ice will assemble and organize research and development data on methods and equipment for the automatic processing of information expressed in words, diagrams, or other non-numerical forms. Continuing tasks, to be begun as rapidly as possible, will be as follows.

1. Explore known sources and locate undeveloped sources of information on current research and development activities.

2. Establish and maintain a central reference file of information on current projects, researchers, and publications in the field. Descriptive information on work in progress will continue to be published in the foundation's semiannual report on *Current Research and Development in Scientific Documentation.*

3. Follow developments closely, analyze collected information, and from time to time prepare and publish reviews of progress.

4. Test and compare various procedures and techniques for the manipulation or searching of information.

5. Provide federal agencies and cooperating private organizations with requested technical advice on information-processing problems and on proposed research in the field. The service will not undertake to evaluate research proposals, but will furnish advice on the relation of proposed programs of research to other activities in progress and will suggest specialists believed to be particularly well-qualified to evaluate proposed research.

Eventually, it is hoped the service will be able to provide cooperating private organizations and federal agencies with consulting services regarding the use of machines as aids in research on information processing, the availability of machine facilities for testing theories and techniques, and the availability for research purposes of texts and other source data in a form suitable for machine processing.

Organizations and individuals engaged in research and development activities or planning programs in these areas may request further information about the new service and the procedures to be followed in requesting advice or information by writing to the Research Information Center and Advisory Service on Information Processing, Program for Documentation Research, National Science Foundation, Washington 25, D.C.

Illinois Radio Telescope

A radio telescope with a larger receiving area than that of any similar existing instrument will be constructed by the University of Illinois. University trustees have recently approved purchase of a 220-acre site near Union Corner, Ill., 35 miles east of the Urbana–Champaign campus. In the area, on the northeast bluff of the Vermilion River, is a ravine in which the university will build a trough-shaped reflector that will be 600 feet long, north and south. The trough will be 400 feet wide and 65 feet deep. The facility is being financed by a $233,000 grant from the Navy.

The new instrument, which will be similar in design to the other large radio telescopes being considered in England, Australia, and the United States, will have 160,000 square feet of receiving area. This is from two to three times more receiving area than the radio telescope now in use at Manchester, England. However, unlike the British instrument, the Illinois telescope will not be steerable. Observers using it will have to wait until the object they want to examine is brought over the telescope once a day as the earth rotates on its axis. A fairly large area of the sky will be observable.

WHO Procedural Guide

A guide to procedures and practices of the World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland, will be compiled during the next 3 years with the aid of a $25,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. The guide will cover both the internal administration of WHO and its political and program relationships with the member governments of the United Nations. In addition, the "repertory of practice" will include the historical aspects of the development of international health activities and of the establishment of WHO.

The repertory of practice is needed to preserve in factual form the current practices of WHO and to serve as a basis for operation and understanding. The document will be valuable not only to WHO and the UN but also to health agencies throughout the world in formulating programs and policies relating to WHO.

Planet Earth

A new teaching aid designed to help stimulate science interest in the schools was announced recently by the National Academy of Sciences. Known as "Planet Earth," the new aid covers the scientific fields studied during the International Geophysical Year. It has three major components. The first includes six large, full-color posters entitled "The Earth," "The Oceans," "The Poles,' "Sun and Earth," "Weather and Climate," and "Space."

The second component is a profusely illustrated 44-page student brochure that reproduces the posters and describes the work of scientists in a dozen or more fields. The third component is a teacher's kit containing suggestions for classroom experiments, background material on aspects of the IGY and the earth sciences, a description of teaching methods related to the IGY in the Baltimore County schools, a list of scholarships available to students in the field of science, and other materials.

"Planet Earth" was prepared under the direction of Hugh Odishaw, executive director of the United States National Committee for IGY. A ten-member advisory committee that included AAAS education director John R. Mayor assisted in shaping the project. Financial support was provided by the National Science Foundation and the Ford Foundation. The academy was also guided in the early stages of the project by advice and assistance from Ellsworth Obourn, U.S. Office of Education; Robert Carleton, executive secretary, National Science Teachers Association; and officials of the National Science Foundation. The final materials were reviewed by scientists engaged in the US-IGY program.

After a year in preparation, "Planet Earth" is now ready for distribution to the schools. The package and its components are priced at cost. A classroom package—6 posters, 30 student brochures, and a teacher's kit—is priced at $9.50. Distribution is through the National Academy of Sciences Publications Office, Washington, D.C.

Waste Disposal

The University of California at Berkeley will host the first International Conference on Waste Disposal in the Marine Environment during the summer of 1959. The 3-day meeting will provide a forum for the international exchange of knowledge among scientists and engineers of many disciplines, interests, and organizations who are concerned with marine pollution research throughout the world. A tentative agenda lists as discussion topics (i) Waste Disposal, (ii) Public Health, (iii) Nearshore Oceanography, (iv) Receiving Water Analysis, (v) Marine Biota, and (vi) Estuarine Hydrography.

The program is presented by the U.C. Sanitary Engineering Research Laboratory, the Institute of Marine Resources, and University Extension in cooperation with the California State Water Pollution Control Board. Conference chairman is Erman A. Pearson, associate professor of sanitary engineering at the university and chairman of the Research Consulting Board of the State Water Pollution Control Board.

This conference will provide the first opportunity for an international exchange of information on marine waste

disposal. Although a great deal of industrial and municipal waste is discharged into the marine environment, research in this area has been largely neglected as compared to research on the fresh water environment. Further information about the program may be obtained from the Department of Conferences, University Extension, University of California, Berkeley 4, Calif.

News Briefs

The second program of the season in the "Conquest" television series, which will be devoted partly to cancer research and partly to the study of volcanoes, will be shown on 14 December at 5 P.M. (E.S.T.) on the CBS Television Network. Participating in the report on cancer research will be C. P. Rhoads, director of the Sloan–Kettering Institute for Cancer Research in New York. In the latter half of the program, the audience will be shown an active volcano—Kilauea in the Hawaiian Islands. Two volcanologists will participate: Gordon MacDonald, a geologist at the University of Hawaii, and Jerry Eaton, director of the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory at Kilauea. "Conquest" is presented in cooperation with the AAAS and the National Academy of Sciences, under the sponsorship of the Monsanto Chemical Company.

* * *

The School of Allied Medical Professions of the University of Pennsylvania formally dedicated its new quarters at 39th and Pine Streets, Philadelphia, on 25 November. The completely renovated spacious old building makes it possible for the various academic programs of the school to be housed under one roof. These programs include physical therapy, occupational therapy, medical technology, and oral hygiene.

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The American Association of Poison Control Centers was formed in Chicago on 21 October 1958. Officers elected are as follows: president, Robert Grayson, organizer of the poison control center at Jackson Memorial Hospital, University of Miami School of Medicine; vice president, William C. Adams, University of Louisville School of Medicine; and secretary-treasurer, Harry Raybin, New York City Department of Health.

Membership is open to both individuals and organizations. The new association hopes to stimulate educational programs and scientific research on toxic substances; assist state and local officials and voluntary agencies in the field of poison control; set up standards for operation of poison control centers; provide information to the public and develop information services; and help develop insurance liability programs.

The Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute celebrated its 25th anniversary on 30 November. The theme of a special meeting, attended by some 600 people, was the creative role played by Boston psychoanalysts in the development in the United States of their specialty. The Society and Institute, which was formally organized in 1933, is the outgrowth of the early interest in the work of Sigmund Freud aroused among Boston physicians. James J. Putnam, first president of the American Neurological Association (1911) and first professor of neuropathology at Harvard, was a pioneer and was identified by Freud as "the first psychoanalyst in America." The original Boston Psychoanalytic Society, which was reorganized in 1933, was established in 1928 with Isador Goriat as the first president.

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The following chemicals are wanted by the National Registry of Rare Chemicals, Armour Research Foundation of Illinois Institute of Technology, 13 W. 33 St., Chicago 16, Ill.:

4-amino-3,5-dimethylbenzoic acid; 1,2,3,4-benzenetetracarboxylic acid (mellophanic acid); 3-bromoanisole; 3-bromopropenylbenzene; 3-bromosalicylic acid; *p*-chlorocumene; cobaltous cyanate; diallyl bicyclo-(2.2.1)-hept-5-ene-2,3-dicarboxylate; 2,6-diaminobenzoic acid; 2,4-dichloro-3-methylphenol; *unsym*-diethyl dicyclohexyl thiuram disulfide; 1,4-dihydronaphthalene; 5,5-dimethylheptene-3; N-ethylallylamine; ethyl phosphine; hexakis(hydroxymethyl)melamine; N-hexanal; N-hexyl azide; lithium cyanide, anhydrous, and 4-trimethylsilybenzoic acid.

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Contracting procedures of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration will conform in every practicable way to the Armed Services Procurement Regulations. This decision should be welcomed by potential NASA contractors, since industry has become quite familiar with the ASPR in the past 10 years. It will not be necessary to learn how to operate under widely divergent NASA regulations.

Scientists in the News

WALLACE R. BRODE, president of the AAAS and science adviser to the Secretary of State, was awarded the Medal for Distinguished Work in Spectroscopy of the Society of Applied Spectroscopy at the society's annual meeting in New York on 6 November.

HERMANN I. SCHLESINGER, professor emeritus of chemistry at the University of Chicago, has been named winner of the 1959 Willard Gibbs Medal of the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society. The medal will be awarded on 22 May 1959 at a dinner in the Furniture Club, Chicago. Schlesinger achieved fame for his basic research in the compounds of boron. The results of his scientific inquiries led to such far-ranging applications as rocket fuels and vitamin manufacture.

PAUL E. KLOPSTEG, AAAS president-elect, is the new chairman of the National Academy of Sciences–National Research Council's Committee on Atmospheric Sciences. He succeeds LLOYD V. BERKNER, president of Associated Universities, Inc., who resigned in order to devote his full energies to his new position as chairman of the Academy-Research Council's Space Science Board.

Since assuming the committee chairmanship, Klopsteg has retired from his position as associate director (research) of the National Science Foundation, with which he has been associated since 1951. Upon his retirement, Klopsteg was named special consultant to the NSF director for a period of a year.

The Committee on Atmospheric Sciences (originally the "Committee on Meteorology") was organized by the NAS in April 1956 for the purpose of bringing together scientists from meteorology and related physical and geophysical fields to view in broad perspective the present position and future requirements of meteorological research and to recommend the general outline of a program which would accelerate progress in this important field. In January 1958, an "interim report" of the committee offered a series of recommendations in pursuance of its goals. These included the granting of Federal funds to increase support for meteorological research in universities, the establishment of a National Institute of Atmospheric Research, and the creation of more promising career opportunities for young meteorologists.

I. S. RAVDIN, vice president for medical development, University of Pennsylvania, and professor of surgery, has received the first annual Lovelace Foundation Award. President Eisenhower sent a congratulatory telegram to Ravdin at the presentation ceremony in Albuquerque, N.M., where the foundation has headquarters.

Lt. Commander JOHN H. EBERSOLE, U.S. Navy, medical officer of the U.S.S. *Seawolf*, one of the Nation's first atomic-powered submarines, has received the Gorgas Medal for his role in the development of nuclear medicine. The $500 award was presented on 19 November at the annual dinner of the Association of Military Surgeons in Washington, D.C. The Gorgas Medal is sponsored by Wyeth Laboratories in memory of Sur-