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-

house vice president in charge of research and engineering. R. O. McIntosh has been appointed section manager in charge of tube laboratory operations. R. W. Decker and M. M. Wachtel are project supervisors. The Westinghouse Research Laboratories' present electron tube laboratory will be incorporated into the new organization.

Rehabilitation Institute

Washington University is planning to build a $675,000 rehabilitation institute to serve disabled persons in the St. Louis metropolitan area. The new facility will be named for the late Mrs. Irene Johnson, one of the principal donors of funds. In addition to work with patients, the institute will train personnel in rehabilitation procedures and develop new methods of treatment. An active research program relating to chronic disabilities will also be carried on.

The new building will house the departments of physical and occupational therapy now located in other buildings in the Washington University Medical Center. Robert E. Shank, professor of preventive medicine in the School of Medicine since 1948, will be director of the institute.

U.S. Population

A United States population of 178½ million by the time of the 1960 census is predicted by the statisticians of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. In that event, the 1950's will show a population increase of about 27⅓ million, or two-fifths more than the 1940's, which up to that time had the greatest gain for any 10-year period.

In the 11⅓ years since World War II, almost 29½ million people have been added to our population, which is more than the gain during the 23 years between World War I and World War II.

During the year just ended, the population, excluding the Armed Forces overseas, increased by 1.8 percent. Every geographic area shared in this growth, but the Far West showed the highest rate of increase—almost double the national rate.

Since the 1950 census, California has gained more than any other state—about 3.1 million inhabitants. California's population has now reached approximately 13.7 million, which is exceeded only by New York State. Nevada, Arizona, and Florida have experienced rapid population growth, and increases well above the average rate for the country have occurred in Delaware, Maryland, and Michigan. Losses in population have been sustained since the 1950 census in five states: Arkansas, Mississippi, West Virginia, Vermont, and Maine.

Metropolitan Life also reports that the average length of life among its industrial policyholders rose to a new high of 70.2 years in 1956. This is slightly above the figure for 1955 and represents an increase of 24 years since 1909.

For nearly two generations, the average length of life has been increasing more rapidly among American wage earners and their families than for the general population of the United States. In 1909, the average lifetime of Metropolitan's industrial policyholders was about 6 years less than that for the population as a whole. Since then, the disparity has been narrowing; at present the two groups are on a par.

Scientists in the News

ROBERT B. WOODWARD of Harvard University, who has been a leader in the synthesis of quinine, cortisone, lysergic acid, strychnine, and reserpine, and C. GARDNER SWAIN of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, well-known investigator in theoretical organic chemistry, were given $1000 prizes in chemistry during the recent national meeting of the American Chemical Society in Miami, Fla. Woodward was the first recipient of a new honor, the ACS award for creative work in synthetic organic chemistry, sponsored by the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers Association. Swain, who has carried out original laboratory research and mathematical correlations that make it possible to predict the speed of many chemical processes, received the Precision Scientific Company award in petroleum chemistry. Among other awards presented during the ACS meeting are the following:

The first James T. Grady medal, given by the society for distinguished reporting of chemical progress, was presented to D. H. KILLEFFER of Crestwood, N.Y. A chemical engineer and writer, Killeffer has been, for more than 30 years, a leader in the interpretation of chemical advances to the layman. He has written many magazine articles on chemical subjects and also several books.

HAROLD A. SCHERAGO, associate professor of chemistry at Cornell University and specialist in blood clotting, received the $1000 Eli Lilly and Company award in biological chemistry. Scherago, whose work on protein chemistry is gaining wide recognition, was awarded a Fulbright grant and a Guggenheim fellowship last year to permit him to do advanced research in Copenhagen, Denmark. He is spending the current academic year there.

GILBERT J. STORK, professor of chemistry at Columbia University, received the $1000 ACS award in pure chemistry for his extensive research on the synthesis of such natural products as compounds of the morphine family and the steroids, a group of substances that includes cortisone and the sex hormones.

D. H. R. BARTON of the University of Glasgow (Scotland), specialist in the structure of natural products, received the $1000 Fritzsche award for his investigations of complex terpenes, chemical substances derived from trees and plants and used in the manufacture of camphor, perfumes, and medicines. His work in this field has elucidated many problems in the chemistry of essential oils.

LUCY W. PICKETT, head of the chemistry department of Mount Holyoke College, received the $1000 Garvan medal, presented each year to an outstanding woman chemist.

CHARLES R. HAUSER, professor of chemistry at Duke University, won the 1957 ACS Florida Section award for his contributions to modern theories of organic chemistry and for his demonstrated ability as an educator during a 29-year teaching career at Lehigh University and Duke.

CARL O. SAUER, professor of geography on the Berkeley campus of the University of California, has recently been selected to receive the Vega medal in gold, the most highly regarded honor in the sciences of the earth and sea. The medal is an award of the Swedish Society for Anthropology and Geography and is traditionally presented by the King of Sweden on Vega Day, 24 Apr., in Stockholm. Sauer is being honored for his "investigations into man's utilization of the surrounding geographical milieu during various cultural epochs." He is the fourth American who has received this medal since its inception in 1880.

GEORGE R. COWGILL, professor of nutrition at Yale University, has received the $1000 Osborne and Mendel award for 1957, which is administered by the American Institute of Nutrition. He was honored for "his many pioneer and subsequent fundamental research contributions to our knowledge of the B-vitamins and of protein nutrition; and for his numerous other broad contributions to the science of nutrition as a teacher, as editor of *The Journal of Nutrition,* and as an expert advisor in this field."

JOHN C. CLARK, who has helped direct most of the nation's atomic weapons tests since 1946, has been appointed staff assistant to J. R. Dempsey, manager of Convair-Astronautics. Clark has resigned as associate leader of the Test Di-