make brief visits to other nations to discuss uranium geology and exploration techniques and make brief preliminary investigations of known uranium deposits and favorable areas.

These activities may develop into cooperative foreign exploration projects similar to those approved by the commission over the past several years. Since 1951, projects varying from a month to several years in duration have been or are being carried out with Australia, Bolivia, Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, the Philippines, and Turkey, with brief preliminary appraisals made in a number of other countries.

National Seed Storage Laboratory

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced that Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College, Ft. Collins, has been selected as the site of a new National Seed Storage Laboratory—a facility to store valuable germ plasm for future use in developing better crops. Funds totaling $450,000 for construction of the laboratory were included in an appropriation bill passed by Congress this year. The laboratory site, donated by the college, will be deeded to USDA.

Lack of an adequate national seed-storage facility has in the past resulted in partial or complete loss of potentially valuable breeding stock. Existing state and federal laboratories and experiment stations can handle plant material needed in current breeding programs, but they are not equipped to provide adequate storage of the thousands of different plants introduced from abroad or developed in this country that might have value in future plant-breeding research, even though not required for immediate use.

U.N. Exhibit to Commemorate Geneva Nuclear Conference

A permanent exhibit that is to serve as a reminder of the historic significance of the atomic energy conference held at Geneva last summer has gone on display at United Nations Headquarters in time for the conference that has convened there to establish a new world atomic energy agency. The exhibit is intended to commemorate the first International Scientific Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, which brought together 1428 delegates and scientists from 73 nations, as well as 1334 observers.

Invitations were sent by the Secretary-General last November to the seven governments that had exhibited models of atomic reactors or power plants at the Geneva conference. The governments concerned accepted the Secretary-General's suggestion that they send displays to form the principal parts of the new exhibit at U.N. headquarters. The seven governments are Canada, France, Norway, Sweden, the U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Archeology in Alabama

The National Geographic Society has announced that a record of human life in North America reaching back 8000 years has been unearthed in a limestone cave near Bridgeport, Ala. The society and the Smithsonian Institution have jointly excavated the cave.

Layer by layer, a cross section of bones, tools, and weapons has been peeled from the floor of the cave (Russell Cave). It shows human occupancy from 6200 B.C., or earlier, to A.D. 1650. Instead of sweeping out their litter, the cave dwellers buried it under fresh layers of earth, leaving a record that is easy to read.

Led by Smithsonian archeologist Carl F. Miller, the expedition has dug down 14 feet. Remains of a man-made fire at that point have been dated by radioactive carbon tests as being 8160 years old, plus or minus 300 years. At the 6-foot level the group found a skeleton of a cave Indian who died about 4000 years ago.

The topmost Indian deposits, under a layer of debris left by modern picnickers, show no trace of white man's objects, dating them to about 1650, before the first white traders appeared in northern Alabama. Below, the small stone arrowheads of the Woodland period, roughly A.D. 1100 to 1000 B.C., give way to earlier spearheads and knives that represent a time before the bow and arrow were known. Changes in the quality of pottery fragments, and their disappearance beneath the 5-foot level, mark the line between the Woodland culture and the older Archaic Age, when only baskets and skin vessels were in use. The Geographic Society has reported that no other site in North America has yielded such a detailed record covering so long a period of occupancy.

Organized Labor and the New Michigan Reactor

Two international labor unions have filed petitions with the Atomic Energy Commission aimed at blocking construction of the neutron-breeder reactor that is to be built at Lagoona Beach, Monroe County, Mich., for which the AEC has granted a "conditional" permit [*Science* **124**, 358 (24 Aug. 1956)]. The International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers (AFL-CIO) says that the reactor would be a "catastrophic threat to the . . . citizens of Detroit and . . . of Toledo, Ohio, both 30 miles from Lagoona Beach. [The danger] lies in the possibility of the reactor exploding or otherwise going out of control." The United Automobile Workers of America (AFL-CIO) maintain that the AEC has violated the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 in issuing the conditional construction permit without holding formal hearings. The UAW petition states that the plant as planned raised questions as to "reasonable assurances" of the safety of the project.

Borneo Zoological Expedition

Robert F. Inger, curator of amphibians and reptiles at Chicago Natural History Museum, has returned to this country after having led a zoological expedition to Borneo that has been in the field since March. On two occasions he was the house guest of Iban families in their apartments in the tribal longhouses—huge wooden structures on stilts that are as much as 1000 feet long. These buildings house a whole village of 300 or more people.

Inger collected about 1000 frogs, 5000 fishes, and several hundred snakes, lizards, mammals, and other specimens for the museum. He traveled for hundreds of miles on the Rejang, Kinabatangan, and Kalabakan rivers in dugouts equipped with outboard motors. The tribesmen acquire the motors by going off for several months and working for wages in British-owned oil fields and timber camps. When they have enough money saved to buy an outboard, they quit their jobs and return to a motorized version of their old way of life.

TB in the United States

Approximately 80,000 new cases of active tuberculosis are being reported in this country each year, despite the great advances that have been made in the effort to combat tuberculosis, according to the Annual Report of the National Tuberculosis Association. Outstanding among the advances cited by the report is the revolution in treatment that began 10 years ago with the introduction of effective new drugs. But the report points out that, at best, the victory over the disease is only a partial one:

"According to latest estimates, there are more than 1,200,000 people with active or inactive tuberculosis in the United States. They need either treatment or medical supervision. About 800,000 have active cases of infectious tuberculosis. Perhaps 250,000 of these are not under treatment and are exposing others in their communities. About 55 million

Americans, roughly one in three, are infected with the tubercle bacillus.

"The sharp decline in death rate, one of the most dramatic and best publicized recent developments, seems a less glorious victory when it is realized that last year about 16,000 persons died from tuberculosis, a preventable disease."

British Research Budget

Britain is devoting 60 percent of her budget for scientific research and development to national defense. The figure is 34 percent for the United States.

On a proportional basis, Britain probably is spending as much of the wealth she produces each year on research and development as the United States, if not more. Altogether, however, U.S. expenditures on civil research and development are 10 times as great as those of the British.

These figures were given at the recent meetings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. They had been compiled by Ernest Rudd of the intelligence division of the Deparment of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Abortion in the U.S.S.R.

On 23 Nov. 1955 the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. passed a decree repealing the prohibition on abortion that had been in force for almost 20 years. This is the third time in the 39 years of its existence that the Soviet Union has changed its stand on the question of permitting or prohibiting abortion on other than "therapeutic" grounds. Soviet legislation on abortion falls into four distinct periods: 1917–20, in which abortions were illegal, even on medical indications; 1920–36, in which abortions were legal provided that certain conditions were met; 1936–55, in which abortions again were illegal, except on certain medical indications; and 1955 to the present, in which abortions are again legal.

Radiation in Monkeys

A long-term research project to study the effects of atomic radiation on monkeys throughout their entire lifetime will begin at the University of Wisconsin this year. The study will be started with an initial grant of $172,500 from the National Institutes of Health; this amount will finance work during the first year of the program.

To house the project, the Wisconsin Alumni Foundation has agreed to construct a $250,000 addition to the ARF building, which is used by the university's Primate Laboratory. Rent on the addition, to be used exclusively for the radiation project, will come from overhead on federal contracts.

The project will have two broad purposes: to learn the direct effect of radiation damage upon the physiological function of the various organs; and to use radiation as a tool in studies of aging. The research will be directed by Harry Harlow, director of the Primate Laboratory; John Z. Bowers, dean of the University of Wisconsin Medical School; D. Murray Angevine, professor of pathology; Van R. Potter, professor of cancer research; Robert F. Schilling, professor of medicine and cancer research; and Paul H. Phillips, professor of biochemistry.

News Briefs

■ Three American astronomers went to the U.S.S.R. this month to attend the dedication of the Buraken Astrophysical Observatory of the Armenian Academy of Sciences, in Russian Armenia, 8–24 Sept., and to participate in a symposium on nonstable stars that was held during the same period. The group included Nancy G. Roman of the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D.C.; George H. Herbig of the University of California's Lick Observatory; and Jesse L. Greenstein of the Mount Wilson Observatory of the California Institute of Technology.

■ A telephone that transmits pictures along with sound so that users may see each other on a 2- by 3-inch screen has been developed by Bell Telephone Laboratories. The instrument is the first system of its kind to use a pair of ordinary telephone wires. It has been in operation on an experimental basis between New York and Los Angeles.

■ The Australian Government has announced that it will undertake the first marsupial census ever made. The survey will begin in New South Wales, where there are more than 40 marsupial species. The animals range in size from a 3-inch mouselike marsupial to the great gray kangaroo that measures 6 feet. The settlement of the country and the introduction of the fox have been fatal to many species, some of which have entirely vanished, while others have been so reduced in numbers that they are on the verge of extinction.

■ Members of the British North Greenland Expedition were permitted to sleep at any time during the 24-hour Arctic night, and they went to bed and took naps at all times. However, when the amount of sleep was totaled up for a month, it was found that each man averaged a conventional 7.9 hours of sleep per day. H. E. Lewis and J. P. Masterton of the Medical Research Council, London, reported these findings at the recent meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Scientists in the News

WESLEY T. HANSON, JR., head of the color photography division of the Eastman Kodak Research Laboratories, Rochester, N.Y., has been selected as the first recipient of the Herbert T. Kalmus gold medal award of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers. The medal is awarded for "outstanding contributions in the development of color films, processes, techniques or equipment useful in making color motion pictures for theater or television use." Presentation will take place 9 Oct., during the society's 80th convention at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, Calif.

WARREN E. WILSON, George Westinghouse professor of engineering education at Pennsylvania State University, has been appointed dean of the Pratt Institute School of Engineering.

DONALD H. HALE, colonel in the Chemical Corps, U.S. Army, and commanding officer of the Chemical Warfare Laboratories, Army Chemical Center, Md., retired on 31 Aug. He was awarded a Certificate of Achievement for 32 years of superior service to the Army and the Chemical Corps. His command of the Chemical Warfare Laboratories climaxed a long association with research and development.

He received his Ph.D. in physics in 1940 from the University of California. Among his assignments in the Army were chief of the U.S. Army Radiological Defense School; chemical officer of the 7th Army, European Command; commanding officer of Dugway Proving Ground, Utah; chief of the Research and Development Division, Office of the Chief Chemical Officer. Hale has been appointed technical assistant to the manager of the Central Engineering Department of Food Machinery and Chemical Corporation in San Jose, Calif., effective 1 Oct.

BRUNO J. WOJCIK has been appointed manager of research and development for the industrial chemicals division of the Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation. He joined the company in 1950 and has served in various research capacities. Two other new appointments are BERNARD H. NICOLAISEN, assistant manager of research and development in charge of the division's labo-