chronic hepatitis, myasthenia gravis, multiple sclerosis, Hodgkin's disease and systemic lupus erythematosus. Dr. Bernard B. Levine's group at New York University reported that hay fever and antibody production for the major ragweed pollen correlated closely with HL-A haplotypes in successive generations of seven families.

New findings indicate that several histocompatibility genes are important in a wide variety of immunological functions and that genes in this complex control specific *Ir* genes. While the biological function of the major transplantation antigens themselves remains a mystery, this genetic region apparently plays a major role in many fundamental immunological processes. The extent of this role, and the reason why so many of these genetic functions are grouped in one small chromosomal region, remain to be explored.

Preparations. Hugh O'Neill McDevitt, who was born August 26, 1930, in Cincinnati, may have been programmed for research from an early age, according to his older brothers. His father, the late Dr. Charles McDevitt, was a urological surgeon but urged his youngest son to go into research and would tell the boy about Paul Ehrlich's famous side chain theory.

At Stanford University McDevitt obtained his first training in genetics and in 1952 an A.B. with honors. On graduating from Harvard Medical School in 1955 he was an intern at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and a resident at Bellevue Hospital in New York. In 1957 he joined the Army Medical Corps and was assigned to Camp Zama, Japan where he happened to read an issue of *Bacteriological Reviews* which told of the new discoveries in adaptive enzymes using immunological techniques.

On completing his military service, he worked for two years as a research fellow in Harvard's bacteriology and immunology department, as a senior assistant resident in medicine at the Brigham, and in 1962 as a Public Health Service special fellow he went to England to work at Mill Hill. In 1964 Dr. McDevitt returned to Harvard as an instructor in the bacteriology and immunology department and two years later he joined the Stanford faculty.

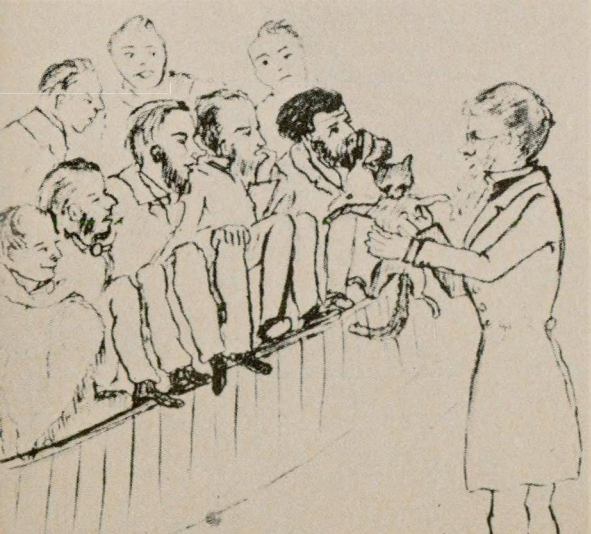
During a sabbatical in Oxford, England, Dr. McDevitt enjoyed some horseback riding but today his work in the laboratory, supervising research, serving on committees, and caring for patients leaves little leisure time. He says his only hobby is looking for a country house where he can spend holidays with his wife, the former Margaret Close, and their children Elizabeth, 11, Katharine, 9, and 6-year-old Thomas.

MD REMEMBERS: A Pioneer Physiologist

Dr. John Call Dalton, Jr., who was born February 2, 1825, in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, is remembered as America's first professor of physiology, a pioneer in vivisection, the author of a widely used textbook and the tenth president of Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons (P & S).

A graduate of Harvard College in 1844 and the Medical School in 1847, he worked at the Boston Cholera Hospital during an epidemic and then studied under Claude Bernard in Paris in 1850.

Cartoon of Dr. Dalton, students, and feline experimental subject.



When the young American said that he "thought" a certain function must be so, Bernard exclaimed: "Think! Why think when you can experiment?" Guided by this principle, Dalton devoted his life to experimental work and teaching. Medical students appreciated his demonstrations, lucid lectures, and colorfully illustrated "chalktalks."

After teaching at the University of Buffalo and Vermont Medical College, Dr. Dalton was appointed professor of physiology at P&S in 1855 and at Long Island College Hospital in 1859. The following year he published his Treatise on *Human Physiology* that went through seven editions in his lifetime and was regarded as the best English textbook on the subject for many years.

During the Civil War he was one of the first physicians to join the Union Army where he served as surgeon of the 7th New York regiment and later Brigade Surgeon of Volunteers. Returning to P&S in 1864 he continued teaching and research, published a popular book on physiology, and campaigned for the legal use of animals in experiments. He stated: "If we slaughter cattle for their beef and hides, musk deer for their perfume . . . there can be no doubt that any useful knowledge in medicine or surgery is abundantly worth the lives of the animals destroyed to obtain it."

Professor Dalton was vice-president of the New York Academy of Medicine for several years and from 1883 to 1888 when he was president of P&S the college built elegant new facilities and increased the student enrollment.

Dalton, a bachelor who lived simply in a small suite of rooms and took his meals at his club, was known for his fine sense of humor, his keen eyes, and a general appearance that often inspired sketches by embryo artists in his classes.

A year before he died of kidney disease on February 12, 1889, he suffered an attack of uremic convulsions that left him aphasic for a time but he regained his speech and maintained his intellectual interests almost to the end. Dr. S. Weir Mitchell said of Professor Dalton that he had "the skill to make the difficult appear simple . . . the rare gift of making those who listened desire to become investigators. He made men think."