

ardous at this stage of knowledge. Steinberg discussed the findings recently in Washington, D.C., during the annual convention of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States. A report of the research is scheduled for publication in the *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*.

New ACE Information and Research Division

The American Council on Education has established a new Office on Statistical Information and Research, with Coleman R. Griffith, former provost of the University of Illinois as director. The office, which will be operated in Washington, D.C., as part of the council's central program, has a 5-year grant of \$375,000 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Among the objectives of the new unit will be the analysis of data relating to higher education, encouragement of existing research agencies to fill gaps in present knowledge, improvement in methods of gathering statistical information, and correlation and interpretation of facts from various sources having special value for educational policy-making. Griffith, who will be on leave from the University of Illinois, will direct the office on a part-time basis until 1 Feb. 1957, when he will assume full-time duties in Washington.

Elmer D. West, educational specialist on the staff of the National Security Agency, has been appointed assistant director of the new office. He recently completed a special 6-month research project for the council which resulted in a book entitled *Background for a National Scholarship Policy*. West is on full-time duty setting up the facilities for the Washington headquarters. The office will operate under a policy committee, of which Frederick L. Hovde of Purdue University is chairman.

News Briefs

■ A set of 32 photographs of Russian doctors and scientists has been received by the National Library of Medicine's art section; in exchange, the library has sent a shipment of duplicate portraits of American physicians and surgeons.

■ To confirm the report about Russian nuclear physicist Peter Kapitsa's refusal to work on the Soviet atomic bomb project for conscientious reasons [*Science* 124, 361 (24 Aug. 1956)], a staff member of the British publication *Peace News* tried the improbable procedure of calling Kapitsa by international telephone. The call went through without difficulty, and

Kapitsa confirmed that he had refused, and still refuses, to participate in the development of nuclear energy for military purposes.

■ The eighth annual report of the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization for the year ending 30 June 1956 has been made available. This report deals with a great variety of research in such diverse fields as entomology, plant industry, animal health, forest products, industrial chemistry, and radiophysics. It may be obtained from CSIRO, 314 Albert St., East Melbourne, Australia.

Scientists in the News

LAWRENCE G. DERTHICK, superintendent of schools in Chattanooga, Tenn., has been named United States Commissioner of Education by President Eisenhower.

Exceptional Service awards have been given by the Air Force to JOHN W. GARDNER, president of the Carnegie Corporation, DONALD W. HASTINGS, professor of psychiatry and neurology at the University of Minnesota, GEORGE E. VALLEY, professor of physics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and HARRY WEXLER, chief of the science services division of the U.S. Weather Bureau. The Exceptional Service award consists of a medal and formal citation and is the highest civilian award given by the Air Force. The medals were presented by Donald A. Quarles, Secretary of the Air Force, on 30 Nov. All four of the recipients were honored for their service as members and chairmen of panels of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board.

The following Russell L. Cecil awards for science writing about the rheumatic diseases were presented by the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation during its recent annual meeting in New York: to PETE COUTROS, newspaper article *New York Daily News*; LAWRENCE GALTON, magazine article, *Better Homes and Gardens*; and JAY E. RAEBEN, television script, American Broadcasting Company. The three men were cited for writing "which during 1956 has contributed most to strengthen man's efforts to conquer arthritis and rheumatism, the nation's foremost chronic and crippling diseases."

ROBERT R. MARSHAK of Springfield, Vt., has been appointed professor of veterinary medicine and chairman of the department at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania.

ISIDOR I. RABI, Higgins professor of physics at Columbia University and a Nobel prize winner, is visiting institute professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology during the current fall term. The institute professorship was established especially to permit men of highest achievement to study and teach at M.I.T. in fields of their own interest, without the restrictions of traditional departmental boundaries.

BERNARD S. SCHWEIGERT has been appointed director of research and education of the American Meat Institute Foundation at the University of Chicago, and DELBERT M. DOTY and CHARLES F. NIVEN, JR., have been named associate directors. The foundation maintains laboratories on the university campus and has a staff of more than 50 scientists engaged in research related to the production of livestock and the processing and utilization of products derived from livestock.

Reorganization of the foundation's administrative staff was made necessary on 30 Sept. by the death of HENRY R. KRAYBILL, scientist and educator who had aided in the creation of the foundation and had served as its director since 1947 when it first began operations. All three of the new administrative officers have held positions of research and administrative responsibility at the foundation for 8 or more years, all served with Kraybill as assistant directors in charge of specific areas of research, and all hold professorial appointments at the University of Chicago.

CHALMER G. KIRKBRIDE, former president and chairman of the board of directors of Houdry Process Corporation, Philadelphia, Pa., joined the Sun Oil Company, Philadelphia, on 1 Dec., as executive director of the research, patent, and engineering departments.

Also at Sun, CHARLES L. THOMAS, formerly associate director of the research and development department, has been named director. He succeeds J. BENNETT HILL, who retired on 30 Nov.

WILFRED BLOOMBERG has been chosen to head the Southern Regional Education Board's program in mental health training and research. Bloomberg is chief of the psychiatry and neurology service, Veterans Administration Hospital, Boston, Mass. He will assume his new post on 1 Jan. The regional health program was initiated at the Southern Governors Conference in 1953, when the governors of 16 southern and border states requested the Regional Education Board to study the South's resources and potentials for training and research on problems of mental health.