

United States. In Texas, for example, not long ago 143 cases of psittacosis were reported in a single week. At the same time, a serologic survey in Colorado disclosed that nearly one-fifth of all persons under 30 were likely to have a positive reaction for Western equine encephalitis.

### Nuclear Tests to Start

The Atomic Energy Commission has announced that the 1957 series of low-yield nuclear detonations at the Nevada Test Site is scheduled to begin on about 15 May. No termination date can be established at present, but it is expected the test site will be used intermittently throughout the summer.

The site will also be used for experiments related to the safety of nuclear weapons during handling and storage. Since there will be no nuclear detonation for these tests, there are not expected to be any effects outside the immediate area.

The operations at the test site will be conducted by the Nevada Test Organization, of which James E. Reeves of the commission's Albuquerque Operations Office is test manager. Most of the staff of the Las Vegas Branch Office has moved to the site, and a majority of the test organization personnel from other offices and units are scheduled to be at the site by about 1 May. Tests during the 1957 series, known as Operation Plumbbob, will be scheduled at greater intervals than during the 1955 series to make allowance for delays that may result from weather conditions, to avoid overcrowding in housing available at Camp Mercury, and to permit a greater length of time for completing construction work.

### Research Facilities Grants

The U.S. Public Health Service has announced approval of 35 grants totaling \$3,974,943 to help 27 research institutions in 18 states build additional facilities for research in cancer, heart disease, mental illness, and other major illnesses. The grants were recommended by the National Advisory Council on Health Research Facilities, which reviewed 165 applications amounting to about \$66,384,500. Applications for grants will again be considered by the council 27-29 May.

Congress last year authorized \$30 million a year for 3 years in grants to research institutions on an equal matching basis for the construction and extension of research facilities. The law also established the advisory council, which now has approved 109 grants totaling approximately \$30 million.

### Atomic Power in Northern Ireland

An announcement has been made that an atomic power station of 150 megawatts will be established in Northern Ireland, a country with a population of only about 1,400,000. The station should be in operation by 1963 or 1964. It will cost about £25 million (\$70 million). Relating cost to resources—the revenues of the government in the current financial year total £93 million (\$260.4 million)—it is easy to see that this investment by Northern Ireland is on a scale that is probably unparalleled by any other country.

Augmentation of electricity services has been made necessary by the tremendous increase in demand that has resulted from Northern Ireland's industrial development program. This program includes the establishment of factories by such firms as Du Pont and Chemstrand.

### Wayne Offers Master's Data Processing

Wayne State University will be the second school in this country to offer a master's degree in automatic data processing. Harvard University is the other school. The new program, which begins in September 1957, will incorporate the management sciences—economics, mathematics, accounting, and computing.

### Registry of Pediatric Pathology

Under the auspices of the American Academy of Pediatrics, a special registry devoted to pediatric pathology is to be established as one of the components of the American Registry of Pathology of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. The success of other component registries in collecting source material for the study of rare and unusual diseases in several branches of medicine has prompted the Armed Forces Institute to devote a special section to the pathology of diseases of children.

The Registry of Pediatric Pathology will limit its material only with respect to the age group involved. Adequate cataloging, maintenance of records, and availability of material are primary objectives. In addition, a consultation service will be provided for all pathologists similar to that offered by the other component registries. Specialists in pediatric pathology in this country and abroad will thus be on call for questions in their particular fields of interest. The material will also be made available for teaching purposes, and it is hoped that in the future the registry may provide a position for training in pediatric pathology.

The support of all pathologists and pediatricians is needed to insure the success of this new division. All inquiries should be addressed to the Registry of Pathology, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Walter Reed Medical Center, Washington 25, D.C.

### Louisiana Veterinary Center

The \$600,000 Veterinary Medical Research Center at Louisiana State University was dedicated recently. It consists of six animal laboratory buildings and a large two-story addition to the Dalrymple Memorial Laboratory. Research has already begun on anaplasmosis, leptospirosis in cattle and swine, gastrointestinal parasites of cattle, and bibriosis, a disease of the reproductive system. Anaplasmosis, which results in death for 40 percent of the infected animals and causes an estimated \$10 million annual loss in southern states, will be one of the major research projects. The disease is characterized by a rapid reduction of red blood cells.

In addition, respiratory diseases of poultry as they affect the blood-cell system will be studied from the standpoint of developing a diagnostic test. The research will be conducted in a separate building which contains four isolation units. One of the other buildings will be used for the study of animal diseases that are highly contagious. Its construction will permit 11 separate studies to be conducted simultaneously in individual isolation units. Nine investigators are now working at the laboratory and several more are to be added to the staff in the near future.

### New Westinghouse Unit

The Westinghouse Research Laboratories has announced formation of a new scientific group to expedite the development of electronic and related devices. The group is already operating in what is to be known as the physics project laboratory. The function of the new unit is to bring into final practical form at an accelerated rate the variety of devices that are being conceived as a result of the company's regular program of research.

Among the projects assigned to the group is the continued development of the image multiplier tube, a new type of electronic tube recently announced by the laboratories. The laboratory will also be concerned with the immediate development of certain classified electronic projects for the Government.

The head of the new laboratory is A. E. Anderson, formerly executive staff assistant to J. A. Hutcheson, Westing-