

Ga. He will direct the work of some 500 staff members.

FRANK A. BROWN, JR., professor of biological sciences, has resigned the chairmanship of the department of biological sciences at Northwestern University in order to devote more time to research. The department is being administered by RAY WATTERSON (chairman) and ORLANDO PARK, professors of biological sciences, and HANFORD TIFFANY, Deering professor of botany.

OTTO A. REINKING, professor emeritus of plant pathology, New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Cornell University, and foreign agricultural adviser for the International Cooperation Administration, has returned from Central America, where he served as field crops consultant to the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the General Services Administration. He visited Costa Rica, Honduras, and Guatemala to study abaca (Manila hemp) problems and two new banana diseases, infectious chlorosis and bacterial wilt.

GIULIO NATTA of the Instituto di Chimica Industriale del Politecnico, Milan, Italy, and CHARLES SADRON of the Centre de Recherches sur les Macromolécules, Strasbourg, France, will participate in the symposium on synthetic polymers that will take place at the University of Notre Dame, 16-17 July.

Recent Deaths

AAGE GUSMER, Summit, N.J.; 71; chemist; 1 May.

WILLIAM M. JOHNSON, Avon, N.J.; 79; mechanical engineer; 26 Apr.

R. ELMER MINTON, Huntington, N.Y.; 48; mechanical engineer; management controls administrator for Republic Aviation; 27 Apr.

PHILIP I. NASH, Brooklyn, N.Y.; 80; professor emeritus of clinical medicine at Long Island College of Medicine; 25 Apr.

LEON G. TEDESCHKE, Miami, Fla.; 78; pathologist; professor at Eclectic Medical College, 1914-29; 29 Apr.

G. EDWIN WHITE, New York, N.Y.; 52; chairman of the department of chemical engineering at City College; 2 May.

Education

■ A new radio telescope is being built at Stanford University under the sponsorship of the Air Research and Develop-

ment Command's Air Force Office of Scientific Research. The instrument, a microwave spectroheliograph, consists of 32 parabolic aluminum antennas, which will be aligned in two rows to form a cross that will occupy a 2-acre meadow. It will record solar microwave radiations in the 3000-megacycle region.

As the antennas scan the sun's surface, a photographic record of the chromosphere will be produced. A photograph of the entire solar orb will be completed in about 2 hours. Clouds will not affect antenna efficiency.

The chromosphere is a billowing layer of incandescence that rises to heights of 6000 miles above the sun's surface. Although it was discovered many years ago at the time of solar eclipses, little is known about the chromosphere. It is believed to have some connection with sunspots, which in turn are related to the magnetic storms that interrupt radio communications.

■ The establishment of a Central Index of Educational Exchangees has been announced by the Institute of International Education, New York. The index is a roster of Americans who have gone abroad and of foreign visitors who have come to the United States for educational purposes during the last 36 years. Records have been obtained on more than 210,000 persons who have studied, trained, or taught in countries other than their own during the period 1919 through 1954-55. Information on an estimated 25,000 to 30,000 new exchanges will be added annually.

The institute has published a 21-page booklet, the *Population Involved in International Education*, that describes the contents of the index and suggests its possible uses. It should be of value in research, program planning, and personnel recruitment. The index was established with financial assistance from the Ford Foundation.

■ Nine laboratory refresher courses covering the serology of syphilis, management and control of syphilis serology by the regional laboratory, and tests for syphilis using the *Treponema pallidum* will be offered at the U.S. Public Health Service Venereal Disease Research Laboratory in Chamblee, Ga., from August 1956 to May 1957. Applications for any of the courses must be signed by a state health officer or state laboratory director unless the applicant is a PHS employee. In such cases application must be approved by the medical-officer-in-charge.

Reservations are made as soon as applications are received, and lists are closed 1 month before course starting dates. Correspondence should be addressed to the Director, Venereal Disease

Research Laboratory, Division of Special Services, PHS, Box 185, Chamblee, Ga.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

■ Award of 28 unclassified physical research contracts with universities and private research institutions has been announced by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. Seven are new contracts, and the remainder are renewals.

■ The Society for Psychical Research has announced that a prize of £50 (or \$140) will be awarded for an essay of less than 3000 words on one of the following topics: (i) the best program of research for the first 100 hours of work with the next successful card-guessing subject discovered (if there is one), with the design supported by argument; (ii) the best discussion of the logical and/or scientific implications of precognition, assuming this to be established statistically from the work of card-guessing subjects.

The judges, who will be assisted by S. G. Soal, will be D. J. West, psychiatrist, London; H. H. Price, professor of logic, Oxford University; Denys Parsons, Scientific Branch, British Patent Office. Entries should be submitted under a pseudonym, together with a sealed envelope containing the entrant's actual name and address. Competitors may send in more than one entry. Papers should be typewritten with double-spacing. They must be received *before 1 Oct.* by the Secretary, Society for Psychical Research, 31 Tavistock Square, London W.C.1, England.

■ As a stimulant to voluntary support of medical schools—public and private—the Ford Foundation has appropriated \$10 million to match unrestricted contributions through the National Fund for Medical Education. The matching formula, designed to encourage increases in both the size of gifts and the number of contributors, will function as follows.

At the end of the calendar year, fund campaign receipts will be totaled and compared with the previous year. For every dollar of receipts up to the previous year's total, the fund will receive a specified percentage—beginning at 70 percent in 1956 and diminishing slightly each year. Everything above the previous year's total will be matched dollar-for-dollar. The first award will be made at the end of 1956 and will cover all unrestricted contributions received this year.

This appropriation, coming on top of the Ford Foundation's recent \$90-million grant to privately supported medical schools, is further recognition of the strain under which the nation's 81 medi-