

## In the Laboratories

■ The Hercules Powder Company of Wilmington, Del., has announced that it will build a new technical information center at its Experiment Station, Lancaster Pike, to cost approximately \$1 million. The 35,000 square feet of floor space in the new structure will make it possible to centralize in one location all facilities of Hercules' technical information division. In addition, it will include the Experiment Station's library, which at present contains 10,000 volumes.

Hercules' technical information division provides many services for the technical staff of the Experiment Station and other company units. It contains more than 500 scientific periodicals, 7000 bound journals, maintains a correspondence file of 30,000 letters, and receives and indexes several thousand technical reports each year. The division also provides a translating service for technical personnel.

■ Construction has begun on the new main plant for Houston Technical Laboratories, geophysical instrumentation subsidiary of Texas Instruments Inc., Dallas. When the building is completed next spring, H.T.L. will be able to consolidate the research, design, and manufacturing operations that are now being carried on in several rented buildings in Houston.

■ North American Aviation, Inc., Los Angeles, Calif., has announced a college-level educational program for children of employees. Ten annual scholarships will provide payment of the students' tuition and other required nonrefundable fees up to a maximum of \$650 a year.

In addition, each scholarship student will receive an expense allowance of \$400 a year. In recognition of the fact that the tuition fees established by most private colleges and universities are insufficient to cover the actual costs of a college education, the plan further provides for the allocation of a \$500 annual unrestricted grant to the institution concerned for each student in attendance.

■ The Du Pont Company has announced plans for the construction of a plant at Beaumont, Tex., for the manufacture of Hypalon, a synthetic rubber. The company's Beaumont Works started operation a year ago with the manufacture of methionine, an amino acid used as a poultry feed supplement. Hypalon is a chlorosulfonated polyethylene.

■ A contract for new construction required in the expansion of the Atomic Energy Commission's Rocky Flats plant near Denver, Colo., has been awarded the Swinerton and Walberg Company of San Francisco, Calif., and Denver, Colo.

The project involves two new buildings and related facilities, modification of three existing buildings, and installation of equipment. The estimated total cost is \$13.5 million. The Catalytic Construction Company of Philadelphia, Pa., is the architect-engineer. The Rocky Flats plant is operated for the AEC by the Dow Chemical Company of Midland, Mich.

■ Last month the General Electric Company, Schenectady, N.Y., formally opened a new analytical chemistry laboratory. The laboratory is a major addition to the company's General Engineering Laboratory, and as such is a part of that unit's \$1.4 million expansion program.

## Miscellaneous

■ The Middle East Institute is initiating an annual survey of research in progress on the Middle East. The geographical limits are the Arab countries, Israel, Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, North African countries, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Eritrea; the disciplinary limits are the social sciences and appropriate aspects of related fields (for example, law and Islamics, art, linguistics, archeology). There are no chronological limits.

All those engaged in research on the Middle East are urged to submit the following information: name; address; topic of investigation; sponsoring organization (if any); estimated date of completion; plans for publication; and pertinent comments on the nature of the research, sources being used, and method of approach. Please address correspondence to: Survey of Research, Middle East Institute, 1761 N St. NW, Washington 6, D.C.

■ Volume I of the *Proceedings of the Eighth Pacific Science Congress* of the Pacific Science Association (Philippines, November 1953) was issued by the National Research Council of the Philippines in July 1955. This illustrated volume includes officers, organization, attendance, plenary sessions, resolutions, meetings of the Pacific Science Council, and other material.

The constitution of the association as amended by the council at the eighth congress is reprinted, and there is a listing of the standing committee members who will serve between the eighth and ninth congresses. The volume also contains the lectures by von Koenigswald, Beyer, Bruun, Macdonald, van Steenis, Salcedo, Li Chi, Ranson, Wharton, and Murphy. This 463-page work may be obtained from the National Research Council of the Philippines, University of the Philippines, Quezon City, Philippines.

■ The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization is planning to publish the proceedings of the International Wool Textile Research Conference that was held recently in Australia. These proceedings will include a large proportion of original work not published elsewhere, in a series of five volumes as follows: volume A—*Histology of Wool and Hair and of the Wool Follicle*; volume B—*Chemical Physics and Physical Chemistry of Wool and Proteins*; volume C—*Chemistry and Biochemistry of Wool, Proteins, Peptides, and Amino Acids*; volume D—*Physics of Wool and other Viscoelastic Fibres*; volume E—*Wool Technology*.

A limited edition is being printed for a selected distribution and for subsequent sale at £25 per set of five volumes. However, the C.S.I.R.O. is making a special prepublication offer of £10 (Australian) for the set of five volumes or £2 per volume for volumes A to D and £4 for volume E.

This special price is possible only if orders are submitted before printing commences. Subscribers may send orders, *not later than 30 Nov.*, to the Secretary (General Administration), C.S.I.R.O., 314 Albert St., East Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

■ A bronze portrait of ALBERT SCHWEITZER was presented to the Smithsonian Institution on 12 Oct. by Leo Cherne, sculptor and president of the Research Institute of America. Leonard Carmichael, secretary of the Smithsonian, received the portrait at ceremonies held at the Smithsonian Building in the presence of friends and associates of the donor and officials of the Institution.

The bronze is 13 inches high and was modeled by Cherne from photographs after he had returned from Viet-Nam depressed by the condition of the children, women, and aged adults of the displaced population and mindful of the great humanitarian work of Schweitzer as a medical missionary among the native populations of Africa.

■ The first issue of *Medical News*, a newspaper exclusively for the medical profession, appeared on 12 Sept. CIBA Pharmaceutical Products, Inc. of Summit, N.J., distributes the 8-page tabloid-size newspaper free of charge to physicians every other week. However, the editorial content of the publication is not governed by CIBA's interest as a pharmaceutical manufacturer.

Blake Cabot will serve as executive editor of *Medical News*. Cabot is the author of *The Motion of the Heart*, a book on cardiovascular research, and during the past 15 years has written many articles on medical research and public health.