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

evaluating the mineral resource potential of an area, or gaining geologic knowledge to aid land development for engineering use. The following partial list of the Survey's new field projects serves to give some idea of the scope and purposes of current field investigations: Mississippi Embayment, western Tennessee—a study of water-bearing formations that are important sources of ground water; Barter Island and Mount Chamberlain areas, Alaska—a study of the effects of Arctic conditions on engineering construction, and of understanding the geology of the Arctic; barite resources of west-central Arkansas; porphyry copper deposits of the western United States; Salinas Valley, Calif.—a study of the oil and gas potential; coal resources of Washington; Sierra Nevada batholith, California—a study of the granite rocks and associated mineral deposits of this great mountain range; T-3 Ice Island, Arctic Ocean—electrical and seismic studies that are expected to provide new information on the nature and configuration of the material beneath the Arctic Ocean.

Nuclear Explosions and Isotopes from Power

The Atomic Energy Commission is undertaking studies to determine the practicability of producing both power and radioisotopes from nuclear explosions. As a first step in the studies, consideration is being given to the detonation of a small device underground in the salt-bed area known as the Solado formation in the Delaware Basin, Eddy County, New Mexico, about 25 miles southeast of Carlsbad.

The project, if carried out, would be conducted in the summer of 1959 in a 1200-foot shaft drilled into the salt beds so that heat developed by the nuclear explosion would be confined to a relatively small area. Neutrons created in the nuclear reaction would be used to produce radioisotopes. General scientific information on scaling laws, seismic effects, and geological data also would be obtained. As now planned, the yield of the explosion would be about 10 kilotons, the equivalent of 10,000 tons of high explosive.

The technical work is being conducted by the University of California Radiation Laboratory, Livermore, and the planning is under the supervision of the commission's San Francisco Operations Office. The project manager for the demonstration is James E. Reeves of the commission's Albuquerque Operations Office, and the technical director is Gerald W. Johnson, Test Division Leader, UCRL, Livermore.

The New Mexico experiment is the second initiated under the commission's Plowshare Program to investigate important peacetime applications of nuclear explosives. As previously announced, studies are being conducted on the Alaska Coast between Cape Seppings and Point Hope to determine the practicability of excavating a harbor.

Century 21 Exposition

A world fair, emphasizing science and its relationship to the development of man, will receive the help of a group of leaders in American science.

Seventeen scientists from the academic world, industry, scientific associations, and scientific journals will go to Seattle, Washington, this month to work with exposition officials in the development of plans.

The fair, which has been in the initial planning stage since 1955, is scheduled to open in May 1961 on a 70-acre site in Seattle.

The science theme of the exposition was decided upon when officials connected with the project found that science leaders were seeking a means of putting on a fair in 1961 to give a dramatic presentation of the results of the International Geophysical Year. In addition to the IGY theme, the exposition will ask and attempt to answer the question "Where is science going during the next 100 years?"

Although the basic theme will be science, the fair, which will be called Century 21 Exposition, will also mark the centennial of the University of Washington and the admission of Alaska as a state. The commercial relationship of the city of Seattle with the nations rimming the Pacific Ocean will also be stressed by exhibitions in a Pan-Pacific section. The fair is expected to be international in character, with the Soviet Union, Italy, Japan, and other nations participating. A bill currently before the United States Congress would make the Federal Government a participator.

Maps for Disease Control

Among the scientific publications to appear in West Germany since the war is a series of atlases which trace graphically the movement of epidemic and endemic diseases throughout the world. Two volumes of this work have been published since 1945, and part 2 of volume 3 will appear shortly. Whereas volumes 1 and 2 are confined principally to Europe, North and South America, and Africa, volume 3 covers Asian countries. These atlases contain medical and scientific information on the spread and control of epidemic and endemic diseases; facts about geography, history, and climate; and population surveys.

The correlation and graphic presentation of all the factors involved in the control of contagious disease is the lifework of a group of scientists and professors in the Geomedical Research Station of the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences. The studies were begun before World War I; after 1945 the U.S. Navy interested itself in the continuation and extension of the work and volume 1 of the present series was published under Navy auspices in 1952. Volumes 2 and 3 have been published by the Heidelberg Academy and the Falk Publishing House of Hamburg.

News Briefs

A special committee of the International Geophysical Year has voted for a 1-year extension of the 18-month IGY program, originally set up to end in December 1958. The extension period would be known as the "International Geophysical Cooperation of 1959." Although the committee agreed to extend the research, it still will be necessary to get the 60 participating governments to provide financial support.

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Wallops Island, Virginia, will become the Cape Canaveral of the government's new National Aeronautics and Space Administration if present plans are approved. A $24.5-million expansion of facilities at the island has been proposed by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. The island is a 3200-acre strip off the Eastern Shore where NACA has been testing rockets for 13 years.

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The first Electronic Computer Exhibition ever held in the United Kingdom will be staged in London from 28 November to 4 December. More than 40 British manufacturers are exhibiting. A symposium on the applications of computers to problems in business, industry, and science will be held with the exhibition. Also, immediately before the exhibition, 24–26 November, an associated scientific symposium on "The Mechanization of Thought Processes," organized by the National Physical Laboratory, will be held at Teddington, Middlesex, England.

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The University of Chicago has established a Graduate School of Education. Francis S. Chase, chairman of the department of education, has been appointed dean of the school. Creation of the graduate school does not replace or eliminate the existing department of education, which continues its present activities, particularly those of research and instruction for graduate students in