Dr. Harold L. Stewart (b. 1899), former Chief of the Laboratory of Pathology of the National Cancer Institute, and Dr. Thelma Brumfield Dunn (b. 1900), of the same laboratory, for three decades have been outstanding authorities and sources of knowledge concerning spontaneous and induced neoplasms in laboratory mice, experimental tumorigenesis, and comparative pathology.


Stewart and Dunn have been strongly influential in national and international organizations of pathology and cancer research. Both are former presidents of the American Association for Cancer Research (Stewart, 1958–1959; Dunn, 1961–1962). Since their retirement in 1969, they have been organizing a Registry of Experimental Cancers, which will become a reference collection of neoplasms in laboratory animals.

The cover photograph shows the two investigators in Dr. Stewart’s office at the National Cancer Institute where for 17 years open house was held each day at lunch. The meal itself became a tradition in frugality, but the intellectual fare, i.e., the stimulating discussions of ideas, observations, and experimental designs, as well as the sparkle of the host’s and hostess’ wit, were sufficient to lure visiting colleagues from laboratories everywhere. Over the years, retentive habits of the luncheon sessions have acquired a liberal education in the sciences and the humanities. Stewart and Dunn have long been “pater-mater” to the family of cancer researchers and pathologists around the globe.