powers, above all of the U.S.A. If I spoke of myself as of a 'can-opener'—a word which was taken up with some relish by the American newspaper men—I meant to say that my visit to the U.S.A. was not intended to be a sight-seeing trip, but that it was to serve the purpose of obtaining American assistance for overcoming this backlog as quickly as possible.

"The Americans have offered to give us as a gift a complete library on atomic literature. Moreover, they gave us to understand that we may avail ourselves of the President's offer, extended to all countries receiving American assistance in respect to nuclear research, to participate in the purchase of research reactors up to a total sum of $350,000, taken from American funds.

"I met my namesake Admiral Strauss a number of times: Three times at social functions, at which political or rather nuclear conversations took place, and twice at official meetings. I was much pleased to find that Admiral Strauss has full understanding for our desire to get ahead quickly and that he is willing to examine sympathetically our plans and to submit them to the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. He said, moreover, that he was prepared to let me know in detail the measures the United States is planning for our assistance in this field."

Ford Committee

The Ford Foundation has announced the appointment of a special committee to recommend a plan for distribution of the foundation's appropriation of $90 million to the nation's privately supported medical schools. The appropriation is part of the $500 million grant announced last December for college faculty salaries, private hospitals, and medical schools, and is entirely apart from the $10 million appropriated in April for the National Fund for Medical Education.

Lee DuBridge, president of the California Institute of Technology, will serve as chairman of the medical school grants advisory committee. Executive chairman will be Carlyle Jacobsen, executive dean for medical education at the State University of New York. Other members of the committee are: George P. Berry, dean of the Harvard University Medical School; Detlev W. Bronk, president of the National Academy of Sciences and the Rockefeller Institute; Leonard Carmichael, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; Ward Darley, president of the University of Colorado; John H. Dingle, professor in the School of Medicine, Western Reserve University; Leon Falk, Jr., chairman of the board, Maurice and Laura Falk Foundation, and director of the National Steel Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pa.; A. Crawford Green, attorney, San Francisco; Robert M. Hanes, president of the Wachovia Bank and Trust Company, Winston-Salem, N.C.; Mrs. Albert D. Lasker, president of the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, New York; Robert F. Loeb, professor of medicine at Columbia University; William F. Loomis, director of the Loomis Laboratory, Greenwich, Conn.; Franklin D. Murphy, chancellor of the University of Kansas; and Robert W. Woodruff, chairman of the finance committee, Coca-Cola Company, Atlanta, Ga.

Index to Science

The volume index to *Science,* which has customarily appeared in the last issue of a volume, will henceforth appear in the fourth issue of the month following the close of a volume. The index for volume 123, January–June 1956, will be included in the issue of 27 July.

News Briefs

■ The new building for *Chemical Abstracts* at Ohio State University was dedicated on 8 June. The structure is perhaps the first ever planned exclusively for an abstracting and indexing service. Officers and directors of the American Chemical Society, which publishes *Chemical Abstracts,* and officers and trustees of the university, which has housed the publication since 1909, took part in ceremonies that were held at the main entrance to the three-story, 67-room building.

A prominent participant in the dedication was E. J. Crane, director of the Chemical Abstracts Service, who joined the editorial staff upon his graduation from Ohio State in 1911 and became editor in 1915. Under his leadership the publication has achieved such massive proportions that this year it will carry 90,000 abstracts of articles in 7000 scientific and technical periodicals that come from 85 countries and involve 40 languages.

■ Lord Chorley, president of the Association of University Teachers in Britain, observed recently that high-salaried American university professorships and research fellowships had tempted a large number of scientific teachers and students to cross the Atlantic. Chorley commented: "Unless we are careful, a large amount of the cream will be skimmed off and deposited in the United States." In addition, American firms have been advertising scientific posts extensively in British newspapers.

■ The British Atomic Energy Authority recently invited scientists from industrial research concerns to a meeting on controlled thermonuclear energy. Heretofore all work on this subject has been as secret in Britain as it is in the United States.

■ Maynard M. Boring, president of the American Society of Engineering Education, said in a recent address before the National Society for Professional Engineers, that "much hysteria" had surrounded the subject of engineer shortage. Boring, who is also manager of technical personnel development for the General Electric Company, Schenectady, N.Y., referred to industry's contention that it needed 68,000 more engineers and declared:

"I think there is too much water in their figures. . . . If we had a 10 percent drop in our economy, we would have engineers raining out of our ears." He also said that if 68,000 engineers were provided for industry, "they wouldn't know what to do with them."

Referring to general education, the speaker, who recently toured Europe studying educational processes in various countries, commented that "We are really in trouble in the United States." He attributed this situation to the fact that high-school students in this country were not being properly prepared for college.

Scientists in the News

DONALD H. LOUGHRIDGE, formerly dean of the Technological Institute at Northwestern University, has recently accepted an appointment as special executive assistant at the new General Motors Technical Center.

IRVING KAPLAN, senior scientist and head of the reactor division of the nuclear engineering department at the Brookhaven National Laboratory, has been appointed Gordon McKay visiting lecturer at Harvard University for the fall term. He will replace HARVEY BROOKS, who has been granted a Guggenheim fellowship for the coming year. Brooks will be engaged in research at the Cavendish Laboratory in Cambridge, England.

STELLA L. DEIGNAN, director of the Bio-Sciences Information Exchange, Washington, D.C., has received a certificate of appreciation from the American Cancer Society in recognition of the services rendered the cancer control movement by Dr. Deignan and her staff in collecting, indexing, and dispensing information on medical research. The services of the office are free to recognized scientists and research institutions, as well as to 80 voluntary agencies that support investigation of health problems.

The Bio-Sciences Information Ex-

change, which is attached to the Smithsonian Institution and financed by seven Government agencies, is a clearing house of information. Its files are coded under 80 categories and 4132 subcategories that range from aging to viscosity.

Any reputable scientist or agency can obtain a resumé of research being done on any subject by writing to Dr. Deignan. A staff of 34 workers of various categories prepare and send out the answers.

None of the information supplied by the BSIE may be published—some of the material is little more than an idea in a scientist's mind that may not appear in a professional journal for years. To prevent plagiarism, those receiving information of value are required to advise the scientist from whose work they benefit.

The office serves several purposes. It tells researchers what work already has been done on their problem and puts them in touch with other scientists in the same field. It also lists the past and present support received by every applicant for a research grant. In this way, it helps prevent duplication of both research and research support. Brief abstracts are on file of every project sponsored by 80 major research-financing organizations.

LEO MARION, director of the Division of Pure Chemistry of the National Research Council of Canada, has received the Chemical Institute of Canada medal for 1956. The medal, which is awarded annually for outstanding contributions to Canadian chemistry and chemical engineering, is sponsored by the International Nickel Company of Canada, Ltd.

The following are among those who have recently received honorary doctoral degrees.

Lynchburg College: A. B. MASSEY, the Wildlife Unit, Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

Union College: JOSÉ DE ASSIS RIBEIRO, president, South American General Electric Company.

Syracuse University: CARL L. BAUSCH, senior vice president, Bausch and Lomb Optical Company.

Carnegie Institute of Technology: LEWIS L. STRAUSS, chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission; JAMES B. FISK, executive vice president of the Bell Telephone Laboratories; JAMES H. KINDELBERGER, chairman of the board, North American Aviation; LON H. COLBORN, chemistry teacher, Taylor Allderdice High School, Pittsburgh, Pa.

College of Wooster: JOSEPH E. HENDERSON, director of the Applied Physics Laboratory, University of Washington.

MAX B. LURIE, professor of experimental pathology at the Henry Phipps Institute of the University of Pennsylvania, has received the 1956 Trudeau medal from the National Tuberculosis Association in recognition of his studies in native and acquired resistance to tuberculosis.

Winners of awards for the five best essays on gravity have been announced by the Gravity Research Foundation, New Boston, N.H. FREDERIK J. BELINFANTE, professor of Theoretical Physics at Purdue University, received the first award of $1000. The remaining awards were made as follows: STEPHEN W. GRAY, associate professor of anatomy at Emory University, $300; RICHARD BLYTHE, physicist at the Willow Run Laboratories, University of Michigan, Ypsilanti, $200; FRANK J. LOW, a graduate student at the Rice Institute, $150; and SIDNEY A. BLUDMAN, a theoretical physicist at the University of California Radiation Laboratory, $100.

BENJAMIN BOSS, director of the Dudley Observatory of Union University, will retire in July after 48 years of continuous service. He succeeded his father when the latter died in 1912. The present Prof. Boss continued his father's work in determining and cataloging the positions and motions of the stars, so that the project grew to include more than 33,000. These are recorded in the five-volume *General Catalog* that was published in 1937. This work consolidated the mass of prior calculations which appeared in the *San Luis Catalog* of 15,333 stars that was published in 1928 and the *Albany Catalog* of 20,811 stars that was published in 1931.

In the course of his career, Boss has made a number of significant discoveries. One of these, the fanning out of the stars in a skew formation toward one hemisphere of the sky, confirmed the rotation of the Milky Way. He also discovered a group of stars in the constellation Taurus and another in Perseus. Other research has dealt with the relationship between the candle power of stars, their motion toward or away from the earth, and their distribution with reference to the Milky Way.

ABRAHAM FLEXNER, whose report on medical education in 1910 led to the overhauling of American medical schools, has received the Frank H. Lahey memorial award. The award, which is sponsored jointly by the National Fund for Medical Education, the American Medical Association, and the Association of American Medical Colleges, is given periodically for "outstanding leadership in medical education."

KARL M. BOWMAN, a psychiatrist, has announced his retirement as medical superintendent of the University of California's Langley Porter Clinic, which he joined 15 years ago. Before that he was director of psychiatry at Bellevue Hospital in New York and a professor at New York University. He has devoted many years to research in psychiatry, particularly for the armed forces, and has done extensive work on the problem of alcoholism.

JAMES W. TURNBOW, assistant professor of engineering mechanics at the University of Texas, has received the Convair award for excellence in engineering teaching.

WINSTON H. BOSTICK, associate professor of physics at Tufts College, has been appointed professor and head of the department of physics of Stevens Institute of Technology. At present Bostick is on leave from Tufts to conduct research for the Atomic Energy Commission at the Radiation Laboratory of the University of California. His special field of work there has been the study of the interaction of plasmas and magnetic fields. Bostick is the inventor of a "plasma gun," which shoots bursts of high-speed plasma through a magnetic field for laboratory study.

DAVID EHRENFREUND, associate professor of psychology at the State College of Washington, has been appointed chairman of the psychology department at Adelphi College.

Recent Deaths

NATHAN I. BERGER, New York, N.Y.; 83; retired chemical consultant; 2 June.

BURGHARD BREITNER, Innsbruck, Austria; 72; professor of surgery at Innsbruck University; president of the Austrian Red Cross since 1950; 28 Mar.

GEORGE H. CLARK, New York, N.Y.; 75; electrical engineer; pioneer in wireless telegraphy who had been with the Radio Corporation of America since 1919; 3 June.

THOMAS A. COLE, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; 72; bacteriologist; formerly superintendent of the Poughkeepsie city water filtration plant; 26 May.

OSCAR A. DE LONG, Upper Montclair, N.J.; retired electrical engineer; 31 May.

ALPHEUS M. GOODMAN, Ithaca, N.Y.; 71; emeritus professor of agricultural engineering at Cornell University; 28 May.

JAMES L. HEAD, Douglas Manor, N.Y.; 61; retired mining engineer; 3 June.