

great demand, and students and visitors are attracted from all parts of the United States and from many other parts of the world.

Kennedy served with tireless energy on numerous university committees. His services were also in great demand outside the university. He served as a civilian with the U.S. Office of Scientific Research and Development in 1944 and later served on other governmental committees, including the Atomic Energy Commission's Reactor Safeguard Committee. He was consultant or adviser to the Brookhaven, Los Alamos, and Oak Ridge national laboratories and to the

General Atomics Corporation and the Polaroid Corporation.

He was secretary (1952), vice chairman (1953), and chairman (1954) of the Division of Physical and Inorganic Chemistry of the American Chemical Society. In 1952 he gave the Priestley lectures, on "Radioactive atoms and isotopic tracers," at Pennsylvania State University.

Something of Kennedy's courage and his faith in science is shown by his last scientific effort—a search for a cure for cancer, the disease which took his life. After reviewing the many approaches that were being followed, he concluded

that a very promising but neglected one was the destruction of cancer cells by the $B^{10}(n,\alpha)Li^7$ reaction. He believed that boron compounds could be found that would be selectively absorbed, as are some amino acids, by cancer cells, which could then be destroyed by neutron irradiation. His last experiments were attempts to synthesize such compounds. These experiments are being continued by two of his former colleagues, under a grant which he helped to arrange.

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News of Science

German Scientists Not Required to Work on Nuclear Weapons

Chancellor Konrad Adenauer of West Germany reversed his point of view a few days after he had criticized 18 of his country's nuclear physicists who had stated on 12 Apr. that they would refuse to work on atomic weapons [*Science* **125**, 876 (3 May 1957)]. Adenauer joined with Defense Minister Franz-Josef Strauss, NATO Commander Hans Speidel, and other high officials of the West German Government in an all-day conference with five of the scientists who had signed a public protest—Otto Hahn, Max von Laue, Carl-Friedrich von Weizsäcker, Walther Gerlach, and Wolfgang Reizler.

The conference resulted in a joint communicate that included the following statements:

"The Federal Chancellor and the gentlemen of science who took part in the discussion believe it is necessary to appeal to all Governments, East and West, with all available means in order to achieve an agreement on a general controlled disarmament that might liberate the people of the world from the fear of an atomic war. . . .

"It was clarified that the Federal Republic now as before will not produce its own atomic weapons and therefore the Federal Government sees no cause to request German nuclear scientists to participate in the development of these weapons."

Nuclear Clock at Brussels World's Fair

The \$5-million United States Pavilion for the 1958 Brussels World's Fair was dedicated recently. Concurrent with the dedication ceremony was the installation of a nuclear clock that will measure time through the disintegration of radioactive substances, radium-226 and tantalum-182. The instrument is set for the 6 months of the fair, which will run from 17 Apr. 1958 through 19 Oct. 1958. The nuclear timepiece, symbolizing this country's atoms-for-peace program, was demonstrated by T. O. Jones, acting coordinator of the science program for the American exhibition.

Asian Flu

A mild outbreak of influenza, believed to be of the Far East type, has been reported by the Navy on ships of the Atlantic fleet stationed in Newport, R.I. There were an estimated 550 cases on eight of 110 ships. The cases are usually mild, but the virus appears to be highly contagious.

The United States Public Health Service has announced that a new monovalent vaccine is currently being tested on 60 volunteers in Montgomery, Ala. The U.S. Department of Defense has placed an order for 4 million injections for the armed forces if the experimental vaccine proves effective.

News Briefs

The Vanguard Computing Center, where high-speed electronic calculations will predict future orbits of U.S. earth satellites, opened on 2 July in Washington, D.C. The center will be operated under a Navy contract by International Business Machines Corporation.

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Tadayoshi Doke, assistant professor at St. Paul's University, Tokyo, reported recently that radioactive contamination over Japan had increased by $12\frac{1}{2}$ times in the last 2 years.

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The Soviet news agency Tass reports that the Soviet Union has built a large hydrological laboratory at Valdai, near the source of the Volga River.

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A radio observatory that will keep a constant record of disturbances on the sun's surface during the International Geophysical Year was dedicated on 30 June at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

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A new corporation, NDA Europe, has been formed in Brussels by Belgium and United States interests to provide for rapid atomic energy development in the six Euratom countries and their colonies, possessions, and territories. The principal owners of the new corporation are Nuclear Development Corporation of America, White Plains, N.Y., and Société Générale des Minerais, Brussels.

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The School of Medicine of the University of Missouri has been fully accredited by the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association as a complete 4-year school and voted full membership in the Association of American Medical Colleges.

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The Muscular Dystrophy Associations of America, Inc., has announced plans to erect a \$3.5-million research laboratory and office building in New York.