economics division, Rand Corporation.

5 March: Nuclear Energy. W. F. Libby, physical chemist, member, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission; E. Blythe Stason, dean of the Law School, University of Michigan; Philip Mullenbach, economist, director of research on nuclear energy study, Twentieth Century Fund.

12 March: Outer Space. Lee A. DuBridge, physicist, president, California Institute of Technology; Alan L. Dean, political scientist, management analyst, U.S. Bureau of the Budget; another speaker to be announced.

Journal in Microform

An experiment in the publication of a scientific journal exclusively in microform is to be conducted during the next 3 years by the American Institute of Biological Sciences, Washington, D. C., with the assistance of grants from the Council on Library Resources of Washington, D.C., and the National Science Foundation. The journal which will be the subject of the experiment is *Wildlife Disease*. It is the publication of the Wildlife Disease Association, an international organization with a current membership of approximately 300, concerned with the parasites, diseases, physiology and other factors relating to the health and survival of wild animals, both in nature and captivity, and with the indirect relations of such factors to domestic animals and man. The journal will commence publication as a quarterly in January 1959.

The purpose of the experiment is to explore a number of unknowns with respect to the application of the microtext techniques to the publication of the results of research: (i) whether a small specialist group, unable to support the cost of a journal in letterpress, can do so with the use of microform; (ii) whether a journal in microform will serve the purpose of scientific communication in terms of author, reader, and library reaction; (iii) whether use of this technique will assist in expediting the publication of the results of research; (iv) whether—by reducing the cost of publication—this form of publication will require less abridgement of important data than has become necessary with scientific journals generally; (v) whether the technique of photographic reproduction which will be employed will lend itself to superior presentation of photographic data over half-tone reproduction; and (vi) what optima can be found in terms of microtext medium, page-size and arrangement, and other details of format and so forth.

The journal will be published on 5-by 3-inch Microcards to be manufactured and supplied by the Microcard Corporation of West Salem, Wis. Each quarterly issue will comprise approximately four cards. Each card will contain a single article of up to 47 pages in microtext, but will bear in full-size type the citation of author, title, and issue-number. A leaflet that contains abstracts of the articles in full-size type will accompany each issue. These abstracts will be reported to *Biological Abstracts*.

Optical devices will be needed to read the microscopic print in which the journal is printed. Nonportable reading devices for this purpose are familiar objects in libraries, but few individuals can afford to own them. Consequently, one of the objectives of the experiment will be to test the applicability for this purpose of a small portable, but also inexpensive, hand-viewer. Such a viewer will be provided to the original members of the association at a nominal charge and will be available to later members at a cost expected to be less than $10. Also, although the experiment is to be conducted initially with Microcards, it is anticipated that other forms of microtext may later be compared.

In order to explore the impact of this form of journal publication on libraries, the association has arranged that Foster E. Mohrhardt, librarian of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, be associated with the experiment to observe and report on this impact.

The co-editors of the journal are Carlton M. Herman, chief, Section on Wildlife Diseases, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, Md.; and David E. Davis, professor, Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, Baltimore, Md. The business offices of the association are at the headquarters of the American Institute of Biological Sciences, 2000 P St., NW, Washington 6, D.C. Membership in the association, which carries with it a subscription to the journal and an irregularly issued Newsletter, is $1 per year.

Hunter Laboratory of Psychology

The Walter S. Hunter Laboratory of Psychology was dedicated on 1 November at Brown University, where the late Professor Hunter was chairman of the psychology department from 1936 to 1954. During the ceremony, honorary degrees were conferred on Clarence H. Graham of Columbia University, Joseph McVicker Hunt of the University of Illinois, Donald B. Lindsley of the University of California, Los Angeles, and Nils Y. Wessell, president of Tufts University.

The dedication took place in the laboratory's auditorium, which has been named after Leonard Carmichael, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, who was the principal speaker. Carmichael, a former chairman of psychology at Brown, said of Hunter: "Hunter became one of the leading exponents of an enlightened objective and behavioristic psychology that has now come to be almost synonymous with scientific psychology in this country."

To conclude the ceremony, Harold Schlosberg, present chairman of the department, expressed thanks for the building, which he described as being "anything and everything a psychologist could ask for."

Electronic Calibration Center

The Electronic Calibration Center of the National Bureau of Standards was formally dedicated at the bureau's Boulder, Colo., laboratories in mid-August. Housed in a new wing of the Radio Standards Laboratory, the center provides Government, industry, and the military services with access to the nation's primary electronic standards.

The chief mission of the new center is to calibrate interlaboratory standards for such quantities as voltage, power, and impedance in terms of the national standards maintained by NBS. These interlaboratory standards, in turn, are used to assure the accuracy of reference and working standards in laboratories, on the production line, and in overhaul stations throughout the nation.

The quantity of electronic calibrations required today in the design, manufacture, and adjustment of extremely complex electronic weapons, communications equipment, and industrial electronic apparatus is so great that branching chains of measurement are necessary to extend the national standards to the shop or field instruments used for this work. The large number of links in each chain, through which the units of measurement must be transferred, requires the highest practicable accuracy at each step in order to assure adequate accuracy of the shop and field instruments.

The fundamental system of electrical measurement now employed in the United States uses absolute units, that is, units derived from the fundamental units of length, mass, and time—the meter, kilogram, and second. Basic to the absolute system of electrical units are the absolute ohm and the absolute ampere. The absolute ohm is derived from the absolute henry, based on an inductor of accurately known dimensions. The absolute ampere is established in terms of the magnetic force on an accurately dimensioned current-carrying coil, measured with a current balance. These basic standards are maintained in the NBS laboratories in Washington, D.C.

Other units, such as the watt and the