

PANEL V: POPULATION GENETICS

Reporter - JOHN MACDONALD

Dr. McKusick opened the discussion with an extensive review of genetic illness. He described x linked chromosomal disorders as an example of these illnesses then categorized all the known disorders under three titles:

- (1) Single Gene
- (2) Multifactorial
- (3) Chromosomal Aberrations

He ended with a discussion of their incidence and a promise to return at the closing to finish his lecture.

Dr. Laberge described his interesting studies of isolated French Canadian populations. He gave us all an illuminating in-

sight into the effects of inbreeding. A discussion of the role of statistics in categorizing inheritance was presented by Dr. Shaw.

Dr. Murphy described genetic counselling and the unique role it plays in modern medicine.

Dr. Newcombe lent relevance to the panel in the five minutes he was allowed by describing the unique opportunity Dalhousie has in the field of genetics. After all we have the greatest burden of genetic disease in Canada and consequently our challenge is enormous.

In summation this large highly qualified panel attempted to discuss more material than time would allow.



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