

The subsurface float is tracked with the aid of underwater sound signals.

Minimal motion of the entire water column was found at about 4500 to 6000 feet below the surface, while the velocities increased with depth below that level, as was theoretically predicted. The southerly currents ranged from about 1/10 knot to about 1/3 knot at depths of approximately 8400 feet. In contrast, the surface velocity of the Gulf Stream in its narrow inshore edge is 4 to 5 knots. An ocean bottom photograph made by A. S. Laughton from the *Discovery II* showed a southerly current only 18 inches above the bottom, as evidenced by the direction of a ping pong ball hung by a string from a compass. It appears, therefore, that off the Blake Plateau the upper half of the entire water column moves toward the north, while the lower half moves southward.

National Medical Library

A site on the acreage of the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md., has been chosen for the National Library of Medicine. The library, started in 1836, has more than 500 incunabula, many thousand rare books of later date, and a collection of theses that many medical men consider to be unsurpassed. It has 500,000 bound volumes and more than 1 million titles in medicine, public health, dentistry, and allied sciences in all languages and of all times. Also the library's collection of portraits of medical men and its photographs in the medical field are outstanding. The library, formerly the Armed Forces Medical Library, has been waiting for a new building for 40 years.

Cerebral Vascular Disease

The launching of the first, nationwide cooperative research program to combat cerebral vascular disease was announced recently by the U.S. Public Health Service. Ten medical research centers in nine states have already joined in the program, and it is expected that 35 to 40 institutions will ultimately participate. The program, which is expected to run 5 or 6 years, is under the auspices of the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness.

It has been calculated that as many as 1.8 million living Americans have suffered cerebral strokes at one time or another. Deaths due to such strokes are estimated at 175,000 annually, the nation's third ranking cause of mortality.

The new program was made possible by grants totaling \$172,000 to the various participating organizations. The work will be supplemented by the 29 current

projects on various aspects of cerebral vascular disease that are supported by National Institutes of Health grants amounting to about \$250,000.

The new investigation will make possible a coordinated study of thousands of patients who either have suffered a stroke or who show clinical signs indicating that a stroke might be coming on. The research results are expected to shed new light on the nature and causes of strokes and to open the way to more effective treatment methods. Relatively few data are now available on the effectiveness of the various methods currently in use.

Data collected will be collated and evaluated at the University of Iowa (Iowa City), one of the cooperating institutions. Other participating institutions are the University of Minnesota, the Massachusetts General Hospital (Boston, Mass.), the University of Michigan, Duke University, the University of Pennsylvania, Columbia University, Indiana University, the Buffalo General Hospital (Buffalo, N.Y.), and Washington University (St. Louis, Mo.).

Sherrington Centenary

This is the centenary year of the birth of Sir Charles Scott Sherrington, a founder and main architect of our knowledge of the physiology of the nervous system. The Royal Society of Medicine, London, England, wishing to pay tribute to his life and work, proposes to raise a fund toward a Sherrington lecture for the furtherance of knowledge on the nervous system, to be delivered from time to time in the society's rooms in London. It is felt that many will wish to contribute: both those who were his friends, pupils, and colleagues, and those, more numerous, who, as patients, doctors and scientists, have benefited indirectly from his work. Donations, identified as contributions to the Sherrington Memorial, should be made payable to the Secretary, The Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London, W.1.

Representatives of scientific societies supporting the appeal include: Sir Russell Brain, president, Royal College of Physicians; Sir Lindor Brown, foreign secretary, Physiological Society; John Fulton, Sterling professor of the history of medicine, Yale University; W. R. Henderson, president, Society of British Neurological Surgeons; Sir Cyril Hinshelwood, president of the Royal Society; E. G. T. Liddell, Waynflete professor of physiology, University of Oxford; D. W. C. Northfield, president, Section of Neurology, Royal Society of Medicine; Sir Clement Price Thomas, president, Royal Society of Medicine; Sir Charles Sym-

onds, president, Association of British Neurologists; and Sir Francis Walshe, chairman, Sherrington Memorial Committee, Royal Society of Medicine.

Cancer Society Awards

The American Cancer Society has announced the award of \$4,636,651 for research to 243 scientists in 108 universities and medical centers in 35 states, an all-time record for the society. The grants were made from 408 applications. The amount awarded is in addition to the \$3,000,350 in grants to 46 research centers already allocated during the current fiscal year. In all the society is this year devoting \$7,637,001 to cancer research.

Health Science Center at Brown

Brown University has announced the establishment of an Institute for Research in the Health Sciences to serve as a center for cooperation with hospitals and other institutions in the community and for the conduct of experimental programs in these sciences. Glidden L. Brooks, medical director of the United Cerebral Palsy Associations, has been appointed director of the institute, effective 1 July.

Initially the institute will provide means for implementing the grant received last November by the university from the U.S. Public Health Service for an investigation into the cause of cerebral palsy and mental retardation. This is part of a multimillion-dollar study in which eight colleges and universities are to collaborate. Brown University was one of the first of these educational institutions to receive a grant for carrying out the program. Awards of more than \$700,000 were made to Brown and Yale universities last November for 5 years of research, with Brown receiving \$97,633 for the first year's work. With the cerebral palsy program as an example, similar programs in the fields of other health sciences are expected to be undertaken in the future.

IGY Openings in Antarctic

Opportunities exist in the Antarctic program planned by the U.S. National Committee for the International Geophysical Year for scientists, engineers, and technicians at the bachelors, masters, and doctorate levels of training and experience in physics, geophysics, electronics, or closely allied areas. The U.S. Antarctic program emphasizes the following fields: aurora and airglow, cosmic rays, glaciology, gravity, ionospheric physics, meteorology, and seismology. Most of