now provides a comprehensive abstracting service for experimental and biochemical aspects of biology. The journal is published by Pergamon Press for the council on a nonprofit basis. Suggestions for improvements and offers of help in abstracting (especially from those with a knowledge of Russian) are always welcome and may be addressed to the Editorial Offices, International Abstracts of Biological Sciences, Pergamon Press Ltd., 4–5, Fitzroy Square, London, W.1., England.

Manhattan's Bedrock

Headed by J. Laurence Kulp, associate professor of geology, a group of geochemists from Columbia University's Lamont Geological Observatory recently investigated the age of New York City's bedrock. The research team was able to measure the ratio of potassium to argon (its decay product) in the rock, and their findings support the view that the Manhattan schist is some 380 million years old.

This conclusion is expected to end a long-standing controversy among geologists, some of whom have maintained that the Manhatton rock is Precambrian, up to 1700 million years old. Walter H. Bucher, Newberry professor emeritus of geology at Columbia and former president of the Geological Society of America, has argued that it is much younger.

Nuclear Chemical Company

The Nuclear Chemical Company, Chicago, Ill., is a new company that will manufacture and supply organic compounds tagged with radioactive carbon, hydrogen, phosphorus, and sulfur. Services offered by the new company include the performance of special syntheses and consultations and research involving applications of radiochemical techniques.

Bernard Wolnak, who is president of Mid-West Laboratories, will also head this new organization. Earl L. Whittaker, radiological chemist who was formerly associated with Nuclear-Chicago Corporation, will be in charge of laboratory operations.

Ultraviolet Spectral Data

Organic Electronic Spectral Data, Inc., of Silver Spring, Md., is preparing what is perhaps the most comprehensive collection of ultraviolet spectral data ever attempted. H. E. Ungnade of Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, president of the nonprofit corporation, estimates that the collection may include descriptions of as many as 50,000 ultraviolet absorption spectra of organic compounds. Purpose of the project is to make available in one definitive reference a majority of such data published since the onset of the photoelectric era. To aid the work, Beckman Instruments, Inc., recently made a $1000 contribution.

Forty scientists from government, industry, and universities are cooperating in the venture, and the material is being abstracted from 65 journals in eight languages. Since the start of the project early this year, more than 21,000 spectra have been collected. The first two-volume set of *Organic Electronic Spectral Data,* which will cover the literature from 1946 to 1955, will be published next year by Interscience Publishers, New York, under the editorship of Ungnade and Mortimer Kamlet of the U.S. Naval Ordnance Laboratory, White Oak, Md.

Leukemia Fellowship in Argentina

Fundaleu, a leukemia foundation in Argentina, has announced the Silvina Estrada de Acevedo fellowship for research in experimental leukemia. This award has been established by Don Horacio Acevedo in memory of his wife. It is open to a scientist from any part of the world who has already been conducting research in the field. The fellowship recipient will work at the Department of Experimental Leukemia, Blood Research Institute, National Academy of Medicine, for a year, beginning 1 Feb. 1958. The grant may be extended for a year. Applications, which must include personal data and a project outline, should be forwarded *not later than 30 Nov.* to: Fundaleu, Instituto de Investigaciones Hematologicas, Academia Nacional de Medicina, Melo 3081, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Pharmaceutical Research Information

Current Contents of Pharmaceutical Publications is a new weekly designed to fill the pharmaceutical industry's need for current research information. Research in human and veterinary medicine, public health, pharmacology, and synthetic chemistry will be covered. Organizations subscribing to the *Current Contents* service receive multiple copies of a weekly pocket-size booklet containing photographic reproductions of the current or advance tables of contents of nearly 250 periodicals.

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Arkansas Technology Institute

The University of Arkansas is planning construction of its first Graduate Institute of Technology at Little Rock. Nine leading scientists and educators met 29 July at Winthrop Rockefeller's Winrock Farm in Arkansas to discuss the institute's buildings, curriculum, and staff. Rockefeller, as chairman of the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, is working closely with the university in organizing the school.

The men attending the conference were A. V. Astin, director, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C.; Lee A. DuBridge, president, California Institute of Technology; Clark D. Goodman, assistant director for technical operations, Division of Reactor Developments, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission; George W. Irving, deputy administrator, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Marvin J. Kelley, president, Bell Telephone Laboratories; Alan T. Waterman, director, National Science Foundation; Clyde Williams, president, Battelle Memorial Institute; R. M. Zabel, engineering manager, Westinghouse Electric Corporation; and Joseph R. Bransford, vice president, Telephone and Installation Division, Western Electric Company.

Arkansas is engaged in a campaign to get new industries, and the 1957 legislature appropriated $600,000 for the 1957–59 biennium to build an institute for basic and applied research in the physical sciences. Out of the Winrock discussion came the conclusion that the school should be primarily an educational institution closely connected with the university, whose main campus is located at Fayetteville. It was agreed that the institute should concentrate on the pure sciences and not be an applied research center, that applied research to encourage location of new industries would follow in the natural evolution of the institute.

It was suggested that the new institute provide work to the master's level, building on top of the usual engineering degree and giving emphasis to the basic sciences and mathematics. A doctoral program may be considered in later years.

An advisory council set up as a steering group will hold meetings in the near future to select a director and continue organizational planning. Several sites for the institute are being considered in the Little Rock area.