workers have also identified a neopallial cortex; but this at best is small and poorly differentiated. In addition, portions of the hyperstriatal area of the corpus striatum have been regarded as homologous to neopallial cortex. Most of the avian corpus striatum, however, has been equated with parts of the mammalian corpus striatum composed of the so-called basal ganglia. Thus the total neopallial component of the bird's brain has been thought to be rudimentary when compared with that of mammals.

Such a concept of the bird's neopallium has been challenged by Stingelin [*Experientia* **12,** 242 (1956)], who states that recent embryological studies by Kallén [*Acta Anat.* **17,** 72 (1954)] show that only the deepest part of the avian striatal complex (palaeostriatum primitivum and palaeostriatum augmentatum) —rather than most of the striatum, as hitherto supposed—is homologous to the mammalian corpus striatum or basal ganglia, whereas by far the major part of the avian striatum (hyperstriatum, neostriatum, archistriatum) is homologous to the neopallium of mammals. This concept, Stingelin thinks, is supported by recent investigations in morphology, physiology and animal psychology. The stratified arrangement of the avian striatum in highly cerebralized forms, moreover, indicates that it is a structure of integration. Hence, concludes Stingelin, the neopallial complex of birds is strictly comparable to that of mammals in both function and organization.—W. L. S., JR.

Galapagos Research Station

European biologists are attempting to establish an international biological research station on one of the Galapagos Islands, which are in the Pacific 658 miles west of Ecuador. The project is being sponsored by the International Union for Cooperation, Brussels, Belgium. The union has received approval of the plan from the Ecuadorian Government, which will provide part of the staff and an island site if funds can be raised elsewhere.

The Galapagos were first surveyed more than a 100 years ago by Charles Darwin during his round-the-world voyage. He noted on his return to England "the manner in which closely allied animals replaced one another in proceeding southward" and considered that the Galapagos fauna in particular had provided him with "the origin" of his views on the creation of species.

Subsequent surveys have shown that 37 percent of the coastal fish, 40 percent of the plants, and 96 percent of the reptiles on the islands were not found anywhere else in the world. This is thought to be a result of geographic isolation.

The great tortoises on the islands, weighing up to 400 pounds, and the iguana lizards, are now reported to be in danger of extinction from semiwild dogs and pigs that eat their eggs.

U.S. Physician and Laos

Thomas A. Dooley, a young physician from St. Louis, Mo., has gone to Laos, where he has offered his services to the Laotian Public Health Department. During the war Dooley served as a naval physician at a refugee camp at Haiphong in northern Vietnam. His return trip has been financed by proceeds from the sale of his book on his experiences. United States companies have given Dooley drug supplies and other equipment, and he is accompanied by three former Navy medical corpsmen who served with him at Haiphong.

In an interview in Hong Kong on 27 Aug., Dooley commented that the Communists who are infiltrating the underdeveloped Asian countries "appear to practice exactly what we preach." For example, they have sent 22 physicians to Cambodia.

Radioactive Reserpine

Reserpine, a drug extracted from the *Rauwolfia* plant and used for the treatment and cure of certain mental disorders and for the reduction of high blood pressure, has been produced in a radioactive form at Argonne National Laboratory. The new drug was produced by growing the plant in an atmosphere containing radioactive carbon dioxide.

The research team that carried out the work consisted of Edwin A. Peets and Arthur Schulert, of Columbia University's Lamont Geological Observatory, and John Skok and William Chorney, of Argonne's biological and medical research division. Radioactive reserpine will be used at Columbia in studies that involve physiological and biochemical actions in the animal body.

Arctic Flora Study

A "coldhouse" to study arctic flora is to be built at the Botanical Gardens in Copenhagen, Denmark. A refrigerator will be used to keep temperatures just below freezing in winter and at a maximum of between 55 and 60°F in summer.

The Copenhagen University Institute of Biology estimates the cost of the project at approximately 250,000 kroner (about $35,000). The Rockefeller Foundation has contributed $20,000 and Danish foundations will provide the balance.

The coldhouse was planned by two Copenhagen University botanists, Tyge Boecher and Thorwald Soerensen, both of whom have made botanical expeditions to Greenland. Last month Boecher visited Copenhagen University's Arctic Institute on Disko Island off the coast of Greenland to collect seeds and plants for the coldhouse. Plans are also being made to grow seeds collected from other parts of the Arctic, Canada, Norway, and the Alps, and other mountain areas.

Nuclear Energy Notes

The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has approved the negotiation of a contract for limited development work on a unique nuclear power reactor system that was proposed jointly by the Chugach Electric Association of Anchorage, Alaska, and the Nuclear Development Corporation of America of White Plains, N.Y. The proposal is for a power reactor of 10,000-kilowatt capacity that would use heavy water as moderator, liquid sodium as coolant, and slightly enriched uranium as fuel. The plant would be located at Anchorage.

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The Danish Atomic Energy Commission has purchased a farm on the island of Risoe, west of Copenhagen, where a nuclear research station is to be erected. The farm will be used for experimental work in such projects as the application of radioisotopes to the improvement of crops and the storage of farm products.

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The European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) has recently accepted a $400,000 grant from the Ford Foundation, to be spent over 5 years, to help in strengthening cooperation in nuclear physics research, primarily with the United States and with other countries not members of CERN. The grant is expected to be used mainly to enable guest professors to visit CERN and to give young scientists opportunities to work in its laboratories.

* * *

Construction of France's first electronuclear power plant for peaceful uses will begin soon in the Loire Valley. The installation will be built by Electricity of France, the nationalized electric power industry, at Voine, between the Vienne and Loire Rivers. The plant's reactor, which is to be completed in 1959, will have an initial capacity of about 60,000 kilowatts, with a probable expansion to 300,000 kilowatts.

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The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has reduced its prices for carbon-14 and iodine-131. The cost of carbon-14 is now $28 per millicurie for shipments in amount of 199 millicuries or less; for shipments in amounts greater than 199

millicuries, the price drops to $22 per millicurie. The previous prices were $36 and $32 for these quantities.

Iodine-131 now costs 50 cents per millicurie for shipments of 499 millicuries or less, and 40 cents per millicurie for amounts greater than 499 millicuries. Previously iodine-131 cost 75 cents and 65 cents for like quantities.

News Briefs

■ Geologists of the Geological Survey, working in cooperation with the National Department of Mineral Production, Brazil, under the auspices of the International Cooperation Administration, have reported a large body of zinc and copper mineralization near the small village of Vazante in the northwestern part of the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil. The deposit is in branching, subparallel fault breccia zones that range from a few meters to 60 meters in width. Samples indicate that ore may average 35 percent zinc.

Copies of the report and maps have been placed on open file. They may be inspected at the libraries of the Geological Survey in Washington, D.C.; Menlo Park, Calif.; and Denver, Colo.; and at the office of the Departamento Nacional da Producao Mineral, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

■ Marie-Jacques van Nedervelde recently stumbled upon an important find of prehistoric animal bones when he chased a rabbit into a cave on Caldy Island near Tenby in western England. About 200 specimens were sent to a museum, where an expert has reported that "they are among the most important archeological discoveries of recent years in Britain, and certainly the westernmost signs of the Ice Age."

■ Moscow radio has reported that last month two Soviet scientists descended into the crater of an active volcano in eastern Siberia. This was the first time since 1923 that anyone had been inside the 9000-foot crater of Avachinskaya Sopka.

The men climbed about 750 feet into the crater, then slid down a rope for another 180 feet. Steam and suffocating gases were spurting from holes in the rock floor during the 20-minutes that the group took pictures and made observations.

Scientists in the News

EARL L. GREEN, associate professor in the department of zoology at Ohio State University, has been named director of the Roscoe B. Jackson Memorial Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Me.

E. N. DA C. ANDRADE, since 1928 Quain-Professor at the University of London, England, will lecture on 17 Sept. at the Franklin Institute, when he will discuss the "Mechanical behavior of metal single crystals."

ROBERT ROBINSON, internationally known British organic chemist, celebrated his 70th birthday on 13 Sept. Simultaneously, Interscience Publishers, Inc., published *Perspectives in Organic Chemistry,* edited by Alexander Todd and dedicated to Robinson. In this volume a number of his pupils and friends, such as Paul Bartlett, Linus Pauling, R. B. Woodward, Karl Ziegler, and others have contributed essays about their particular branches of organic chemistry.

JOHN A. D. COOPER, associate professor of biochemistry, has been appointed assistant dean of the Northwestern University Medical School. At present Cooper is in Brazil to direct a course on radioisotope techniques in biology and medicine. He also will make a 3-month tour of South American universities and scientific societies.

ALMON W. SPINKS, an electrical engineer, has rejoined the staff of the electrical instruments section of the National Bureau of Standards. Spinks, who had 24 years of previous experience at NBS, will be in charge of the bureau's aircraft electrical network laboratory, which provides consultation service and makes qualification tests on electrical aircraft equipment for the Navy.

MARK G. FOSTER, a physicist and former head of the development division at the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory, Buffalo, N.Y., has been appointed director of research for the Crosley Government Products Division, Avco Manufacturing Corporation. He will have his offices at the Crosley plant in Evendale, Ohio.

LEE DE FOREST, pioneer in the development of modern radio, was honored in Munich, Germany, on 27 Aug., when the Munich plant for Beckman Instruments, Inc., gave a dinner to celebrate his 83rd birthday. Dr. and Mrs. De Forest are touring Europe for 6 months.

A. STANLEY THOMPSON, formerly chief engineer of the nuclear power department of the Studebaker-Packard Corporation, recently joined the General Atomic Division of the General Dynamics Corporation. At present housed in temporary quarters in San Diego, Calif., General Atomic will begin construction this year of its permanent laboratory facilities on a site in the northern part of the city.

GORDON W. DOUGLAS has been appointed professor and chairman of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at New York University College of Medicine, a unit of New York University–Bellevue Medical Center. He succeeds William E. Studdiford, who is retiring. Douglas has been on the university's college of medicine staff since 1949.

JORGE ANCIZAR-SORDO, director of the Laboratorio Quimico Nacional, Bogota, Colombia, and a fellow of the AAAS, recently celebrated his 25th anniversary of service as a chemist for the Colombian Government.

ROBERT HERMAN, formerly assistant to the director of the Applied Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University, and visiting professor of physics at the University of Maryland, has accepted a position as consulting physicist on the General Motors research staff at the GM Technical Center.

SAMUEL MOSS, formerly physiologist at the Dairy Husbandry Research Branch, Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Md., has been appointed executive secretary of the Human Embryology and Development Study Section, Division of Research Grants, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md.

Recent Deaths

WILLIAM A. BLACK, Montclair, N. J.; mechanical engineer in charge of the research laboratory at the General Time Corporation; 24 Aug.

JOHANNES S. BUCK, Rensselaer, N. Y.; 60; associate director of chemistry at the Sterling-Winthrop Research Institute; former associate professor of chemistry at Duke University; 10 Aug.

ROY E. CLAUSEN, Berkeley, Calif.; 65; professor and chairman of the department of genetics at the University of California, Berkeley; vice president of the AAAS Pacific Division in 1947; 21 Aug.

LOUIS GREENWALD, New York, N. Y.; 67; physician who specialized in diseases of the blood; former associate professor of medicine at the New York Medical College; 27 Aug.

ALFRED C. KINSEY, Bloomington, Ind.; 62; professor of zoology and director of the Institute for Sex Research at Indiana University; 25 Aug.

GILBERT E. KLEIN, Oak Ridge, Tenn.; 39; senior metallurgist with the solid state division of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory; 20 Aug.

MEYER LEVITZ, New York, N. Y.; 46; retired chairman of the physics and general science department of Christopher Columbus High School; 29 Aug.