

Public Health Awards

By HOMER N. CALVER, B.S.

NEARLY 50 awards are given regularly in the field of public health, most of them annually. They are administered through more than 30 national, State, and local organizations. With few exceptions these awards go to individuals and are presented at the annual meeting of the administering organization.

In addition to the scroll, plaque, medal, certificate, or trophy which the winner receives there is sometimes an honorarium, ranging in value from \$50 to \$2,500. The presentation ceremony usually includes a résumé of the recipient's career and references to the accomplishments that brought him the award.

An analysis of these public health awards (see table) was undertaken by the Public Health Committee of the Paper Cup and Container Institute when it decided to establish an award in the memory of Dr. Samuel J. Crumbine. The study revealed that there were no national awards for health departments. This was surprising because of the emphasis on teamwork in public health and the fact that the full-time local health unit has long stood as the symbol of the most desirable vehicle for community public health service.

As one reads the statements which outline the basis for selecting winners of the several awards, there is a notable repetition of the nouns: contribution, service, achievement, accomplishment. They are used in nearly all possible

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Samuel J. Crumbine

Dr. Samuel J. Crumbine's distinguished career included service as the first full-time health officer of Kansas and director of the American Child Health Association. Among his pioneer contributions were the crusades he organized against flies and against the common drinking cup and spitting in public places and water pollution. His achievements were, therefore, not only those of an outstanding administrator but those of a leader in the fight for sanitation. Moreover, the impact of his work had been achieved through methods which eventually became an inherent part of what subsequently was called "health education." He died at 91, at which time he was a consultant on the staff of the Paper Cup and Container Institute.

combinations with these adjectives: meritorious, outstanding, distinguished, exceptional, signal, significant, distinctive. The Pennsylvania Public Health Association, with a refreshing variation of terminology and criterion, offers an award for "enthusiastic leadership."

The awards place considerable emphasis on accomplishments in the field of research, with a corresponding neglect of recognition of administrative and program accomplishments. This, too, is surprising in a field which is essentially one of applied science.

These and similar observations concerning the existing awards led the Public Health Committee of the Paper Cup and Container Institute to conclude that the Crumbine Award might be useful if it were made to health departments and the winners were judged on evidence of teamwork within that department and with community groups.

The accompanying table gives an analysis of

available awards, which should benefit not only the public health worker who may wish to compete but also those persons or groups who may wish to establish new awards. It would be fitting for new awards to be created for achievements in administration, program accomplishment, and communication.

Omitted from the tabulations are the following categories of honors: (a) those not primarily intended for workers in the field of public health although from time to time those awards may be given to individuals who are also

active in public health; (b) those given for length of service or length of membership; (c) those given for published papers describing research as distinct from those for the research itself; (d) those given to former officers and members for service to the organization; (e) election to Delta Omega or to other honorary societies; (f) scholarships and fellowships; (g) honorary lectureships.

[*Public Health Reports* welcomes supplementary information which may be used in possible future revisions of this tabulation.—ED.]

Public Health Awards

Name, sponsor, and administrator ¹	Type ²	Eligibility for award	Basis
American Hospital Association Award of Merit. American Hospital Association (S, A).	Medallion and scroll	Hospital administrators.	Outstanding accomplishments in the hospital field and in improving hospital care.
American Occupational Therapy Association Award of Merit. American Occupational Therapy Association (S, A).	Citation certificate; number not fixed.	Members.....	Outstanding service to field.
Anderson Service Award. American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (S, A).	Certificate; no more than 6 per year.	Nonmembers.....	Outstanding contributions to field; may be general educator or doctor.
Axson-Choppin Award. Louisiana Public Health Association (S, A).	Plaque.....	Citizen not connected with health department.	Outstanding contributions to health progress in State.
Bell Award. National Association for Mental Health (S, A).	Trophy.....	Newspapers.....	American daily newspaper which during the preceding year had made an outstanding contribution in the fight against mental illness.
Biggs Medal. New York State Public Health Association (S, A).	Medal.....	Public health workers.	Contribution to public health.
Blakeslee Award. American Heart Association (S, A).	\$500 each and scroll. Generally 4 given—1 each for newspapers, magazines, books, and radio and television.	Authors, newspaper writers, producers, publishers, and so on.	Creative efforts in any medium of mass communication judged to have contributed most to public understanding of the progress in research and in the prevention, care, and treatment of heart and circulatory diseases.
Borden Awards. The Borden Company (S):			
American Home Economics Association (A).	\$1,000 and gold medal.	Members.....	Fundamental research in the field of nutrition and experimental food, reported in public documents or official journals.
American Institute of Nutrition (A).	do.....	do.....	Distinctive research which has emphasized the nutritive significance of the components of milk or of dairy products.
American Veterinary Medical Association (A).	do.....	do.....	Outstanding research contributing to dairy cattle disease control.
Bruce Memorial Award. American College of Physicians (S, A).	\$250, bronze medal, and travel expenses.	Anyone.....	Outstanding accomplishments and contributions in the field of preventive medicine.

Footnotes at end of table.

Public Health Awards—Continued

Name, sponsor, and administrator ¹	Type ²	Eligibility for award	Basis
Crumbine Medal. Kansas Public Health Association (S, A).	Medal-----	Lay or professional	Outstanding contribution to health of the people in Kansas. May be a native Kansan who has made major contribution while in another State. Regional or national recognition is desirable.
Crumbine Award. Public Health Committee of the Paper Cup and Container Institute (S, A).	1 plaque and medals as merited.	Health unit, health officer and person or persons in unit most directly responsible.	Outstanding achievement in the development of a comprehensive program of environmental sanitation.
Crumbine Award. Public Health Committee of the Paper Cup and Container Institute (S, A).	do-----	do-----	Outstanding achievement in the development of a program of eating and drinking sanitation.
Cummings Memorial Award. American Industrial Hygiene Association (S, A).	\$100 for paper at banquet and plaque.	Industrial hygienist	Outstanding contributions to the knowledge and practice of the profession of industrial hygiene.
Dana Gold Medal. St. Louis Society for the Blind (S). National Society for the Prevention of Blindness (A).	Medal-----	Medical and non-medical public health workers.	(a) Long meritorious service for conservation of vision, for prevention and care of diseases dangerous to eyesight, or (b) research and instruction in ophthalmology and allied subjects, or (c) social service for the control of eye diseases.
Florida Association of Sanitarians Scroll. Florida Association of Sanitarians (S, A).	Scroll-----	Sanitarians-----	Outstanding accomplishments in the field of sanitation.
Gold Heart Award. American Heart Association (S, A).	Scroll and pin; 1 to physician; 1 to layman.	Physician, business, or public health leader.	Outstanding contributions to the advancement of cardiovascular medicine or the heart program
Gulick Award. American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (S, A).	Medal-----	Members or non-members.	Outstanding contributions to field.
International Association of Milk and Food Sanitarians Award. Five detergent manufacturers (S). International Association of Milk and Food Sanitarians (A).	\$1,000 and citation certificate.	Sanitarian attached to local health department.	Outstanding service and meritorious accomplishment in field of sanitation.
Johnson Annual Award. Missouri Public Health Association (S, A).	Scroll-----	Professional public health worker or layman.	Any person who has made an outstanding contribution to public health in Missouri.
Kimble Award. The Kimble Glass Company (S). Conference of State and Provincial Public Health Laboratory Directors (A).	\$500 and citation certificate.	Lab personnel-----	Contributing outstandingly to developing a new and better method in the field of public health.
Lasker Award. Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation (S). American Heart Association (A).	\$1,000, scroll, and statuette.	Physician or scientist.	Outstanding scientific contributions in the field of cardiovascular research.
Lasker Award. Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation (S). American Public Health Association (A).	\$1,000 and a statuette. Occasionally a special individual award of \$2,500, scroll, and statuette to groups; 4-10 per year.	All categories of public health workers. Individuals or groups—official or voluntary.	Outstanding achievements in either research or in administrative application of research in the control of diseases that are recognized as major causes of death.

Footnotes at end of table.

Public Health Awards—Continued

Name, sponsor, and administrator ¹	Type ²	Eligibility for award	Basis
Lasker Award. Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation (S). International Society for the Welfare of Cripples (A).	\$1,000 and statuette triennially; number not fixed.	Lay or professional	Achievement in the development of services for the physically disabled.
Massachusetts Association of Sanitarians Scroll. Massachusetts Association of Sanitarians (S, A).	Scroll	Sanitarians	Massachusetts sanitarian who in past year did most to enhance the status of the association and public health work.
National Society for Medical Research Citation. National Society for Medical Research (S, A).	Citation certificate; 1-3 per year.	Unrestricted	Contribution to public understanding of medical science.
New York State Public Health Association Health Education Information Citation. New York State Public Health Association (S, A).	Citation certificate; 3-4 per year.	Newspaper, radio or television station.	Contribution to better understanding of health matters.
North Carolina Public Health Association Award of Merit. North Carolina Public Health Association (S, A).	Citation certificate	Group of members associated in some accomplishment.	Outstanding contributions or activities during past year for a local health department or group.
Nutting Award. National League for Nursing (S, A).	Medal and scroll; 1 every other year.	Public health workers—official, non-official.	Outstanding contribution to community welfare through nursing education, nursing service, or through some other areas of public health.
Pan American Gold Medal. National Society for the Prevention of Blindness (S, A).	Medal; 1 every 4 years.	Medical and non-medical public health workers.	Significant contribution to prevention of blindness.
Pennsylvania Public Health Association Award of Merit. Pennsylvania Public Health Association (S, A).	Citation certificate	All public health workers.	Distinguished service and outstanding contributions to the advancement of public health.
Pennsylvania Public Health Association Honorary Membership. Pennsylvania Public Health Association (S, A).	Scroll; 2 per year	do	Enthusiastic leadership in public health work.
Pickett-Webb Memorial Award. Utah Association of Sanitarians (S, A).	\$50 and scroll	Sanitarian	Outstanding achievement in field in the State of Utah.
Prentiss Award. Cleveland Health Museum (S, A).	Citation certificate	Health educator	Outstanding achievement in health education field.
Public Health Association of New York City Award of Merit. Public Health Association of New York City (S, A).	Certificate in each category.	All public health workers.	Meritorious service to public health in fields of medicine, dentistry, nutrition, nursing, laboratory service, statistics, administration, social work, health education, environmental sanitation.
Public Health Association of New York City Outstanding Service Award. Public Health Association of New York City (S, A).	Plaque	do	Outstanding service to public health in New York City.
Rankin Award. North Carolina Public Health Association (S, A).	Trophy	Members	Outstanding contributions to public health in North Carolina over period of several years.
Reynolds Award. North Carolina Public Health Association (S, A).	do	do	Outstanding contributions to public health in North Carolina, meritorious service above and beyond the call of duty.

Footnotes at end of table.

Public Health Awards—Continued

Name, sponsor, and administrator ¹	Type ²	Eligibility for award	Basis
Ross Medal. National Tuberculosis Association (S, A).	Medal.....	Persons other than medical practitioners or medical scientists.	Outstanding and distinguished contribution to tuberculosis control in some field other than the medical sciences.
Sabin Award. Colorado Public Health Association (S, A).	Citation certificate....	Usually lay.....	For outstanding contribution to public health outside of professional responsibilities.
Sedgwick Award. American Public Health Association (S, A).	Medal.....	Individual public health workers.	Distinguished service in public health.
Shattuck Award. Massachusetts Public Health Association (S, A).	do.....	Unrestricted.....	Outstanding contribution to public health in New England.
Sippy Memorial Award. Western Branch, American Public Health Association (S, A).	Plaque.....	Public health personnel.	Outstanding contributions to the promotion of public health in the association's district in which the annual meeting is held.
Trudeau Medal. National Tuberculosis Association (S, A).	Medal.....	Medical and non-medical.	Most meritorious contribution on the cause, prevention, or treatment of tuberculosis.
Weinstein Award. United Cerebral Palsy Association (S, A).	\$1,000 and plaque....	Scientists in scientific research.	Outstanding recent scientific research in field of cerebral palsy.
White Memorial Award. Louisiana Public Health Association (S, A).	Plaque.....	Member of the State department of health.	Meritorious contribution to health work in the State over prolonged period.

¹ S—Sponsor; A—Administrator.

² Except as noted, 1 award is given each year.

Chlortetracycline as a Preservative

The antibiotic chlortetracycline may now be used as a preservative for uncooked poultry. First marketed as aureomycin, the chemical will be sold under the trade name Acronize chlortetracycline. The Food and Drug Administration ruling, announced November 30, 1955, marks the first time an antibiotic has been permitted in food processing.

According to submitted data, chlortetracycline, added to the water in which the poultry is chilled after dressing, retards development of spoilage organisms and thereby prolongs the freshness of the poultry. Effectiveness of the process depends upon its application to clean, freshly killed birds.

FDA has set a tolerance of 7 p.p.m. for residue of chlortetracycline remaining in any portion of the uncooked bird. FDA's decision was based on evidence that cooking destroys this amount of chlortetracycline so that none is left when the poultry is served.

Permission was granted in accordance with provisions of the Miller amendment to the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, which authorizes the fixing of tolerances for pesticide residues on raw agricultural products, provided there is suitable evidence of usefulness and of the safety of the permitted residues. With this exception, FDA has not changed its basic position that the law bans the use of antibiotics in human food.