News of Science

European Manpower Mission

The Organization of European Economic Cooperation is sponsoring a survey of scientific manpower for its 16 member countries. Recognizing that an adequate supply of such manpower is the key to the future of Western Europe as a political, sociological, and economic entity, the OEEC's European Productivity Agency has organized a project to study the problem. During the next 6 weeks a small internationally representative group of specialists will visit the OEEC countries for discussions with governments, industrial institutions, private industry, and foundations. A national expert will accompany the group in each country to serve as a liaison man.

The project description proposed that the consultants assess the present situation and ascertain what future steps can be taken to (i) increase the training of scientists and technicians, (ii) attract more men and women into science, and (iii) create new systems of education more appropriate to current needs.

Dael Wolfle, executive officer of the AAAS and former director of the Commission on Human Resources and Advanced Training, is the leader of the team of scientific manpower specialists. Other members are L. Weil, professor of physics at the University of Grenoble; George S. Bosworth, director of technical personnel, recruitment, and training for the English Electric Company; and Toralf Hernes of the Norwegian Research Council for Technology and Sciences, rapporteur for the group. Six weeks after their return, these men will submit a report to the OEEC that will constitute the first step in the development of an extensive European program designed to meet collectively the need for a greatly increased supply of scientific manpower.

American Academy Grants

The American Academy of Arts and Sciences at its meeting in March reviewed 37 applications for grants from its Permanent Science Fund. Awards are made in support of research in any field of science whatsoever in amounts that ordinarily do not exceed $1500. Applications for grants to be made in the early fall should be filed *by 1 Sept.* on forms available from the Chairman, Permanent Science Fund Committee, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 280 Newton St., Boston 46, Mass.

Special consideration will be given to projects on new frontiers of science; those that lie between, or include, two or more of the classical fields; and those proposed by investigators who may be on the threshold of investigational careers or who are handicapped by inadequate resources and facilities. The committee does not ordinarily approve grants for research the results of which constitute partial fulfillment of requirements for an academic degree.

Satellite Observing Test

The first nation-wide test alert for satellite observers was held on 17 May under the direction of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, headquarters of Project MOONWATCH in Cambridge, Mass. Nearly 80 teams of visual observers, comprising about 1600 members, participated in the practice session, which provided the first trial of procedures to be followed when the earth satellite is launched during the International Geophysical Year.

The primary goal of the test exercise was to evaluate observing and communication techniques and to determine the state of readiness of the individual stations throughout the continental United States. This was the first national satellite alert ever to be held, and represented the largest organized astronomical observation ever to be made in this country. Throughout the country the test began 30 minutes after local sunset and ended 90 minutes later. Each team leader reported the results of his team's observations to MOONWATCH headquarters by code; Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory officials collected and evaluated this information as it was received.

Although the practice session was only for the continental United States, MOONWATCH teams are being organized in other parts of the world. There are teams in Honolulu, Hawaii; and on the three Pacific Islands of Wake, Truk, and Yap. Three teams are already registered in the Union of South Africa and several more are organizing there. Japan has 30 such visual observing teams. It is expected that 12 to 18 teams will be set up in South American countries, and there is organizational activity in the British Isles and Germany.

When the satellite is launched, position and time observations will be used to determine its orbit. The data will be fed into an electronic computer, which will calculate the predicted orbit. This information will then be transmitted to the 12 Smithsonian telescope-camera stations located at strategic points throughout the world. These cameras will make photographs from which precise measurements may be made and scientific conclusions deduced.

Texas Instruments British Subsidiary

Texas Instruments, Incorporated, electronics and geophysics firm in Dallas, Tex., has announced the formation of Texas Instruments, Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary to manufacture and sell semiconductor products in the United Kingdom. The new plant is now under construction in Bedford, 50 miles north of London. Both factory and offices will be contained in the 12,000-square-foot building that is scheduled for completion in June. Dudley Saward, a British citizen who has been associated with British European Airways, International Aeradio, and Barratt and Company, Ltd., has been appointed managing director of Texas Instruments, Limited.

Antarctic Manganese

An article for the *New York Times* by Walter Sullivan reports that a small vein of manganese silicate has been found in Antarctica. So far as can be determined, this is the first discovery of high-grade ore on that continent. The ore is in a rare form, known as tephroite, and was found on Clark Peninsula in Wilkes Land. The peninsula was visited for the first time in January of this year.

According to available records tephroite has been discovered in only three other places: Franklin, N.J.; Varmland, Sweden; and in the French Pyrenees. Brian H. Mason, curator of geology and mineralogy at the American Museum of Natural History, who identified the specimens, notes that in both Sweden and New Jersey tephroite is found in conjunction with extensive and valuable mineral deposits.

The ore has not been found in sufficient quantity in its three previously known locations to justify its being mined. Nevertheless it is a rich ore, bear-