

Report Big Gain in Hepatitis Study

By MARK BLOOM
Science Writer

Two New York doctors reported yesterday a major breakthrough in infectious hepatitis research which could lead to rapid development of a vaccine against the disease, a liver inflammation which often causes yellow jaundice.

They found in studies at the Willowbrook State School in Staten Island that at least two viruses cause hepatitis, instead of a single strain as previously believed.

The work was compared to the breakthrough in polio research which revealed that three different viruses—instead of one—

were the polio culprits, and led not long afterward to an effective vaccine.

Presented to Council

The hepatitis report was presented at a meeting of the Health Research Council of New York by Dr. Joan P. Giles and Dr. Saul Krugman, both of the New York

University School of Medicine. Dr. Giles is an associate professor of pediatrics while Dr. Krugman is chairman of the department.

Infectious hepatitis, for which there is currently no treatment, fells many thousands of Americans annually, usually taking four to six weeks to run its course. It is rarely fatal.

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Willowbrook Names Chief Researcher

ALBANY—Dr. Johannes Clausen of Vineland, N.J., has been appointed chief research scientist for the new Institute for Basic Research in Mental Retardation, Willowbrook, it was announced yesterday.

Construction of the institute is nearing completion on a wooded tract on Forest Hill Rd. alongside Willowbrook State School.

Dr. Clausen, 53, has been research administrator at the Vineland Training School. He was appointed to the new post, at \$21,915 a year, by Dr. Alan D. Miller, mental hygiene commissioner of New York State.

The research center in Willowbrook will be the world's most modern laboratory designed to explore the tragic origins of mental retardation.

Dr. Clausen will be in charge of an ambitious program, "focused primarily as seeking the basic causes behind the tragedy of mental retardation," as Gov. Rockefeller described the goal of the center during groundbreaking ceremonies two years ago.

The \$7-million center was built on Staten Island on account of the Island's proximity to Manhattan and the availability of doctors and psychiatrists at Willowbrook State School.