

Nobelist From Acadia

The researcher's creed: research is incomplete until it impinges on the lives of people.

by Faye Marley

Maybe it was because he was born in Evangeline country and went to a little college called Acadia in Nova Scotia that Charles B. Huggins has the eyes of a dreamer and the warm hand-clasp of a lover of people.

"He is more than a scientist," Dr. Lloyd H. Elliott, president of George Washington University, Washington, D.C., said in introducing the 1966 Nobel Laureate in Medicine to an eager group of medical students, alumni and faculty members on Washington's birthday. "He is a real human being."

Dr. Huggins speaks in a simple way, in a low voice that demands attention, and he had the young people in his audience sitting on the edge of their chairs in an attitude of listening for more than words. If they were hoping to find out what it takes to get a Nobel Prize, they found it in the evidence of hard work at the laboratory bench shown in pictures of his cancer-ridden animals whose tumors disappeared under hormone treatment.

Charles Brenton Huggins went from his unknown little college with 25 graduates at the age of 19 to Harvard, which he claims accepted his application because the foreign quota was not full.

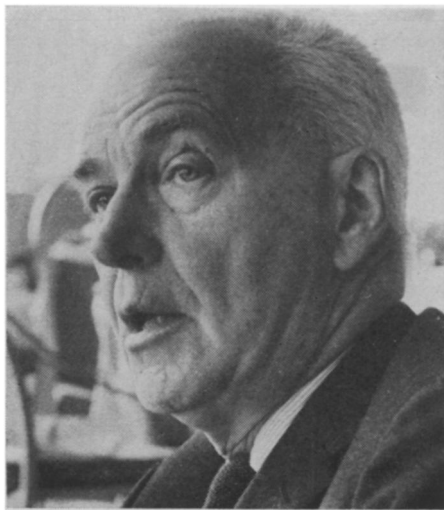
From Harvard in 1924 he went to Ann Arbor, Mich., which seemed to him like going to the Pacific Coast from his eastern Canada background.

"I had heard there were pretty girls out there," he says for his wife's amusement, for it was while he was studying surgery there under the late Dr. Frederick A. Collier that he met and married her.

His wife, their son, Dr. Charles E. Huggins, professor of surgery at Harvard, and their daughter Emily, the wife of a San Francisco physician, were with him in Stockholm last year when he received the Nobel Prize.

The Prize, shared with Dr. Francis Peyton Rous of the Rockefeller University, New York, was in recognition of his discoveries in the field of hormonal treatment of prostate cancer. He is a specialist in studies of the male uro-genital tract, cancer of the prostate and mammary cancer.

"When I first began work as a doctor," he says, "there was no cure for the 50 percent of men over 50 who have prostate tumors—generally called



Fremont Davis

Huggins: "Research means people."

enlarged prostate gland. Five percent of these tumors are cancerous. Testosterone, the male hormone, is the villain of the piece, so we found that the best treatment was removal of the male sex glands producing it."

For many years Dr. Huggins has been devoting much of his research to the breast cancer problem, and in 1951 he reported the beneficial effects of removing the adrenal glands, replacing their function with cortisone.

He looks on research as a violinist looks on his violin. The concert violinist practices eight hours a day. Just as it would be disastrous to a musician to stop practicing, it would be disastrous to thought processes if the researcher took off as little as three months. He must have ceaseless activity and discipline.

His office at the Ben May Laboratory of Cancer Research at the University of Chicago is in the same building that houses Billings Hospital, and Dr. Huggins points out that medical research is not complete until the solution that has been achieved impinges on the lives of people. In this hospital have been many cancer patients who have had their lives prolonged and their suffering relieved because of his discoveries.

Pupils he has trained now occupy important chairs of urology, surgery, biochemistry, pathology and pharmacology in major universities of the world. Perhaps one of them will be the genius needed to cure cancer in its many forms, he hopes.

Adventures in Science



LILO HESS

Foxes in the Woodshed. Illustrated with photographs. The story of a red fox family, told by the author of *Sea Horses*, who observed the fox pups until they were grown. Ages 6-10
Tr. Ed. \$3.25 SLB \$3.12 net

ALICE E. GOUDEY

Red Legs. Illustrated by Marie Nonnast. How is a red-legged grasshopper born? where does he live? what is he like? Here is his story from egg to maturity, told in simple, scientific terms. Ages 6-10
Tr. Ed. \$2.95 SLB \$2.97 net

LILO HESS

Sea Horses. Vivid photographs by the author illustrate the fascinating life story of this strange little fish from birth to breeding. Ages 6-10
Tr. Ed. \$3.25 SLB \$3.12 net

BERNIECE FRESCHET

Kangaroo Red. Illustrated by John Schoenherr. The splendid adventures of Joey, the red 'roo, growing up in the wilderness of Australia's bush country. Ages 6-10
Tr. Ed. \$3.25 SLB \$3.12 net

KEITH GORDON IRWIN

The Romance of Physics. Illustrated by Anthony Ravielli. The story of classic physics, told through the lives of the great men whose discoveries opened the door to modern physics. Ages 12 up
Tr. Ed. \$4.95 SLB \$4.36 net

CORINNE JACKER

Window on the Unknown: A History of the Microscope. Illustrated by Mary Linn. A fascinating view not only of the microscope itself but also the way in which it revised our concept of the universe. Ages 12 up
Tr. Ed. \$3.95 SLB \$3.63 net

Illustration from *The Romance of Physics*

SLB—Scribners Library Bindings

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS
New York