

# Fish Blood Types Researched

By KAY MILLS

Pennsylvania fishermen and hatchery operators may be the ultimate beneficiaries of blood type research being conducted here in the immunogenetics laboratory.

Researchers under the direction of Dr. James E. Wright, professor of genetics, are attempting to determine the blood types in the trout and pike families of fish.

When these blood types are identified, the geneticists then want to see how they are inherited.

"Our eventual aim," Wright said, "is to determine if the blood type are associated with growth and reproduction in order that the development of superior strains of fish can be made available in the lakes and streams of this state."

The immunogenetics laboratory has been awarded a \$14,000 grant for two years by the National Science Foundation for expansion of lab facilities and supplies and for personnel in connection with this

project. Cooperating with the lab is the Benner Spring Fish Reserve Station of the Pennsylvania Fish Commission. The research station, located on Spring Creek, six miles from the University, supplies the fish for both the blood type and breeding experiments.

In testing for fish blood types, the following procedure is used, Wright said:

• Blood is taken from the hearts of trout and pike. Wright said a heart surgeon has explained to him that even a human heart can be repeatedly punctured surgically without injury or too severe pain.

• The blood serum is removed, leaving the red blood cells. This process is called "washing."

• The red blood cells are injected into the veins of chickens, rabbits, goats, goldfish or carp, where antibodies to the red blood cell antigens are produced. An antigen is a type of protein.

• Later these animals have some blood removed containing the antibodies produced. Here, Wright said, there is often an ad-

ditional step because many of the antibodies are similar and testing would yield no basis for discerning differences. In this case, common antibodies are absorbed from this antiserum by the use of fish cells and only specific antibodies are left.

• Matching tests are then conducted with the antibodies produced and the fish antigens. The presence or absence of agglutination, or a clumping, helps determine the fish blood type, Wright said.

From there, he added, "we can begin studying the inheritance patterns by crossing fishes of different types."

Wright said that some graduate students and high school teachers who are here in the summer are assisting in the project. Several undergraduates have also worked on associated research problems, he said.

Wright's duties are primarily in teaching genetics, research on corn genetics and direction of graduate programs in genetics. In 1960 he was awarded the Citation for Superior Teaching by the University.

## Party Merger--

(Continued from page one) help solve the problem, he said.

"I talked to many of the members and all the old members," Sharp said, "and most of them were in favor of a merger. Not one of the members wanted to merge with Campus party," he said.

Sharp said that Campus party was more of an "over-all party," being represented both on and off campus. University party is more of an off-campus party, he said, and this proposed merger should make it more representational.

"I think Liberal party has the independent vote," he said.

Elliot Newman, acting University party chairman, said that he had not heard anything about the merger. "I'll probably call an executive committee meeting to discuss it," he said.

## Peace Corps Representative To Visit Campus Monday

A Peace Corps field representative, Mrs. Marise Ross, will be on campus to talk with interested students from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Monday in 107 Sparks.

Information will be available about Peace Corps service abroad, training or other fields of service in which students may participate in the Peace Corps program.

Mrs. Ross is one of 50 Peace Corps representatives chosen by Peace Corps officials this summer to tour colleges and universities this fall. The representatives are expected to cover about 600 of the 1,952 colleges and uni-

versities in the United States.

Mrs. Ross will also be at the University today and tomorrow to observe the Philippine Peace Corps training program and its 64 volunteers here. The volunteers are now in the third week of a nine-week training program.

At the end of the fall term the volunteers will have a few weeks home leave and then head for the Philippines.

In the Philippines they will receive several more weeks of training before going into the country's rural areas to teach — in the community schools — and study the culture and customs of the Filipinos.

## Marsh Named to Board

Charles R. Marsh, associate professor of electrical engineering, has been named to the Executive Committee of the Highway Research Board.

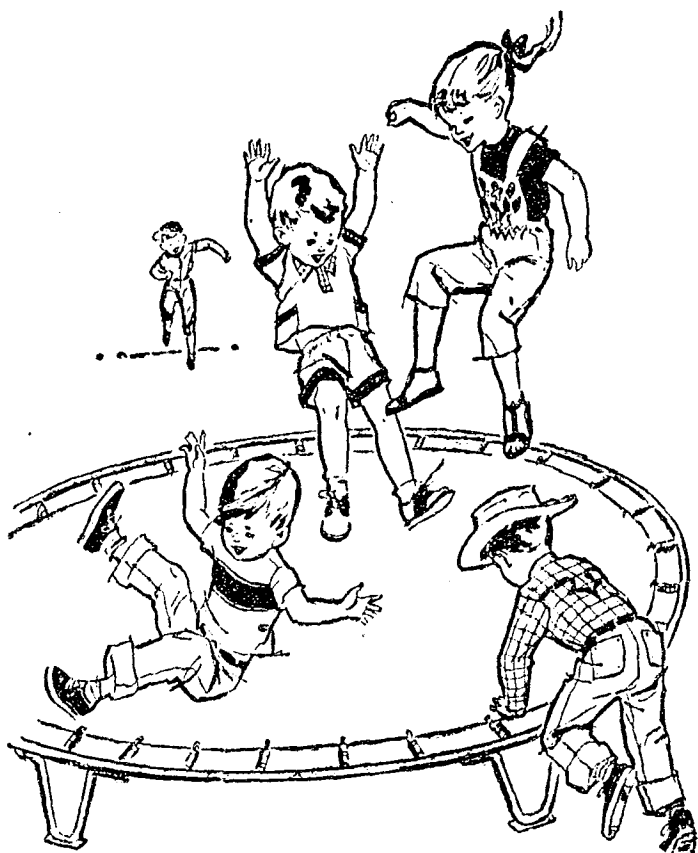
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