COVER LEGEND

CANCER RESEARCH proudly dedicates the cover of this month's issue to Hugh J. Creech (b. 1910, Exeter, Ontario, Canada). This tribute is fitting and timely in that April 1971 marks the beginning of the 20th year of Dr. Creech's stewardship as Secretary-Treasurer of the American Association for Cancer Research. Dr. Creech now surpasses the previous record (1917-1935) set by Dr. William H. Woglom.


In 1945, Dr. Creech joined the Institute for Cancer Research, Fox Chase, Philadelphia, where he has also maintained a program of active research in two additional areas of cancer. These are investigations on the immunological and chemotherapeutic effects of antitumor polysaccharides from Serratia marcescens and on the structure-activity relationships of a wide variety of alkylating agents. The original studies of the latter topic were published in Cancer Res., 20 (Part 2): 471-490, 1960, and later developments made with his colleagues, Dr. R. M. Peck and Dr. R. K. Preston at the Institute for Cancer Research, are contained primarily in J. Med. Chem., 7: 471-480, 1964; 9: 217-221, 1966; 13: 284-288, 1970. In addition to finding that pronounced antitumor activity is shown by compounds containing a single 2-chloroethyl group and an appropriate polynuclear component, many of the ICR nitrocellulose half-mustards have been discovered to be unique frame-shift mutagens of considerable interest to investigators of mutagenesis.

In 1952, at the recommendation of Dr. Stanley Reimann, who was then President of the Association, Dr. Creech was elected Secretary-Treasurer. This appointment has productively filled two decades, despite several attempts by Dr. Creech to resign and the equally numerous, but happily successful, urgings of the Board of Directors to dissuade him. As Secretary-Treasurer of both Cancer Research, Inc., and the Association, he is the chief administrator of the society and the journal. Greatly guided by his constant vigilance, the official organ of the Association has continued to serve the cause of cancer investigators, assisted by the understanding and generous support of the National Cancer Institute and the American Cancer Society, as well as the Damon Runyon, the Elsa U. Pardee, and the Jane Coffin Childs Funds.

During his period of office, the membership of the Association has more than doubled and the size of the annual meeting has tripled. This occasion of Dr. Creech's 10th anniversary as Secretary-Treasurer of the AACR recalls the tribute aptly phrased by Dr. Thelma Dunn at the conclusion of her term as President of the Association in 1962: "I know that all the Officers who have served with him, all the members of the Board of Directors, and all who belong to the Association are well aware of the efficiency, the courtesy, the foresight, let me say the genius, with which Hugh Creech has performed the duties of his office (Proc. Am. Assoc. Cancer Res., 4: 85, 1963)."

Dr. Creech is shown in a recent photo on the cover. The background depicts some of the poly cyclic aromatic hydrocarbon series employed by him in the carcinogen-protein conjugate studies: upper, 1,2-benzanthryl (position 10 to a carbamido linkage to horse serum albumin); lower, 2-acetylaminofluorenyl (position 7 to bovine serum albumin). These figures are reproduced from: H. J. Creech, H. F. Havas, and J. Andre, Immunologic Properties of Carcinogen-Protein Conjugates Containing Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and Substituted Stilbenes. Cancer Res., 15: 726-733, 1955 (p. 728).