a rather startling fact that while the U.S. Government is supporting a modest level of technical assistance in health, the U.S. is actually importing foreign-trained physicians at the rate of 3,000 per year for training and service in our hospitals. The nurse situation is equally disturbing, he said.

Rep. Durward G. Hall (R-Mo.), who is also a physician, told the committee that "elements of our own population" who have not yet reached a desired standard of living, are undergoing hardships in order that our humanitarian obligations abroad should be met.

But he added that "perhaps when all other types of diplomacy seem to be failing in their efforts to achieve world peace and expansion of freedom, there is a growing need for medical diplomacy."

Effective new drug control was one of the goals held up by Rep. Hall, along with

medical education, sanitation, water supply and eradication of such scourges as malaria, tuberculosis, yaws, sleeping sickness and cholera.

The problem of reconciling the cost of new drugs to the needs of poor people but at the same time adjusting to the fair benefits researchers deserve for their discovery was posed by Dr. Santiago Renjifo Salcedo, Colombian minister of public health from Bogota.

• Science News Letter, 84:231 Oct. 12, 1963

PUBLIC HEALTH

Health Good Economy In Developing Countries

► PEOPLE in the newly developing countries are demanding healthy conditions to work in, Dr. Leona Baumgartner of the Agency for International Development (AID) told the Third International Conference on World Health in Washington, D. C.

It is poor economy to expect "good work out of good workers" when a country is handicapped by malaria and schistosomiasis, she said, at the panel of health workers and economists she moderated.

"The problem is how to use the small amount of money available," Dr. Baumgartner told SCIENCE SERVICE. "The enormous pressure to jump into the modern methods of the 20th century in a hurry in the face of so many demands poses real problems."

In economic terms, old people of the developing countries are considered "consumers" rather than producers. If there is only so much money—and the entire World Health Organization has a budget of \$34 million this year—agricultural tech-

nology to raise food will get priority over care of the aged, the panel agreed.

Dr. Gordon Bates, general director, Health League of Canada, stressed the need for voluntary citizens' committee in all developing countries.

• Science News Letter, 84:231 Oct. 12, 1963

MEDICINE

30 Leading Drugs Buried In Medical Time Capsule

► THIRTY LEADING DRUGS, all discovered within the past 30 years, were selected by the American Medical Association for burial in a medical time capsule in the Bronx, Oct. 5, that will not be exhumed until 100 years from now.

Here are the general selections of the AMA, with abbreviated descriptions of use:

1. Penicillin, for bacterial infection.
2. Cortisone, hormonal agent for treating inflammation, allergy, etc.
3. Aminosalicic acid and Isoniazid for TB.
4. Poliomyelitis vaccines.
5. Anticoagulants, Dicumarol and Heparin sodium.
6. Rauwolfia alkaloid, trade name Serpasil, and other tranquilizers including chlorpromazine.
7. Meperidine HCl, a narcotic pain killer.
8. Antidiabetic drugs represented by Tolbutamide or Orinase, for the treatment of diabetes by mouth.
9. Chloroquine Phosphate, trade name Aralen Phosphate, for malaria.
10. Propylthiouracil, for overactive thyroid.
11. Isoproterenol HCl, trade name Isuprel HCl, for asthma and some heart disease.
12. Phenylephrine HCL and anticholinergics for imbalances of nervous system.
13. General anesthetic, Halothane, and local anesthetic, Xylocaine HCL.
14. Muscle relaxant for skeletal muscles, represented by Tubocurarine Chloride.
15. Oral contraceptive, Enovid.
16. Ganglionic blocking agents, Hexamethonium Chloride, for high blood pressure.

• Science News Letter, 84:231 Oct. 12, 1963