

We have, for example, included in that \$116 million the costs of the general research support grants which are supporting all types of research within universities. Included are our central administrative costs. Included are many other such items which relate to all of our areas of research. To credit to eye research only those specific projects which relate only to the eye gives a false impression of the total effort for eye research.

In addition, many of our projects are multidisciplinary. For example, one of the largest single projects in our program is our collaborative prenatal program whose purpose is to develop an understanding of prenatal causes of neurological sensory deficits.

That is categorized as research involving disorders in infancy and childhood. However, a very large segment of its concern has to do with causes of blindness which have prenatal etiology, such as German measles and toxoplasmosis which are significant causes of blindness. So this simple categorization of funds allocated to blindness gives a false impression.

I would like further to add that our Council has never attempted an arbitrary allocation of funds among program areas. They have taken the position that we will support the best research in the areas of our responsibility. The figure which then develops for a research area is a reflection of the strength and capability of that field.

Mr. JARMAN. I have one other question along that line. Are you adequately funded for the eye research program that you have or is additional money needed?

Dr. STEWART. Mr. Chairman, it is a little bit difficult to figure out what our 1968 budget is at the present moment. The President's budget contained an increase for the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness.

Mr. JARMAN. It does contain an increase?

Dr. STEWART. Yes.

Mr. ROGERS. What is the budget for 1968? What is the budget request?

Dr. STEWART. The estimate for 1968 is \$128,633,000. We estimate \$20,728,000 will be obligated in the vision area.

Mr. ROGERS. In your present budget \$18 million was allocated for vision?

Dr. STEWART. That is right.

Mr. ROGERS. What in-house personnel do you have working on eye diseases.

Dr. STEWART. On the intramural program?

Mr. ROGERS. Yes.

Dr. STEWART. I will have to ask Dr. Masland about that.

Mr. ROGERS. Approximately?

Dr. MASLAND. We have approximately 55 people on our staff working on eye disease. Twenty-five are scientists.

Mr. ROGERS. How many are on contract doing contract research on the eye?

Dr. MASLAND. We have just developed a very large contract for the study of the feasibility of developing an artificial eye. This is a long-range program. There again I do not have the exact figures for the number of people who are working on that project.

Mr. ROGERS. That is an artificial eye. I was thinking about getting at the disease problem, of preventive rather than acting after the fact. What we are concerned with, and I think we are going to have