

## Tissue Transplantation Program Underway



DR. DENNIS AMOS

A major research effort looking toward the transplantation of skin, kidneys and other tissues and organs from one human being to another is underway in the Medical Center. A grant of \$138,947 to support this program of basic studies for the next year has been awarded by the Division of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Dennis B. Amos, who joined the Duke faculty in August as professor of immunology, will head the research program.

Commenting on the significance of the project, he said, "Attempts at transplantation in humans, except in the rare cases of identical twins, have been generally unsuccessful . . . The problem of organ transplantation may be one of the greatest missions of surgery in the future, but it will require

a real understanding of why grafts are rejected and do not 'take.'" Dr. Amos plans to search for simple methods of determining the factors which produce graft rejection.

Dr. Amos pointed out that tissue transplantation today is in the position of blood transfusion before a basic understanding of blood groups was achieved. "Once mechanisms of blood groups were understood," he said, "incompatibilities could be avoided in almost all cases, and blood transfusion became a normal accompaniment of many surgical procedures."

Dr. Amos, a native of Bromley, Kent, England, received his medical education in London. Since 1955 he has been doing research at the Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, New York, and has served as associate research professor of biology at the University of Buffalo. When appointed to the Duke faculty, he was principal cancer research scientist at Roswell Park. He had been studying various aspects of tumor transplantation in mice. He plans now to study the transplantation antigen system in man, with the hope of eventually distinguishing compatible donor-host combinations.

His associates are Dr. Eugene Day, associate professor of immunology, and Dr. R. S. Metzger, assistant professor of immunology. Both have been engaged in cancer research at Roswell Park. Dr. Delford Stickel, Markle Scholar in Surgery, is associated with the group as a graduate student.

## Welcome Frosh!

For a week in mid-September the Duke campus sprouted "Welcome Frosh" signs like crocuses in early spring. The Medical Center welcomes 94 new nursing students and 81 new medical students. The total enrollment in the medical school is now 333; in the nursing school 302.

## Outstanding Employee



MRS. NANNIE BELL

Mrs. Nannie Bell, a member of our Nursing Service assigned as a night maid to the Emergency Room, has received the Outstanding Employee Award this month. Mrs. Bell was employed by the Duke Medical Center on February 14, 1942. This represents her 20th year of service to the hospital. Her supervisors state that Mrs. Bell is a most dependable and reliable employee with a great deal of interest and pride in her work. Her friendly, pleasing manner is complemented by her willingness to cooperate with those she serves.

Our congratulations go to Mrs. Nannie Bell.

### Volunteers Needed

The Duke Hospital Auxiliary continues to need workers to staff the volunteer services. Please recruit any likely prospects.

### Don't Forget Your Flu Shot

The influenza virus vaccine (polyvalent type) is being given free in the Employee Health Office every Thursday and Friday through December. Hours: 1:30-4:30 P.M. Persons allergic to eggs, chicken and feathers will not be given the vaccine.