Grant Supports 15 Negro Students In Med Program

ANN ARBOR--A $15,000 grant from the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation of New York will support a summer opportunities program for Negro college students at The University of Michigan Medical School.

Fifteen men and women students will receive research fellowships to spend two months working in U-M research laboratories, beginning June 13. The 15 are from 10 colleges in Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Virginia.

"The aim of this program is to give students who are interested in becoming doctors, in graduate study in the basic sciences, or in positions as laboratory technicians, the opportunity to work in a research laboratory," said Dr. James B. Ranck, associate professor of physiology.

DR. RANCK, who is chairman of the U-M Medical School program committee, said the laboratory experience also may be valuable for students who are interested in science-teaching careers.

Another objective is the recruitment of Negro students for U-M.

"Very few small colleges are able to offer their students experience in research laboratories," Prof. Ranck noted. "It is difficult for the college student to get firsthand knowledge about research methods and operations. We hope this program will be beneficial to the student who needs extra experience and laboratory training."

The U-M Medical School has offered similar programs in the past to undergraduate students.

MOST OF THE SUMMER fellows are sophomores, since the committee believes the second year of college is the most appropriate time for a student to adjust his curriculum. "We also hope to motivate them early in their academic careers," Dr. Ranck added.

Laboratory work will vary for the participants. In some cases, a student may be given a project to work on by himself. Others may be "apprenticed" to graduate students, or work with technicians on projects planned by the laboratory director.

The students will meet together twice a week for faculty talks and for presentations of their own work. They also will discuss career opportunities in medical and paramedical fields.

Other undergraduates working in the research laboratories will be attending the sessions. Laboratories will include those in biological chemistry, human genetics, physiology, internal medicine, and otorhinolaryngology.

The Macy Foundation grants will be awarded to students attending predominantly Negro colleges: Spelman and Morehouse in Atlanta, Dillard in New Orleans, Shaw and St. Augustine's in Raleigh, N.C., Fisk in Nashville, Knoxville in Knoxville, Tenn., Hampton in Hampton, Va., Langston in Langston, Okla., and St. Paul's in Lawrenceville, Va.

Council Moves Ahead On EDP -- But Not PDQ

Livonia's City Council members are displaying a gingerly attitude after their first contact with electronic data processing.

As Councilman Robert F. Nash said jestingly, "Be careful gentlemen. We could all be replaced by a computer."

The occasion was a study session of the Council Wednesday night to hear the special report of a feasibility committee made up of eight Livonia citizens who are experts in the field of electronic data processing. (EDP).

Their report concerning EDP adaptation for replacing the massive paperwork and oftentimes duplication of city government has been almost a year and a half in the making.

* * *

IN ESSENCE, their conclusion is that the city can realize definite economic benefits by using data processing equipment in such possible applications as the city payroll, personnel files, tax and utility billings, inventories, and a wide area of the City's government now being conducted laboriously and ponderously by humans.

The implication of a mechanical brain taking over the jobs of a mini-skirted secretary posed the obvious question put to Council President Edward McNamara by a reporter after the meeting's adjournment.

Will EDP ever become a substitute for the feminine sex that now bring the boss's coffee to him in the morning?

"Well, hardly," conceded McNamara, but qualifying his answer quickly as a married man and Bell Telephone Company executive. "We had 22,000 people at Bell when EDP was introduced. Today we have 24,000. A computer will only do what people tell it to do. Ergo, people employes are here to stay."

* * *

FURTHER STUDY of the committee report was extended to May 14 by the council at which time a recommendation will be formulated for legislative action.

The eight-member citizens groups grew out of an original EDP feasibility study conducted by two firms in the electronic data processing equipment field.

"But no one around city hall had EDP know-how to read their report," Budget Director Victor Phillips recalled.

According to Phillips, the City appealed through the Observer for help and received answers from several citizens in the field.

"We did look askew when one turned out to be an EDP salesman," Phillips explained, "but he bowed out," he added admiringly of the latter's ingenuity.

Members of the committee, all volunteer Livonia citizens, Frank J. Buzolits, National Bank of Detroit; Robert Brewer, General Motors Corp.; Gerald A. Gentile, Info Data; John LaSelle, Farmcrest Bakery; Cathie McGee, Ford Motor Co.; Howard L. Neal, Burroughs Corporation; Eugene Neph, Lawrence Scudder & Co.; and Ralph E. Peterson, Huron Cement.

State Bans DDT Pitch On Mosquitoes

The pesticide DDT will not be recommended for mosquito control on the labels of insecticide containers in Michigan after May 8.

This is because research has proved that mosquitoes can be controlled effectively by other chemicals with less residual effects. This does not affect other DDT uses.

Announcement was made recently by Director B. Dale Ball of the Michigan Department of Agriculture which is responsible for the registration of pesticides in the state. Formulations registered with the department's Laboratory Division total some 5,000.

* * *

ON APRIL 8 manufacturers of pesticides were notified they would not be permitted to recommend DDT use for mosquito control on the label of their products. They were given 30 days to revise their labels. After May 8 manufacturers will be guilty of misbranding in Michigan if their labels still recommend DDT for mosquito control.

Pesticides are the subject of continual scientific research. In this case the Michigan Department of Agriculture took action after a review of data presented by the Pesticide Research Center of Michigan State University and the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station.

The agriculture department has not used DDT in any of its programs since 1962, nor does it operate mosquito control programs, but homeowners, municipalities and commercial applicators have used preparations containing DDT to keep down mosquitoes.

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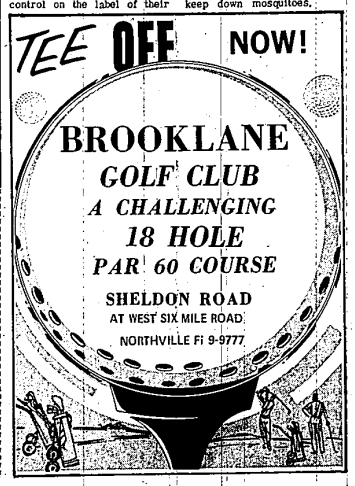

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