including references to the physical, biological, engineering, legal-administrative, and economic aspects of atmospheric pollution. To continue this work during the current fiscal year, the Public Health Service has allocated $17,525 to the library.

The Department of Agriculture has agreed to assign personnel to the Public Health Service to conduct studies of plants as air-pollution indicators. For this work, the service will provide for the salaries of two plant scientists, as well as for space and equipment for plant studies related to air pollution, in its Taft Sanitary Engineering Center in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In addition to the agreements noted here, the Surgeon General recently announced the award of 12 grants for air-pollution research by non-Federal institutions, totalling $318,568. Various air-pollution studies also are being conducted within the Service's own facilities and through contracts with non-Governmental research groups.

In the Laboratories

■ The Podbielniak Institute, 632 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill., has been founded by Dr. and Mrs. Walter J. Podbielniak as a self-sustaining but essentially nonprofit institution to make available to industry special instruction and training courses in analysis of gases and vaporizable liquids. The idea for such a training school was first conceived in 1952 at the time that the Natural Gasoline Association of America had completed a series of comparative analytic accuracy surveys. As a result of these studies, a special, 9-month analysts' training school was conducted at the University of Oklahoma. Light hydrocarbon physical constants, conversion, and calculation methods were standardized and improved, and efficient and accurate analytic techniques were evolved.

In order to continue and extend this type of training, the Podbielniak Institute is now offering a 2-week course intended primarily for qualified industry personnel. The course will include instruction in the analysis of natural gas and gasoline, petroleum and its products as produced by refining and petrochemical processes, and similar complex gases and vaporizable liquid mixtures.

■ The Stanford Research Institute, Menlo Park, Calif., will open a European office in Zurich, Switzerland, shortly after 1 Jan. A principal aim of the office will be to establish a two-way flow of information between European and American industrial and research organizations seeking new research, production, or marketing relationships. Another function will be the development of exchange and fellowship programs between U.S. and western European organizations.

Heading the new office will be Robert M. Burns, a senior scientific adviser on SRI's staff since leaving the post of chemical director of Bell Telephone Laboratories 2 years ago. Working closely with Burns will be Lorenzo Franceschini of Milan and Rome, Italy, formerly an official of Italy's National Productivity Committee and a holder of an SRI international research fellowship during 1954–55.

■ A design study and development work to determine the feasibility and economics of heavy water moderated reactors for electric power generation will be undertaken for the Atomic Energy Commission by E. I. duPont de Nemours and Company. The study will pay particular attention to the utilization of natural uranium as fuel.

The work will be performed under the existing contract between the DuPont Company and the commission for the operation of the AEC's Savannah River Plant in South Carolina. DuPont will utilize personnel from both the Savanah River Plant and its main office in Wilmington, Del., in carrying out the study. The commission-DuPont agreement makes no commitment for construction of a power reactor.

Miscellaneous

■ The *Handbook of Biological Data*, in preparation under the direction of a National Academy of Sciences–National Research Council committee for the past 7 years, has just been published. More than 17,000 biologists have participated in the preparation of this work. The handbook committee's basic task was the definition of the volume's scope and of the audience to whom it was to be addressed. It was the committee's decision that the handbook should be abridged and that it should be addressed primarily to scientists who have frequent need for information outside their own area of specialization.

■ The home of Joseph Priestley has been acquired and is being restored to its original appearance by the Borough of Northumberland, Pa. [*Science* **124**, 117 (20 July 1956)]. This house, started in 1795 and completed in 1797 and owned for many years by the Priestley family, was purchased in 1920 by Pennsylvania State University and presented this year (1956) to Northumberland. The home is of Georgian architecture, is in fine condition, and occupies an acre of landscaped ground near the Susquehanna River. Under the direction of the Priestley Memorial Association, the Widow's Walk, kitchen and laboratory are being restored to their original appearance and the rooms refurnished with American furniture in style around 1800.

The association desires to gather all obtainable information on Priestley and on his American home. It would like to receive reprints of articles bearing on his work, and it welcomes correspondence with anyone interested in this matter. Visitors are welcome. Correspondents may address Mr. Lewis K. Rich, 464 Front St., Northumberland, Pa.

The Division of History of Chemistry of the American Chemical Society is cooperating with the Priestley Memorial Association in the restoration of Priestley's laboratory. To this end a committee including Sidney Edelstein, Claude K. Deischer, and Wyndham Miles, chairman, has been constituted. The committee wishes to locate apparatus of Priestley's American period, with a view to acquiring them or having replicas made. It welcomes correspondence with anyone knowing the whereabouts of apparatus, and with scholars interested in this project. Correspondents may address Dr. Wyndham Miles, Edgewood, Md.

■ The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature has announced that beginning 30 May 1957 it will start voting on the following case involving the possible use of its plenary powers for the purpose specified. Full details were published on 30 Nov. in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (vol. 12, Pt. 11): Pieridae Duponchel, 1832, validation of family-group name (Cl. Insecta, Order Lepidoptera).

In addition, applications for the use of the plenary powers in the following cases will be published on the same date in Pt. 12 of vol. 11 of the above bulletin: (i) *Ptychopyge* Angelin, 1854, designation of type species (Cl. Trilobita); (ii) convexa de Haan, [1835] (Ocypode (Chasmagnathus)) validation (Cl. Crustacea, Order Decapoda). Comments should be sent as soon as possible and in duplicate to the secretary to the commission, Francis Hemming, 28 Park Village East, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1, England.

Erratum: On page 925 of the 9 Nov. issue of *Science* we stated that "Nineteen members of the Atomic Energy Commission research project at the University of Rochester Medical Center" endorsed a statement criticizing the President's recent defense of nuclear weapons tests. Actually, only five of the 19 members of the university staff who signed the statement were associated with the AEC project. These five constituted about 10 percent of the project's scientific staff.