ice requirements and security standards.

Under the research associateship program, each applicant must possess a Ph.D. in one of the physical sciences or in a related field, or he must have completed all of the academic requirements for the Ph.D. and be scheduled to receive the degree at the next commencement exercise of his academic institution.

The program further provides that each associate be appointed by NRL to the grade of GS-11 (base pay, $5940 per annum), the normal entrance grade in the Federal Civil Service system for an applicant having a Ph.D. degree in the physical sciences but who does not have additional professional experience. The length of an appointment is 1 year. Further information may be obtained by communicating with Dr. W. G. Torpey, Personnel Officer, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington 25, D.C.

## New Synthetic Hormone

■ A new synthetic hormone, said to be three times as potent as aldosterone, is announced in the 20 Dec. 1955 issue of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*. An article by John A. Hogg, Frank H. Lincoln, Robert W. Jackson, and William P. Schneider, all of the Upjohn Company, Kalamazoo, Mich., indicates that the new chemical is more effective in laboratory tests than any other known substance in stimulating the body's retention of salt, an ability that is characteristic of some adrenal cortical hormones.

Not produced in the body, the new synthetic hormone is described as a methyl derivative of fluorohydrocortisone acetate. It has no known usefulness in human therapy at present.

The new substance is about 40 times as powerful as hydrocortisone in its ability to influence glycogen deposition, another indication of hormonal activity. A second methyl hormone was also reported in the same article. This substance, named 2-methylhydrocortisone acetate, is ten times as active as hydrocortisone in the glycogen deposition assay.

## New Medical Center at Brookhaven National Laboratory

The Atomic Energy Commission has announced that a medical research center, including a nuclear reactor designed specifically for medical research and treatment, will be constructed at Brookhaven National Laboratory. Brookhaven, one of the AEC's major research laboratories, is operated by Associated Universities, Inc.

Scheduled for completion in 2 years at a cost of $6 million exclusive of design and engineering, the new facility will house a nuclear reactor, a research hospital, an industrial medicine branch, and research divisions in medical physics, pathology, microbiology, biochemistry, physiology and clinical chemistry.

The present medical facility at Brookhaven consists of some 20 temporary buildings that were part of Camp Upton Hospital when the site was used by the Army during World War II. As the medical program has grown, the buildings have become inadequate as well as difficult and costly to staff and maintain.

The medical reactor at Brookhaven will be one of the first two in the United States. In July the AEC announced that the University of California had filed license applications with the commission for construction and operation of a medical reactor on the campus of the University of California at Los Angeles.

Medical research and treatment with neutrons have been conducted at Brookhaven since 1951 by utilizing the general-purpose research reactor already in operation there. Treatment of patients at this reactor, however, requires that other work cease during the medical run, interrupting the research programs of other laboratory departments. The new reactor, designed specifically for medical utilization, will make available a source of neutrons for experimental work on brain cancer, as well as a number of special short-lived radioisotopes, permitting a much wider range of medical investigation than is now under way.

Design specifications for the medical reactor are now being completed by Brookhaven scientists and engineers. When they are completed, proposals will be sought from firms in the equipment manufacturing field for fabrication of the reactor and its associated control equipment.

## Reading Science Writing

A pilot study of how the public reacts to science news has recently been completed and a detailed report is being prepared. The study was carried out by the Survey Research Center of the University of Michigan among 200 people of varying backgrounds, social characteristics, and experiences. It was sponsored by the National Association of Science Writers and New York University with the aid of a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. More than half of the interviews were taken in metropolitan Chicago and the rest in two rural counties in upstate New York—Onondaga and Cortland.

One of the chief purposes of the pilot study was to determine whether or not a larger survey would be worthwhile; both SRC and NASW now believe that it would. Some of the findings of the test survey follow:

More than three-quarters of the 200 persons interviewed read science news in their local papers. One-third of the sampling had attended college, far more than would be found in a typical U.S. cross-section.

One in four of those interviewed said they read all the science items that were published in their papers.

More than a third of the 200 persons interviewed wanted more science news. This point was further developed when they were asked to name what types of news they were willing to omit to make room for more science reporting. Some mentioned cutting down on sports news; others said society news. A sizable proportion of even those listed as occasional science news readers wanted some expansion in coverage, thus indicating what SRC calls "a potential for growth of the science audience at all levels of readership."

More than half of those interviewed were satisfied with the presentation of science news. Those who were dissatisfied complained of inaccuracies, sensationalism, insufficient details, too-technical language, and so forth. (These same points were mentioned by scientists who answered an earlier NASW-New York University questionnaire several years ago.)

All but three of the 200 interviewed had heard of the Salk vaccine. This represented close to saturation coverage. The pilot study found that the atomic bomb was the most common area for nonmedical science reading.

More than nine out of ten respondents had definite impressions of scientists, and the characteristics mentioned most frequently were superior intellect, dedication to work, and absent-mindedness.

Education, especially some high-school or college study in a field of science, was "positively related" to the desire to read more science news items. Apparently the avid science reader with intellectual preferences is the one who is most likely to want more science news.

## Scientists in the News

OSCAR MARZKE, associate director of research for materials at the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D.C., has been appointed director of research at NRL. He succeeds EDWARD O. HULBURT, who is retiring from Civil Service and who has been named senior scientist for the U.S. National Committee for the International Geophysical Year.

PETER KING, superintendent of the

chemistry division, succeeds Marzke as associate director of research for materials, and WILLIAM A. ZISMAN, head of the surface chemistry branch, is the new superintendent of the chemistry division.

HARRY WEXLER, director of meteorological research at the U.S. Weather Bureau, has been appointed chief scientist for the U.S. Antarctic program of the International Geophysical Year, and ALBERT P. CRARY, a research scientist in geophysics for the Air Force Cambridge Research Center, has been appointed chief scientist of the U.S. Antarctic Glaciology program and deputy chief scientist of the over-all U.S. IGY Antarctic program.

Wexler will be responsible for carrying out the scientific program of geophysical research to be undertaken by American scientists on Antarctica during 1957 and 1958. The studies will be made at five U.S. bases, on a series of over-snow traverses, and from ships and aircraft.

Wexler is a pioneer in the study of the upper atmosphere, cold waves, and hurricanes. In 1944 he made the first penetration of an Atlantic hurricane by aircraft, for which he received the Air Medal. During the last war he served in the Air Force, where he initiated a program of research in weather that later developed into the large Air Force program in geophysics. Before the war he was professor of meteorology at the University of Chicago.

Crary will have charge of studies of seismology and gravity as well as glaciology and will supervise the scientific aspects of the over-snow traverses that will be conducted by the expeditions during 1957 and 1958. Until his departure for Antarctica in October 1956, he will engage in preparatory work for the expedition in Washington, D.C. He will remain in Antarctica for the entire IGY period, returning to the U.S. when antarctic stations are closed in January 1959.

Crary has spent most of the past 4 years in the Arctic, where he has specialized in investigations of arctic geophysics. In early 1952 he helped establish the first weather station base on T-3, an ice island that was then floating only 70 miles from the North Pole. During 1952, and again on his return to T-3 in 1953 and 1955, he made seismological and oceanographic observations and studies of sea and island ice. He conducted similar investigations on Ellesmere Island during a joint Canadian–U.S. expedition in 1954.

LOUIS N. RIDENOUR has been appointed director of the research laboratories of the missile systems division of Lockheed Aircraft Corporation. For the past year he has been serving as program development director for the division.

Ridenour, who was the first U.S. Air Force Chief Scientist, is perhaps best known for his service as chairman of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board Committee that surveyed Air Force research and development activities. The resulting "Ridenour Report" led to establishment of the office of Deputy Chief of Staff, Development, and also the Air Research and Development Command.

DUDLEY THOMPSON, associate professor of chemical engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, resigned that position on 1 Jan. to accept a post as head of the chemical engineering department of the Missouri School of Mines.

GEORGE SARTON, professor emeritus of the history of science at Harvard University, is the first recipient of the Sarton medal, which is awarded for contributions to science history. The medal, named in Sarton's honor, is administered by the History of Science Society and was presented to Sarton on 29 Dec. during the society's annual meeting in Washington, D.C. The award of the medal was made possible by a grant of $1500 from Chas. Pfizer and Company, Inc., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Sarton, author of the five-volume *Introduction to the History of Science,* was a member of the Harvard faculty for 35 years. He was the founder and for 40 years the editor of the History of Science Society's journal, *Isis.*

LOWELL T. COGGESHALL, dean of the division of biological sciences at the University of Chicago, has been named by President Eisenhower to serve as special assistant for health in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Coggeshall succeeds Chester S. Keefer of Boston, who vacated the post last July.

ARNE TISELIUS, director of the Institute of Biochemistry at the University of Uppsala, Stockholm, Sweden, received the Franklin medal on 18 Jan. for "outstanding investigations in biochemistry, valuable contributions to the knowledge of proteins and revolutionary new techniques for use in the field of protein chemistry." The award was made by the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania in a ceremony commemorating the 250th anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin. Tiselius' most outstanding work is the development of electrophoretic and adsorption methods for the separation and analysis of proteins, enzymes, and other substances of biological importance.

ROBERT B. DODD, head of the department of anesthesiology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, recently was named the Henry E. Mallinckrodt professor of anesthesiology at the Washington University School of Medicine (St. Louis). Dodd is the first named to the Mallinckrodt professorship, which was recently endowed by Edward Mallinckrodt, Jr., in memory of his son. Dodd also will be in charge of the division of anesthesiology in the department of surgery at the medical school. The appointment is effective in February.

DWIGHT E. GRAY, former chief of the technical information division at the Library of Congress, has been appointed program director for Government Research Information in the Office of Scientific Information of the National Science Foundation. He is the author of a textbook in the physical sciences, coauthor of a book on radiation monitoring, and is coordinating editor of the *American Institute of Physics Handbook.* which is now in preparation. He also serves on the editorial boards of two of the institute's journals.

R. EUSTACE SEMMES, pioneer in neurosurgery and member of the staff of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine since 1912, retired from his administrative duties at the college on 31 Dec. He remains professor of neurosurgery. Last fall colleagues of Semmes honored him with a presentation of his portrait to the university.

Semmes received a B.A. degree from the University of Missouri and, in 1910, an M.D. degree from Johns Hopkins University. He first joined the University of Tennessee as an assistant; since 1932 he has been professor.

A fellow of the American College of Surgeons, Semmes was recently named an honorary member of the American Academy of Neurological Surgery. He was one of the group of founders of the American Board of Surgery, the American Board of Neurological Surgery, and the Harvey Cushing Society.

MORTON I. GROSSMAN, formerly chief of the physiology division, Medical Nutrition Laboratory, Denver, Colo., has become chief of the section on gastroenterology at Wadsworth General Hospital, Veterans Administration, and associate clinical professor of medicine in the University of California Medical Center, Los Angeles.

A. DONALD RANKIN, head of the department of physiology in the School of Veterinary Medicine, Colorado A. and M. College, has been appointed associate medical director in charge of vet-

erinary products at the Squibb Institute for Medical Research, New Brunswick, N.J. He is succeeded at Colorado A. and M. by N. H. BOOTH of the department of physiology.

PETER A. VAN DER MEULEN, director of the Rutgers University School of Chemistry, has been named acting head of the university's new center for training and research in nuclear science.

In its proposed budget for 1956–57, the university has asked the state of New Jersey to provide $112,310 for the initial equipment and staff salaries for the center. Pending state action on this request, Rutgers will proceed with the organization of the Nuclear Science Center within the limits of its own resources.

Certificates of appreciation for outstanding service in connection with the participation of the United States delegation in the International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in Geneva, Switzerland, 8–20 Aug. 1955, have been awarded by the Atomic Energy Commission to four members of the professional staff of the delegation. The recipients of the awards, and the outstanding services for which they were cited are as follows:

HARRY S. TRAYNOR, executive officer. Traynor is assistant general manager of the AEC. His citation states that he "successfully handled the many difficult organizational and administrative arrangements that were so fundamental to the success of the participation of the U.S. in the Conference."

JOHN P. McKNIGHT, information officer. McKnight, now public affairs officer at the U.S. Embassy in Korea, was loaned to the delegation by the U.S. Information Agency. His citation notes that he "directed the overseas dissemination of information related to United States participation in the conference."

GEORGE L. WEIL, technical director. Weil is a private consultant on atomic energy who joined the staff of the AEC for the preconference preparations. His citation states that he "organized the technical phases of the United States program and was largely responsible for its successful presentation at the Conference."

PAUL W. McDANIEL, technical papers officer. McDaniel is deputy director of the commission's Division of Research. His citation states, "in his role as Technical Papers Officer and as adviser to the scientific delegates from the United States, he contributed substantially to the excellent presentation of the United States program."

IRVING ROTHCHILD has joined the department of obstetrics and gynecology at Western Reserve University as staff endocrinologist with the rank of associate professor.

MERVIN J. KELLY, president of Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc., has been elected a foreign member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences.

In a letter notifying Kelly of the honor, the secretary of the academy said: "Our Society is most happy in conferring on you this token of profound respect, called forth by your masterly researches in the domain of Electronics and Electrotechnics, which have forever enrolled your name in the Annals of these Sciences."

DAVID S. ANTHONY, who formerly directed the biology division of Mound Laboratory, has joined the University of Florida as associate professor of chemistry.

F. EARLE LYMAN, former associate professor of zoology at Southern Illinois University, has joined the staff of the Division of Research Grants, National Institutes of Health, as executive secretary of the morphology and genetics study section.

JOHN B. PAGE has been named professor and head of the department of agriculture at the A. and M. College of Texas.

ISAO IMAI, professor of physics at the University of Tokyo, is serving as visiting professor at the University of Maryland, where he is conducting seminars on approximation methods in fluid dynamics in the university's Institute of Fluid Dynamics.

The following appointments to assistant professor have been announced. University of Chicago: PHILIP M. MARGOLIS, psychiatry. University of Texas: GORDON C. MILLS, biochemistry and nutrition. Stevens Institute of Technology: FRANCIS B. CLOUGH, chemistry. University of Utah: BURL E. BRYANT, chemistry. New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts: D. C. REAMS, JR., chemical engineering.

## Recent Deaths

JOHN W. BARNARD, Milwaukee, Wis.; 43; professor of anatomy at Marquette University School of Medicine; 24 Dec.

VILRAY P. BLAIR, St. Louis, Mo.; 84; professor emeritus of clinical surgery at Washington University School of Medicine (St. Louis); World War I chief plastic surgeon for the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe; 24 Nov.

WALTER D. BONNER, New Haven, Conn.; 78; professor emeritus of chemistry and former chairman of the department at the University of Utah; 3 Jan.

DONALD R. CHARLES, Rochester, N. Y.; 46; geneticist and past professor of zoology and chairman of the department of biology at the University of Rochester; 24 Nov.

LOUIS COHEN, Hamden, Conn.; 49; former associate clinical professor of psychiatry at Yale University; specialist in legal psychiatry; 30 Dec.

LUDWIG DUERR, Friedrichshafen, Germany; 78; expert on construction of dirigibles; 1 Jan.

FRANCIS E. FRONCZAK, Buffalo, N.Y.; 81; internationally known public health officer; United States medical adviser and relief administrator in Poland in the post-World War I period; 27 Dec.

MORRIS GROSSMAN, Jersey City, N.J.; 74; physician and neuropsychiatrist; formerly a neurologist at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University; 28 Dec.

GEORGE HELLER, New York, N.Y.; 49; microbiologist and immunologist; research associate at the Hospital for Special Surgery, New York; World War II chief of the division of bacteriology of the First Medical General Laboratory, European Theater; 28 Dec.

JOSEPH HORY, New York, N.Y.; 63; eye specialist; director of eye services at Morrisania Hospital, New York; 1 Jan.

FRANK N. KNEAS, Philadelphia, Pa.; 80; structural engineer; 25 Dec.

JOHN C. MINOR, New Caanan, Conn.; 82; retired chemical engineer; World War II member of the War Production Board; 27 Dec.

LUDGER MINTROP, Heidelberg, Germany; 75; geologist and developer of seismographic instruments for determining the kind and depth of layers of the earth; 2 Jan.

RAYMOND L. MITCHELL, Madison, Wis.; 49; research chemist at the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory, Madison; 23 Dec.

JOHN P. PETERS, New Haven, Conn.; 68; senior professor of medicine at Yale University; leader in the movement for the improvement of medical care and for the expansion of public health services; 29 Dec.

FRANCIS PYNE, Elizabeth, N.J.; 72; retired engineer; former superintendent of the Anaconda Copper Company, Perth Amboy, N.J.; World War II member of the copper section of the War Production Board; 28 Dec.

SALVATORE M. SANTELLI, Brookyln, N.Y.; 34; assistant professor of pharmacy at Brooklyn College of Pharmacy, Long Island University; 21 Dec.

THOMAS A. SHALLOW, Philadelphia, Pa.; 69; Samuel D. Gross professor