The Mount Sinai Medical Center NEWS
June 1973 DUL WLS

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
USX-1140

Standing next to his marble bust, unveiled at a ceremony on May 21 in the Physicians Lounge of the Klingenstein Clinical Center, is Joseph Klingenstein, Chairman Emeritus of the Medical Center Board. At the left is the sculptor, Dr. Maurice Hexter, retired executive vice-president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, with (far left) Gustave L. Levy, Medical Center Board Chairman. The Klingenstein Clinical Center is named for Mr. and Mrs. Klingenstein. A Mount Sinai board member since 1941, he was President of the Hospital from 1956-1962.

U. S. Enlists Mount Sinai Lab's Help In Great Lake Pollution Emergency

DUL ASBESTOS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has requested Mount Sinai's Environmental Sciences Laboratory to undertake a crash program on the effects of drinking of asbestos-contaminated water by residents of Duluth and nearby Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan communities who use Lake Superior for their water supply.

On June 15, the E.P.A. disclosed that "high concentrations" of mineral fibers had been found in the lake waters, heretofore considered pure for drinking. The fibers are believed to come from waste discharges from a taconite mining company which has been dumping waste rock tailings daily into the largest of the Great Lakes for 16 years. Dr. Selikoff said that his laboratory had already identified the fibers as the amosite variety of asbestos, the type found by him and his colleagues 22 years ago to cause deaths among workers in a Paterson, N.J., asbestos plant. These workers experienced three times the expected death rate from cancer of the gastrointestinal tract.

Dr. Selikoff has set up his staff to work 12-hour shifts around the clock so that testing results might be available within a few weeks "in light of the seriousness of the potential hazard."

At press time, he and Dr. E. Cuyler Hammond, Adjunct Professor of Community Medicine and vice president of the American Cancer Society, had gone to Duluth to set up the studies which will compare the accumulation of asbestos fibers in the tissues of Duluth residents with that of asbestos workers and of people with no known exposure to the mineral.

Dr. William J. Nicholson, Assistant Professor of Community Medicine, and a biophysicist, has also begun analyzing samples of the Minnesota city's air and water.

Although, according to Dr. Selikoff, there have been no pure studies of the effects of ingestion of asbestos in humans, the E.P.A. said that limited animal studies have indicated that when asbestos is p[illegible] in the stomach, it rapidly enters the blood stream and is widely distributed to tissues throughout the body.

"Our concern," said Dr. Selikoff, "stems from the fact that the Paterson asbestos workers through the years accumulated and retained large amounts of amosite asbestos fibers in their body tissues. In asbestos workers, whose exposure to the fibers has been mainly through inhalation, the asbestos-caused cancers generally did not show up for 20 or 30 years.

"If the residents of Duluth have similar accumulations of asbestos as did asbestos workers, we are concerned about the future."

Dr. Hammond and other American Cancer Society researchers will analyze the death records of 3,000 Duluth residents who have been part of a national cancer survey of one million persons followed since 1959. Dr. Hammond will look for possible early signs of increased deaths from cancer, particularly that of the gastrointestinal tract.

TV Extends Reach

Continued from page 4

To Dr. Carter Marshall, Associate Professor of Community Medicine, in charge of his department's audio-visual programs, the television link represents our first effort to expand the effectiveness of all health personnel delivering health services in whatever the organizational framework, be it private or group practice.

Spelling out some of the areas in which he saw potential for telemedicine communication, he said: "There's no reason why a system like this couldn't be adapted just as well to serve adults, say in a rural area, to bring health information to the elderly homebound, to establish links between the school nurse in the public schools with physicians."

Research Grants

Since the last issue of *The Mount Sinai Medical Center News*, $1,236,155 has been awarded to Mount Sinai School of Medicine for continued research studies. These funds came from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.