vided. A number of relatives from the island groups have come to Majuro to live with their kin.

While the physicians who are caring for the islanders have reported that at the end of 1 year there are no continuing ill effects from the fallout, the checks on their condition will be continued for many months, or perhaps years to come. Eventually the people will all be returned, if they so desire, to their native islands, but in the meantime the Atomic Energy Commission and the Navy are both thoroughly inspecting the habitats to make sure there will be no hazards from anything—vegetation, water, or dwellings—that might contain lingering radiation.

Asian Wildlife Conservation

Ecological studies are one answer to preservation of threatened species, according to Lee M. Talbot of the University of California, who recently traveled through 30 countries of the Middle East and South and Southeast Asia on a 6-month mission for the Survival Service of the International Union for the Protection of Nature. Purpose of the trip was to survey the present status of some of the world's rarest animals and to determine how the IUPN can best cooperate with local authorities in wildlife conservation measures. Data were obtained through discussions with conservationists, scientists, and government leaders and from expeditions into the remote habitats of some of the animals that are threatened.

Talbot's visits and expeditions were generally arranged by the host governments. He was encouraged by the interest in wildlife problems exhibited by the governments of India, Burma, Malaya, and Indonesia, and by their invaluable cooperation with the IUPN survey project.

India, for example, has established a country-wide Indian Board for Wildlife, and subsequently, individual state boards. The country has the last surviving specimens of the Asian lion. Under government protection their population has increased from less than a dozen individuals in 1900 to nearly 300 this year. Although the lions are protected from most hunting, their habitat in the Gir Forest in northwest India has been reduced by about 50 percent in the last 50 years by overgrazing and subsequent encroachment of agriculture. Since the wild-game food supply has been diminished by hunting and by competition with domestic stock, the lions now kill an estimated 10 cattle a day.

Approximately 300 great Indian rhinoceros survive in India's wildlife reserves in Assam and Bengal. An unknown number still exist in the Teria area of Nepal, where nearly 100 specimens were reported killed last year.

The last Javan rhinoceros are located in the Udjung Julon Reserve in western Java. These 20 to 40 animals, and a rich variety of other Javan wildlife, are protected by the newly formed Nature Protection Department of the Indonesian Forest Service.

This interest of these governments in wildlife conservation has generally originated with scattered individuals—for example, E. P. Gee in Assam and A. Hoogerwerf in Java. Through their studies and writings, such men have brought the conservation problem to the attention of their governments and to some segments of the public. However, Talbot stresses that throughout South and Southeast Asia there is no widespread conservation consciousness, that there are virtually no trained wildlife technicians, and that practically nothing is known of the ecology of the principal animal species.

Based on the findings of the study, Talbot has made the following proposals to IUPN to meet the immediate needs for preservation of threatened species and for general wildlife conservation:

1) To educate and stimulate wide general interest, the publication of an illustrated children's textbook giving a simplified introduction to conservation.

2) The appointment of a wildlife adviser who would be available to governments that request his services to fulfill the immediate need for a technical approach to the problems of wildlife and the establishment of park areas.

3) The establishment of a program to assist the authorities in these countries to set up their own wildlife technician training organizations.

4) The conduct of ecological studies of the principal animal species in order to obtain the necessary data on which to base effective management programs.

Persons interested in the work of the IUPN are encouraged to write to the secretary general at the union's new address: 31 Rue Vautier, Brussels, Belgium.

News Briefs

■ The first international training course for health physicists opened last month at the Karolinska Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden. It was organized by the Government of Sweden and the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe in cooperation with the national atomic energy agencies of various countries, including the United States.

The 5-week program is being directed by Elda E. Anderson of Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Lecturers are drawn from the United Kingdom and France. Participants in the course represent Belgium, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Iceland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland.

This course is intended particularly for physicists in European countries where atomic energy programs are now in a rapid and comparatively early stage of development. The course also provides for an exchange of experience among countries where research workers have been concentrating on different aspects of radiation protection.

The Stockholm program arises directly out of the Geneva Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy and was endorsed by government delegates at the meeting of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe in Vienna.

■ The announcement of the latest Soviet nuclear explosion on 26 November contained more detail than past announcements, which have been limited to a few words, one or two sentences at most. The text of the Soviet statement follows:

"Recently, in connection with the plan for scientific research and experimental work in the field of atomic energy, tests of new types of atomic and thermonuclear [hydrogen] weapons have been carried out in the Soviet Union.

"The tests fully justified the corresponding scientific and technical calculations, showing the important new achievements of Soviet scientists and engineers. The last explosion of a hydrogen bomb was the most powerful of all explosions carried out until now.

"In the interests of avoiding radioactive 'fall out' the explosion was carried out at a great height. At the same time wide research was conducted on questions of the defense of peoples.

"In connection with the fact that clamor has been raised in certain Western countries over the above-mentioned tests in the U.S.S.R., Tass is authorized to state the following:

"The Soviet Government has stood and does stand for the prohibition of atomic and thermonuclear weapons with the establishment of effective international control.

"Such a decision would permit the use of atomic energy to be directed toward exclusively peaceful aims. Proposals for the unconditional prohibition of atomic and the thermonuclear weapons were made by the Soviet Union both in the United Nations organization and at the recent conference of the four powers' foreign ministers in Geneva, but were not accepted. The Soviet Union also submitted a proposal for the moral and political condemnation of atomic and hydrogen weapons.

"The Western powers also refused to accept this proposal.

"Carrying out the above-mentioned tests in the interests of guaranteeing her security, the Soviet Union will continue to strive for agreement in the United Nations organization on the prohibition of atomic and hydrogen weapons and on the reduction of all other types of armaments, on the further reduction of international tension and the establishment of confidence between states, as well as the support and consolidation of the peace generally."

■ New Zealand authorities report that two prospectors, Frederick Cassin of Wellington and Charles Jacobsen of Picton, have made the country's first uranium strike on the west coast of South Island. The find has been described as "quite significant" by R. W. Willett, senior geologist of the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. The exact proportion of uranium present in the ore submitted for analysis has not yet been determined.

Scientists in the News

CLIFFORD C. FURNAS, chancellor of the University of Buffalo, was appointed by President Eisenhower on 22 Nov. to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Development. He succeeds Donald A. Quarles, who became Secretary of the Air Force on 17 Aug. Furnas has taken leave of absence from the university from 1 Dec. 1955 to 1 Feb. 1957.

VLADIMIR P. LOUKINE of the Soviet Machinery Construction Ministry and GEORGI P. KAZANSKI of the Radiotechnical Collegium toured the United States during the last 2 weeks of November. Their trip was made under the joint sponsorship of the State Department and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Loukine is an authority on automation and Kazanski is an electronics specialist.

The Soviet visitors, who arrived on 14 Nov., attended the International Automation Exhibition in Chicago. While in that city, they also saw the Lakeside Press, electric power production equipment at the Commonwealth Edison Company, installations of the Illinois Central Railroad, and automatic slaughtering machinery at Armour and Company.

During their stay in Washington, D.C., the two engineers—who were accompanied on their tour by a State Department interpreter, a representative of the Soviet Embassy, and a member of the Society of Mechanical Engineers—were received at the National Academy of Sciences; they also inspected a microwave relay station of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. Then they proceeded to New York, where they visited the headquarters of the Institute of Radio Engineers and the White Plains terminal of the Tennessee Gas Transmission Company.

During conversations with American experts the Soviet scientists gave the impression that the Soviet Union was advanced in the design and production of automation equipment but that it was behind the United States in widespread application of automatic industrial controls.

Another group of visitors, the first trade delegation to come here from one of the Soviet satellites, arrived from Romania on 27 Nov. for a 25-day stay. The delegation is composed of VIRGIL GLIGOR, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; GRIGORE OBREJEANU, professor of plant genetics at the University of Bucharest, and SILVIU BRUCAN, a member of the Romanian National Assembly and a newspaper man on the staff of *Scinteia*, the official Communist organ in Romania.

The men, who are guests of the Garst and Thomas Hybrid Corn Company of Coon Rapids, Ia., are here specifically to buy hybrid corn and the machinery to plant, cultivate, and harvest it, but the men indicated that they hoped to pave the way for extensive exchanges in the future. The group is prepared to spend $500,000 to $1 million for seed and for ten sets of related machinery.

Romania has been a great corn producer for 250 years, according to Geza Schute, an official of Garst and Thomas who went to the U.S.S.R. and Romania last fall. He said that in Romania yield per acre of ear corn is not quite as high as it is on comparable land here, but that the Romanians manage to grow a little more silage corn per acre than farmers in the United States.

LEON WARREN has left the National Academy of Sciences–National Research Council after 4½ years as professional associate on the staff of the Division of Medical Sciences. He joined the clinical investigation department of Parke, Davis and Company, Detroit, Mich., on 1 Dec. At the academy Warren was responsible for the activities of the main Committee on Medicine and Surgery and for six of the specialized advisory groups of the medical science division, as well as for the Symposium on Atherosclerosis that was held in 1954.

C. H. ANDREWES, deputy director of the National Institute for Medical Research, Great Britain, and head of the World Health Organization Influenza Centre, Mill Hill, London, spoke on "The evolution of viruses" on 7 Dec. at the Naval Medical Research Institute.

JOHN C. WHITEHORN, professor of psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University, delivered the Thomas William Salmon lectures of the New York Academy of Medicine on 30 Nov. In the two lectures —one afternoon, one evening—Whitehorn discussed "Psychiatric education and progress."

PAUL P. EWALD, Thomas Potts professor of physics and head of the department of physics at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, has been elected an honorary member of the Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie. There are only eight men living who have been elected to honorary membership by this French society, which was founded more than 75 years ago.

RALPH W. MACY, formerly chairman of the department of biology at Reed College, has been appointed professor of biology at Portland State College. The college was established on 3 Aug. in Portland, Ore., as a 4-year college within the Oregon State System of Higher Education. There was an initial enrollment of 2800 students.

EDWARD C. BULLARD, director of the National Physical Laboratories, Teddington, England, delivered a public lecture at Massachusetts Institute of Technology on 10 Nov. His lecture, which was given under the auspices of the department of geology and geophysics, was on "Material of the interior of the earth."

JOHN W. A. BRANT, formerly agricultural officer of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (1953–1955), is now in Guayaquil, Ecuador, as specialist of the Universidad de Guayaquil y Universidad de Idaho en Programa Cooperativo para el Progreso de las Ciencias Agropecuarias. On 18 Nov. he was honored by nomination to professor, Facultad de Agronomía y Veterinaría. He has launched a research program in poultry nutrition that is to be continued concurrently with research programs in animal physiology and genetics.

DAVID W. CUGELL has been appointed to direct new research laboratories at Northwestern University for the study of diseases of the lungs, heart, kidneys, and blood vessels. Before joining Northwestern, he headed the pulmonary physiology laboratory at the Thorndike Memorial Laboratory, Boston City Hospital, and was an American Heart Association research fellow in medicine at Harvard Medical School.

The new laboratories, now being constructed and equipped, will expand the