

company has been conducting research on the new fuel for the Department of Defense since 1952. In addition a smaller plant is being built to produce the same fuel for the Navy. The new facilities will be operated by the corporation's recently formed aviation division.

■ Arthur D. Little, Inc. has announced the opening of its Midwest Division—Miner Laboratories, through which all ADL research and consulting services are now directly available to midwestern industry. John R. Kirkpatrick is manager, and C. S. Miner, Jr., is technical director of the new division, which has laboratories at 9 S. Clinton St., Chicago, Ill.

■ A pressurized aircraft cockpit has recently been installed in an altitude chamber at the Wright Air Development Center. It will permit studies of pilot performance under conditions simulating altitudes as high as 150,000 feet. The cockpit can have its pressure raised to 5 pounds per square inch above that of the air in the surrounding chamber. By means of a diaphragm that can be punctured, air can be allowed to escape from the cockpit rapidly to simulate the loss of cabin pressure that might occur in flight and the consequent rapid decompression.

■ On 1 Aug. Sharp and Dohme, the pharmaceutical and biological division of Merck and Company, Inc., adopted the name "Merck Sharp and Dohme."

■ The General Electric Company has awarded to the New York Shipbuilding Corporation a \$2 million contract for the engineering and construction of a large welded steel, atomic reactor tank for the Commonwealth Edison Company's 180,000-kilowatt Dresden nuclear power station, near Chicago, Ill. General Electric will build the all-nuclear plant for Commonwealth and the eight members of the Nuclear Power Group, Inc.

The cylindrical pressure vessel, of 12-foot 8-inch inside diameter and of approximate height of 42 feet, will stand upright inside a steel sphere. The sphere will be 190 feet in diameter.

The pressure vessel will have  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch stainless-steel cladding over the inside of a 5-inch thick carbon steel welded assembly. When filled, it will hold approximately 278,000 pounds of water. It will be designed for an operating pressure of 1000 pounds per square inch and an operating temperature of 544.6°F.

■ The Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh, Pa., will soon initiate a major research effort in the field of peaceful atomic energy applications. The institute has established a new department of radiation research to carry on the work and has purchased a

3-million-volt Van de Graaff particle accelerator as its initial radiation source.

The work that is being planned will embrace both basic studies on the nature of ionizing radiation and investigation of its practical applications in chemical processing. Robert H. Schuler, for several years a member of the staff at Brookhaven National Laboratory, has been selected to head the department, which he will join on 1 Sept.

■ A new device to obviate the necessity of driving test pilings in clay soil to determine sinkage under load has been developed by H. Bolton Seed of the University of California at Berkeley. The device is a rod with four projecting vanes. When the rod is pushed into the soil at various depths, enough torsional force is applied to make the vanes rotate. The force required can be correlated with results obtained with loaded piling and reasonably accurate predictions of sinking under load can be made from the "vane shear" tests alone.

## Miscellaneous

■ The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's New York office has announced a new group of science and engineering vacancies in the technical assistance programs. The openings, which are primarily for professors or senior lecturers in chemistry, physics, and power engineering, are in Egypt, Israel, Liberia, Pakistan, Paraguay, Thailand, Formosa, and India.

Salaries generally range from \$6000 to \$8750 a year, free of national income tax. Should the expert have a family, he receives a dependent's allowance of \$200 a year for his wife, and a children's allowance of \$200 a year for each child. Lodging is furnished by the host government, or a lodging allowance is paid in lieu thereof.

Travel expenses are paid to duty station and back. They are also paid for his wife and dependent children, if his contract is for a year or longer. Unless otherwise specified, initial contracts are for 1 year, with the possibility of renewal in many cases. For information, write to Mr. Arthur Gagliotti, UNESCO, United Nations, New York 17, N.Y.

■ The sixth volume of *Arctic Bibliography*, published recently by the Government Printing Office, lists and summarizes 5285 publications, chiefly from the years 1950 to 1954. This brings to 38,410 the number of references assembled in the series to date. The set of volumes, which have been sponsored jointly by the Army, Navy, and the Air Force, analyze the contents of books and articles on the arctic and subarctic. The research and compilation of the series has been per-

formed by the Arctic Institute of North America.

Subjects emphasized in the current volume, and represented by 800 or more items each, are geology and mineral resources, geography, zoology, and medicine and physiology. The language coverage is essentially the same as in earlier volumes: 3255 of the publications listed are in English and 1215 are in Russian, with others in German, French, the Scandinavian languages, Italian, Japanese, and ten others. The nature and significance of the foreign-language publications are made clear by translated titles and summaries of contents.

■ The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature has given notice that as from 20 Jan. 1957 it will start voting on the following cases involving the possible use of its plenary powers for the purposes specified against each case. Full details were published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, vol. 12, pts. 4 and 5 (20 July 1956): (i) *depurator* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Cancer*), interpretation of, by neotype designated for (cl. Crustacea, order Decapoda); (ii) *Cherax* (emend. of *Cheraps*) Erichson, 1846, and *Palinurus* (emend. of *Pallinurus*) Weber, 1795, validation (cl. Crustacea, order Decapoda); (iii) *ferox* Gmelin, 1771 (*Accipiter*), suppression (cl. Aves); (iv) *Maja* Lamarck, 1801, validation of and designation of type species for (cl. Crustacea, order Decapoda); (v) *Sao* Barrande, 1846, and *Ellipsocephalus* (emend. of *Elleipsocephalus*) Zenker, 1833, validation (cl. Crustacea, order Stomatopoda); (vi) *Heteralocha* Cabanis [1851], validation (cl. Aves); (vii) *Acrodytes* Fitzinger, 1843, *venulosa* Laurenti, 1768 (*Rana*) and *tibiatrix* Laurenti, 1768 (*Hyla*), suppression (cl. Amphibia, order Salientia); (viii) *Palaeophonon* (emend. of *Palaeophonus*) Lindström & Thorell, 1884, validation (cl. Arachnida); (ix) *Actinocrinus gilbertsoni* Phillips, 1836, interpretation of, by neotype (cl. Crinoidea). Comments should be sent as soon as possible to Francis Hemming, Secretary to the Commission, 28 Park Village East, Regent's Park, London, NW.1.

**Erratum:** Owing to a mistake in the release sent to us, the name of Willard H. Bennett appears as "Willard H. Beams" in the news item entitled "New Atom Smasher" on page 114 of the 20 July issue.

**Erratum:** In the obituary of Louis C. Karpinski on page 19 of the 6 July issue, the phrase "to the University of Strassbourg in France" is incorrect. Karpinski studied at the Kaiser Wilhelms-Universität zu Strassburg when Strassburg was in Germany.

**Erratum:** In the "Preliminary announcement of the seventh New York AAAS meeting," 25 May issue, page 949, the name "Society of Vertebrate Zoology" was mistakenly given as one of the sponsors of the symposium on "Biotic communities in the past and today." The correct name of the society referred to is Society of Vertebrate Paleontology.