

Psychology of Salvation"; Arthur E. Morgan, president of Community Service, Inc., first chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and former president of Antioch College, "The Sociology of Survival"; Brand Blanshard, Sterling professor of philosophy, Yale University, "The Appeal to Reason in Science and Religion"; and J. B. Rhine, director of the Parapsychology Laboratory, Duke University, "Science and the Spiritual Nature of Man."

Experimental Breeder Reactor

The Argonne National Laboratory has been authorized by the Atomic Energy Commission to proceed with the construction of a large experimental breeder reactor at the AEC's National Reactor Testing Station near Idaho Falls, Idaho. A sum of \$29.1 million has been authorized for the design and construction of this facility. The reactor is to be known as Experimental Breeder Reactor No. 2 (EBR-2). It was developed as a successor to the Experimental Breeder Reactor No. 1 (EBR-1), which was placed in operation at the Idaho Falls site in 1951.

Power engineers regard the breeder-type reactor as economically promising because it produces more fissionable material than is burned in the reactor. This reactor, therefore, provides the possibility of using economically and efficiently all natural uranium rather than only the uranium-235 as in some other reactor types.

The EBR-2 is an integral nuclear power plant. It includes a complete fuel processing and fabrication facility in addition to the reactor, heat transfer systems, and steam-electric plant. The thermal power rating of the reactor is 62,500 kilowatts. Net electrical power output is rated at 17,500 kilowatts. Operation is scheduled for 1960. Argonne will also build the Argonne Boiling Reactor (ARBOR) and the Transient Reactor Test Experiment (TREAT) at the Idaho site.

Soviet and

East European Publications

The names of two Library of Congress monthly publications, which serve as keys to new literature coming into this country from the U.S.S.R. and eastern Europe, have been changed from "Lists" to "Indexes." The purpose of the change is to indicate to scientists and other scholars not familiar with the monthlies that they are more than mere booklists and that they contain information about the content of new Russian and East European books and articles. The *Monthly List of*

Russian Accessions, which enters its 11th year of publication in April 1958, becomes the *Monthly Index of Russian Accessions*. The Government Printing Office sells it for \$12 a year (\$15 abroad). The *East European Accessions List*, published since 1951, becomes the *East European Accessions Index*. The GPO sells it for \$10 a year (\$12.50 abroad).

Each index gives in English a monthly account of new material in a variety of subject fields as received from the U.S.S.R. and eastern Europe by the Library of Congress and by other American research libraries. The translation of all titles of books and articles into English and the elaborate subject guides in English permit a researcher who has no command of Russian or East European languages to identify easily the material important to him.

The indexes are of particular value to the scientist. For example, 54 percent of the books and periodicals reported in volume 9 (April 1956-March 1957) of the *Monthly Index of Russian Accessions* were in the field of science and technology.

News Briefs

The U.S. House of Representatives has voted unanimously to set up a special committee to consider legislation relating to space exploration. House Democratic Leader John W. McCormack (Mass.) is chairman and House Republican Leader Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (Mass.), is ranking minority member. The 13-man committee is patterned after a similar Senate group created last month [*Science* 127, 392 (21 Feb. 1958)]. The first question confronting both groups is whether space programs should be under military or civilian control.

The cost of tuberculosis in the United States increased by \$100 million between 1952 and 1956, bringing the total cost in 1956 to more than \$725 million. This is revealed in a study made by the U.S. Public Health Service. The estimate, based on data from both governmental agencies and nongovernmental organizations, are published as a note in the January issue of the *American Review of Tuberculosis and Pulmonary Diseases*, publication of the National Tuberculosis Association. The authors are Edward T. Blomquist, chief of the Tuberculosis Program, PHS, and Blanche H. Barbour, statistician with the program.

The 23rd *Semiannual Report of the Atomic Energy Commission* has been released. The first 76 pages of this 464-page paper-bound volume comprise a

3-year summary of progress. The report, dated January 1958, may be obtained from the Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.

About 8 million persons in the United States attend at least one formal adult-education class each year, the U.S. Office of Education reports. This was learned in a national survey—conducted by the Bureau of the Census and financed by a \$10,000 grant from the Fund for Adult Education to the Adult Education Association, U.S.A.

In connection with a review by the Atomic Energy Commission of its program relating to patents in the atomic energy field, the commission will hold a public meeting to give interested persons opportunity to be heard. The meeting will be held in Washington on 15 April in Room 1067, 1717 H St., N.W., beginning at 10:00 A.M.

Louis Armand, president of EURATOM, has accepted an invitation to visit Washington in April. The invitation of Secretary of State Dulles and Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission Lewis L. Strauss proposes a discussion of the possibilities of close cooperation between the United States Government and the European Atomic Energy Commission in the fields in which EURATOM will be engaged in order to develop the peaceful uses of atomic energy. To prepare the visit, the EURATOM Commission and the United States Government have set up a joint working party.

More than 80 investigators from nine countries, including eight from the Soviet Union, recently participated in the first international conference aimed at improving methods of predicting the formation of ice in the Arctic Ocean and neighboring seas. The conference, held at the Tidewater Inn, Easton, Md., was organized by the Division of Earth Sciences of the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council. It has been estimated that accurate observation of the nature and extent of sea ice could result in the saving of many millions of dollars to United States vessels alone in the arctic and subarctic regions.

The Cancer Chemotherapy National Service Center is seeking reprints for a reference collection covering the broadest range of endocrine-cancer relationships, as well as basic endocrinology. In particular it needs clinical data on cancer patients treated with hormones, data on the biological activities of hormones, analogs, and antagonistic substances, and data on the effects of hormones on animal tumors. Assay data on steroids

would be especially welcome. Those wishing to assist should send reprints to: Dr. D. Jane Taylor, Endocrinology Section, Cancer Chemotherapy National Service Center, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda 14, Md.

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Formation of the National Foundation for Research in Ulcerative Colitis, with headquarters in Washington, D.C., was announced at a recent conference in Washington on "New Frontiers in Ulcerative Colitis." The meeting was sponsored by the General Medicine Study Section of the National Institutes of Health and supported by a research grant from the foundation and the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases.

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Atomic Energy of Canada Limited reports that the NRU reactor at Chalk River, Ontario, is the first reactor to be refueled while in operation. All other reactors have to be shut down before they can be refueled. This causes interruption of experiments and isotope production in the case of research reactors and the stoppage of electricity generation in the case of power reactors. Chalk River's new 43-foot-high, 240-ton refueling machine was used successfully on 22 February.

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Among the award winners announced at the recent Thomas Alva Edison Foundation Children's Book and Comic Book Awards luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, were the following: best children's science book, *The Wonderful World of Energy*, written by Lancelot Hogben and published by Garden City Books; best science book for youth, *Building Blocks of the Universe*, written by Isaac Asimov and published by Abelard-Schuman; and best science comic book, *Walt Disney's Mars and Beyond*, published by the Dell Publishing Company.

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The Atomic Energy Commission has announced that the United States will participate in the fifth International Electronic and Nuclear Energy Exposition and Congress in Rome, Italy, 16-30 June. The AEC is preparing an exhibit entitled "Atoms to Serve Mankind." In addition, a delegation of scientists and engineers from the commission and its contractors will present papers on atomic energy and its uses. John Vinciguerra, assistant manager of the AEC's Savannah River Operations Office, has been appointed project manager for the exhibit.

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Discovery of a new bactericidal gas by a team of Chemical Corps scientists was announced recently by C. R. Phillips, chief of physical defense division, U.S. Army Chemical Corps, Fort Detrick, Md. The new gas is beta-propiolactone,

a compound which had been used previously for sterilization only in aqueous solution. As a gas it acts as effectively as formaldehyde vapor but works more rapidly and with fewer adverse side effects. Phillips predicts that a few years' study will prove that the gas has "important applications" with possible use "in sterilizing operation rooms, nurseries within hospitals, and the like."

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A new research rocket developed as a private venture by Aerojet-General Corporation, the "Aerobee 100," was furnished to the Naval Research Laboratory for its first flight evaluation at the U.S. Naval Ordnance Missiles Flight Test Facilities at White Sands Proving Grounds, N.M., on 18 February. The test was a complete success, with the rocket reaching an altitude of 60 miles and successfully completing its flight mission.

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The Proceedings of the Tenth International Congress of Entomology, held in Montreal, Canada, in August 1956, are expected to be ready for distribution in late 1958. The price is \$75, postpaid, for the set of four volumes. Since a limited number will be printed, only orders received *before 1 May* can be guaranteed. For further information write to: Tenth International Congress of Entomology, Science Service Building, Ottawa, Canada.

Scientists in the News

Six American women medical scientists will leave during the second week in May for a 1-month tour of medical institutions in the U.S.S.R. Preliminary arrangements for the trip have been completed by the National Academy of Sciences in cooperation with the Rockefeller Foundation, the American Medical Association, and the American Medical Women's Association. The itinerary within the Soviet Union will be planned by Soviet authorities to accommodate the visitors' special scientific interests.

The visit is the result of an exchange agreement. Last October six women scientists from the U.S.S.R. spent a month in the United States visiting medical institutions in six cities in the East and Middle West.

The delegation will be headed by HELEN B. TAUSSIG of Johns Hopkins University Hospital, a pediatrician who has won international recognition for her contributions to the treatment of cardiac diseases in children. Other members of the delegation are: LEONA BAUMGARTNER, commissioner of health, New York City, national leader in public health; THELMA B. DUNN, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md., an

investigator of the pathology of cancer; JEAN HENLEY of Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and head of the department of anesthesiology, Francis Delafield Hospital; ESTHER C. MARTING, radiologist, University of Cincinnati School of Medicine, Cincinnati, Ohio, and past president of the American Medical Women's Association; and MARGARET H. SLOAN of the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council, who is in charge of the Academy-Research Council's advisory services to the National Blood Program.

The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis recently dedicated a poliomyelitis Hall of Fame. Among those whose busts were unveiled in a quadrangle of the Warm Springs Foundation, Warm Springs, Ga., were four deceased scientists: JACOB von HEINE of Stuttgart, Germany, who first described poliomyelitis clearly in 1840; OSKAR MEDIN of Stockholm, Sweden, who in 1907 first recognized the disease as an acute infection; IVER WICKMAN, also of Sweden, a pioneer in 1909 in studying poliomyelitis as an epidemic disease; and KARL LANDSTEINER of Vienna, who demonstrated in 1909 that poliomyelitis could be transmitted to an experimental animal.

The 11 living scientists who were honored included: JONAS SALK, who developed poliomyelitis vaccine; THOMAS M. RIVERS, medical director of the National Foundation and chairman of the committee that supervised the successful 1954 field trials of Salk vaccine; CHARLES ARMSTRONG, retired research worker of the U.S. Public Health Service who in 1939 discovered that certain strains of poliovirus could be transmitted to cotton rats; JOHN R. PAUL, Yale University virologist who contributed significantly to knowledge of the disease; ALBERT B. SABIN of Cincinnati University, leader in the search for a live virus vaccine; THOMAS FRANCIS, JR., University of Michigan epidemiologist who directed the 1954-55 evaluation program demonstrating the safety and effectiveness of Salk vaccine; JOSEPH L. MELNICK of the National Institutes of Health, who as a Yale University research scientist studied poliomyelitis incidence and immunity in many parts of the world; ISABEL MORGAN of Columbia University, who at Johns Hopkins University prepared an experimental vaccine from virus inactivated with formaldehyde and with it protected monkeys against paralytic poliomyelitis; HOWARD H. HOWE of Johns Hopkins University, first to show that chimpanzees could acquire poliomyelitis infection by mouth; DAVID BODIAN of Johns Hopkins University, who proved