■ The Spinco Division of Beckman Instruments, Inc., now located at Belmont, Calif., has broken ground in Stanford Industrial Park for a $500,000 research and development center that will be devoted to highly specialized instruments for the advancement of medicine and the diagnosis of disease. The first earth was turned by Arnold O. Beckman, president of Beckman Instruments, Inc., and the Spinco cofounders, Maurice Hanafin and Edward Pickels.

■ Plans for construction of a reactor facility at Schenectady, N.Y., have been announced by ALCO Products, Inc. To be built and equipped at a cost of about $230,000, the nuclear laboratory will be completed in May of this year. It will be located in the company's main plant. The facility will be used for nuclear experiments in connection with ALCO's contract for design and construction of the Army Package Power Reactor that is now under construction at Fort Belvoir, Va.

■ The Atomic Energy Commission has announced that the Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, Ill., has been assigned responsibility for the design and development of a military nuclear reactor plant for production of electricity and for space heating. The commission and the laboratory have selected the Pioneer Service and Engineering Company of Chicago to work with the laboratory on the design of the reactor and the associated plant.

The project calls for the design of a low-power, heterogeneous, boiling reactor, to be known as the Argonne Low-Power Reactor (ALPR). The power plant that is proposed would produce a combined electrical and heat-energy output of several hundred kilowatts. The ALPR is planned as a prototype of nuclear plants for use in remote areas by the military services.

■ Plans for construction of a series of research laboratories on a 22-acre site at Stanford University for advanced studies in missiles and unmanned aircraft have been announced in a statement issued jointly by the university and the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation. The announcement also disclosed details of Lockheed's plan for expanding its missile systems division; this will entail a new base at Sunnyvale, Calif.

Establishment of the new missile division facilities in Palo Alto and in Sunnyvale are first steps in a research and development program in which Lockheed will invest approximately $20 million during the next 3 years. About $7 million will be spent on the first two Stanford laboratories and the initial Sunnyvale construction.

■ The research activities of Merck and Company, Inc., will be consolidated in a new division of the company, to be called the Merck, Sharp and Dohme Research Laboratories. This division will be responsible for all of the company's new product research in biology, chemistry, and medicine. Heretofore this work has been under the direction of the company's Chemical Division in Rahway, N.J., and the Sharp and Dohme Division in West Point, Pa. Max Tishler takes office on 1 Mar. as head of the new division with the title of vice president and executive director; at present he is vice president for scientific activities of the Chemical Division.

## Miscellaneous

■ In the March issue of *The Scientific Monthly,* John Cockcroft writes on the "Future of atomic energy." This article is based on an evening lecture he presented at the International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in Geneva last August. Other articles appearing are "History of science and the sociology of science," Herbert Dingle; "Meaninglessness of the word *protoplasm,*" Garrett Hardin; "Human resources and national security," Eli Ginzberg, Edward A. Fitzpatrick, Howard A. Meyerhoff, and Eugene M. Kulischer; and reports of the AAAS Atlanta meeting. Six books are reviewed.

■ A new list of science and engineering vacancies under UNESCO's Technical Assistance Program has been released by the New York office. The following conditions apply in general to all posts: (i) salaries range from $6000 to $8400 a year, free of national income tax; (ii) lodging is furnished by the host government or a lodging allowance is provided; (iii) travel expenses of the expert are paid to duty station and back, and expenses are also paid for a wife and dependent children if a contract is for 1 year or longer; (iv) the expert, who holds the status of an international civil servant, receives annual and sick leave, hospitalization, and insurance benefits; and (v) unless otherwise specified, English is the only required language.

Current openings are for a meteorologist or geophysicist, Karachi, Pakistan; a specialist in science teaching, Taipeh, Formosa; an expert in solar energy, Heliopolis (near Cairo), Egypt; a professor of electronics, Calcutta, India; a professor of physical chemistry, Haifa, Israel; a nuclear physicist, Cairo, Egypt; two research specialists with training in sociology and social psychology, one for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and the other for the Philippines; a professor of sociology, Damascus, Syria; two specialists in the restoration of monuments and the conservation of archeological sites, one for Iran and the other for Pakistan; and a specialist in the use of television for adult education, France. Applications for these posts or for additional information should be addressed to the Technical Assistance Unit, UNESCO, United Nations, New York 17, N.Y.

■ Section 6 of the X-Ray Diffraction Data Card File, which is distributed by the American Society for Testing Materials, has recently been published. It is available in plain and keysort cards and covers approximately 600 new powder patterns and 600 revised and improved data patterns previously issued in Sections 1 to 5, inclusive. The Diffraction Data File is sponsored by the American Crystallographic Association, the American Society for Testing Materials, the British Institute of Physics, and the National Association of Corrosion Engineers.

A revised *Cumulative, Alphabetical and Grouped Numerical Index of X-Ray Diffraction Data* (*STP 48E*) including the new Section 6 has also been published. For information, address the American Society for Testing Materials, X-Ray Dept., 1916 Race St., Philadelphia 3, Pa.

■ The American Sociological Society, publisher of the *American Sociological Review,* has announced the publication of *Sociometry,* a journal of research in social psychology. Founded in 1937 by J. L. Moreno, this quarterly journal will become an official publication of the society with the March 1956 issue.

Leonard S. Cottrell, Jr., social psychologist, Russell Sage Foundation, will be the editor. The new *Sociometry* will report research in social psychology, and at the same time provide an outlet for the developing body of theory in this field.

The annual subscription rate is $9 for both domestic and foreign subscribers, with single issues priced at $2.25. Correspondence regarding subscriptions should be addressed to The American Sociological Society, New York University, Washington Square, New York 3. Correspondence with the editor should be sent to Dr. Leonard S. Cottrell, Jr., Russell Sage Foundation, 505 Park Ave., New York 22.

*Errata*: In the article "Pronuclear fusion as affected by x-rays and by postirradiation anaerobiosis," by C. S. Bachofer, in the issue of 27 Jan., page 139, the last sentence in column 1 should begin "The term ¼-fused is used to designate . . .," not "The sum ¼-fused . . ." as printed.

In the article "Magnetic techniques for *in vitro* isolation of leucocytes," by Sumner Levine, in the issue of 3 Feb., page 186, the equation should read $\mu = \sqrt{n(n+2)} = 4.90$ Bohr magnetons, instead of as printed with the square root sign covering the last part of the equation.