



### MHO Fellows (Continued)

Mrs. Catherine West from Palau and Mrs. Yaeko Killian from Truk are presently in New Zealand for five months, studying pediatric nursing. Upon the completion of their program there, they will spend a month observing the public health program in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Mrs. Adeline Rechesengel will be studying Public Health Nursing in Suva, Fiji for six months. Mrs. Rechesengel is presently assigned to the Ebeye Field Hospital.

### Other News for January

Hal Bernshock, Health Services Administrative Officer, accompanied Mr. Chet Lewis, project architect and Mr. David Lowe, project engineer, of an architectural firm to Ponape to survey the new Ponape Hospital site and to confer with the district personnel on hospital administrative matters.

Dr. Arobati Hicking met, in Washington, D.C., with other members of the DHEW Task Force and later met with the Surgeon General.

Dr. Agas Kansou, DDHS/Truk, attended the Fourth Conference of Directors of Territorial Health Services held in Noumea, New Caledonia, on behalf of the Department of Health Services.

Mrs. Kikuko Ngiraetei, Head Nurse Dietary, in Palau has completed a four week in-service training program for the kitchen cooks.

A training seminar on Environmental Pollution was held in Ponape District from January 8 to 20. The purpose of the seminar was to prepare the district sanitarians for their new tasks of monitoring and fighting pollution, which are being added to their original sanitation work. Consultants from the U.S. Navy, the University of Hawaii, the U.S. Coast Guard and the Government of Guam were instructors of the 14 sanitarians who attended the seminar.

From February 26 to March 2, the Annual Dental Seminar will be held in Truk, reports Dr. Jack Helkena. Special consultants to the seminar will be Dr. John Van Der Pyl, a private dentist on Guam and Dr. M.J. Hallis, Dental Public Health Officer for the South Pacific Commission. Dr. Van Der Pyl will discuss "Interceptive Orthodontics for the General Dentist" and "Serial Extractions" and Dr. Hallis will stress the preventive aspects of dental health, including school dental health. Dr. Masao Kumagai will discuss the overall health services policies, programs and activities and Ms. P. Jean Kincaid, the HS Nutritionist, will lecture on the relationship between nutrition and dental health.

The Marianas District Health Department has kicked off a cervical cancer detection program with Ed Oshiro handling the health education aspects. The PTA groups of all the schools are the prime targets. Because of the nature of the project and the lifestyle of the Saipanese, all health education is done at night. Mrs. Margaret Seman, Mrs. Marie Atalig and Miss Remedios Palacios have given tirelessly of their time in these after hours activities.

### VD in the TT

Kevin Murphy reports, "1972 was a record year for gonorrhea in the TT. 733 cases were reported, the highest ever in recorded TT history. Some of this increase is due to more intensive case finding activities. For example, of 1150 Thayer-Martin cultures done on asymptomatic women, 58 were found positive for gonorrhea and were placed under treatment. Before this new program was started these women would not have been treated. Of the 733 new cases reported, almost 200 were brought to treatment as a result of interviewing infected cases and examining their contacts plus the 58 women found by culturing asymptomatic women in the OPD. Palau District alone has done 426 T-M cultures of which 21 (5%) were positive. Yap, Saipan and Majuro have each done almost 200 T-M cultures and together have found 29 new cases. Ponape and Truk have just gotten their programs underway. For 1972, Palau had 220 cases of gonorrhea reported. Marshalls was next with 212 followed by Yap with 168, Ponape with 84, Marianas with 37 and Truk with 12. Always remember when interpreting VD statistics that the district with the highest number of cases is probably the district with the most efficient casefinding system. Low numbers of reported cases may mean that little effort is being made to find new cases or that the disease is being treated but not reported.

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The delay of this edition of the Micro Scoop was due to the breakdown of the printing machine. Sorry.