AAAS-administered awards and the current committees of judges will be found in each year's General Program-Directory which becomes available to advance registrants and others early in December. (Coupons for ordering the directory will be found in the advertising pages of *Science* at frequent intervals.)

RAYMOND L. TAYLOR

AAAS

Program for the International Conference on Scientific Information

The program for the International Conference on Scientific Information, which is scheduled to be held in Washington, D.C., at the Mayflower Hotel 16–21 November 1958, is in its final stages of development. On the evening of 16 November, the conference will be officially opened by an address by Sir Lindor Brown, secretary for Biological Sciences, the Royal Society. On the evening of 19 November, there will be a banquet at which Detlev W. Bronk, president, National Academy of Sciences, will be the chief speaker.

A total of 75 papers prepared by 98 authors and coauthors has been accepted and printed for distribution in advance of the conference to all participants (authors and members of discussion panels) and registered observers. These papers will serve as a basis for panel discussions, arranged according to the seven areas of the program agenda and chaired by the following persons:

Area 1. Requirements of scientists for scientific literature and reference services: knowledge now available and methods of ascertaining their requirements. (Panel leader: Philip Morse, department of physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.)

Area 2. The function and effectiveness of abstracting and indexing services for storage and retrieval of scientific information. (Panel leader: Elmer Hutchisson, American Institute of Physics.)

Area 3. Effectiveness of scientific monographs, compendia, and specialized information centers in meeting the needs of scientists: present trends and new and proposed techniques and types of services. (Panel leader: Alexander King, European Productivity Agency.)

Area 4. Organization of information for storage and search: comparative characteristics of existing systems. (Panel leader: Eric de Grolier, Centre Français d'Echanges et de Documentation Techniques.)

Area 5. Organization of knowledge for storage and retrospective search: intellectual problems and equipment consideration in the design of new systems. (Panel leader: Gilbert W. King, I.B.M. Research Center.)

Area 6. Organization of knowledge for storage and retrospective search: possibility for a general theory of storage and search. (Panel leader: John W. Tukey, department of mathematics, Princeton University.)

Area 7. Responsibilities of governmental bodies, professional societies, universities, and research and industrial organizations to provide improved information services and to promote research in documentation. (Panel leader: Verner Clapp, Council on Library Resources.)

Also in attendance will be approximately 500 observers from some 20 foreign countries who already have registered to attend as observers.

In addition to the program discussion sessions, several excursions are planned to such installations as the National Bureau of Standards, the Library of Congress, and other agencies engaged in activities relevant to the conference program.

The conference will close with a reception for participants at the National Academy of Sciences on Friday evening, 21 November 1958.

U.N. Radiation Committee as a Permanent Body

Dag Hammarskjold, Secretary General of the United Nations, has proposed that the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation be established as a permanent U.N. body and its functions expanded. After consultation with member scientists of the 15-nation committee, most of whom expressed enthusiasm for continuing their work, Hammarskjold made his recommendation in a report that has been distributed to the General Assembly. The report included the suggestions that, as a permanent group, the committee might (i) serve as an international clearinghouse for radiation information, (ii) establish an international monitoring system for the detection of radioactivity, both natural and man-made, (iii) sponsor conferences and seminars, and (iv) regularly publish a bulletin for distribution to scientists.

Type Culture Collection

The American Type Culture Collection has announced that the sixth edition of its catalog of cultures will be available for distribution soon after 1 September. It lists 4350 strains of microorganisms, including bacteria, bacteriophages, filamentous fungi and yeasts, algae and protozoa. A special section lists organisms having particular applications, as in microbiological assays, production of antibiotics and vitamins, and biochemical transformations.

Previous editions of this catalog have been subsidized by the Society of American Bacteriologists and have been distributed without charge. Upon the recommendation of the several national biological societies, sponsors of the ATCC, a policy has now been adopted of making a nominal charge of $1 (postpaid) for the catalog to offset the cost of printing and mailing and to provide funds against which the expense of preparing future revisions can be charged without waiting for a special subsidy for the purpose. It is expected that this will result in keeping the catalog revisions more nearly current with the growth of the Collection. The present revision is the first since 1949.

Orders for the catalog should be sent to the American Type Culture Collection, 2112 M St., NW, Washington 7, D.C.

Revisions of the ATCC catalogs of viruses (human, animal, and plant) are also in progress and are expected to be completed this year. The Viral and Rickettsial Registry, which was established in 1950, is henceforth to be known as the ATCC Viral and Rickettsial Registry and Distribution Center. It has received a grant of $1000 from the Rockefeller Foundation, and is assured of one for $5000 from the National Institutes of Health (to improve and expand its services in the acquisition, preservation, and distribution of prototype strains of viruses and rickettsiae, thus keeping pace with the increasing research interest in these agents. A committee of six virus specialists, including F. B. Gordon, R. J. Huebner, J. L. Melnick, Morris Schaeffer, R. L. Thompson, and Joel Warren has been set up as the policy formulating group for this activity.

Geological Survey Field Work

Field work is being carried on this year in the Geologic Division of the United States Geological Survey by nearly 200 field parties. Many field projects include the preparation of geologic maps. Other studies entail measurements of magnetic, electrical, and other properties of the earth by geophysicists in areas as diverse as a floating ice island in the Arctic Ocean and a desert basin in Nevada. Still other field work involves geochemists and geobotanists whose field measurements and collections of specimens provide data on the distribution of the small amounts of metals in plants and rocks to guide those seeking commercial concentrations of these metals.

This year many new projects are starting: in general, they are aimed at