

D.C. (Ralph S. Henderson, Department of Physics).

Radioisotopes. Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa (Cecil F. Dam, Department of Physics).

Radioisotopes and tracer methodology. University of Maryland, College Park (Sitarama Lakshmanan, Department of Chemistry).

Structural chemistry. Tufts University, Medford, Mass. (M. Kent Wilson, Department of Chemistry).

Engineering graphics. University of Detroit, Detroit, Mich. (Paul M. Reinhard, Department of Engineering Graphics).

Analog computation. Michigan College of Mining and Technology, Houghton (Kenneth M. McMillan, Department of Mathematics).

Psychology. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (Wilbert J. McKeachie, Department of Psychology).

Geobotany. University of Western Michigan, Kalamazoo (Harriette V. Bartoo, Department of Biology).

Analytical chemistry. Carleton College, Northfield, Minn. (Richard W. Ramette, Department of Chemistry).

Genetics. Long Island Biological Association, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (Arthur Chovnick, Biological Laboratory).

Chemical instrumentation. New York University, New York (S. Z. Lewin, Department of Chemistry).

Botany. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Victor A. Greulach, Department of Botany).

Process control theory. Case Institute of Technology, Cleveland, Ohio (James R. Hooper, Jr., Director of Special Programs).

Digital computers. University of Oklahoma, Norman (William Viavant, Director of Scientific Computations).

Geology. Oregon State College, Corvallis (W. D. Wilkinson, Department of Geology).

Ecology of fresh-water organisms. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa. (C. A. Tryon, Jr., Department of Biological Sciences).

Plant biochemistry. Institute of Paper Chemistry, Appleton, Wis. (Elwood O. Dillingham, Department of Chemistry).

Inorganic chemistry. University of Wisconsin, Madison (Edwin M. Larsen, Department of Chemistry).

### Liability for Nuclear Accidents

Paul Ruegger of Switzerland, a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, has been appointed chairman of an International Atomic Energy Agency panel to consider problems of third-party liability in the field of atomic energy. The panel will be composed of representatives of nine

countries which are members of the agency.

The lack of adequate rules and accepted definitions of liability in the case of nuclear accidents constitutes a serious retarding factor in the growth of the atomic energy industry. This is true in national contexts but is still more serious in bilateral or truly international operations such as those carried out under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency. The problem will grow even more complicated if national legislatures adopt different solutions. The initial program of IAEA therefore stresses the need for efforts to establish international standards and definitions of areas of responsibility which would do much to harmonize national practices which are now being formulated in many countries.

The panel will be called together to initiate studies and international action in the field and to propose solutions to the many problems as speedily as possible. It will be left to the panel to consider whether international recommendations or specific steps toward an international convention promise the best results.

### News Briefs

Joint hearings on defense preparedness and space exploration were held recently by the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee and the newly formed Committee on Aeronautics and Space Sciences. Lyndon B. Johnson, Senate majority leader, is chairman of both groups. The inquiry was based on two basic themes: (i) Is the United States doing everything that it reasonably can and should to insure the defense of this country and its allies against military aggression? (ii) Is the United States doing everything it reasonably can and should in the exploration of outer space?

The preparedness subcommittee held the widely publicized hearings on missiles last year, following the Soviet Union's launching of the first sputnik on 4 October 1957.

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Measles deaths during 1957 outnumbered deaths caused by poliomyelitis—the first time since 1944 that this has occurred. According to Public Health Service figures, in 1957 there was an estimated total of 410 measles deaths, compared with 220 from poliomyelitis. The 1956 totals were 530 from measles and 566 from poliomyelitis. In 1944 there were 1923 deaths from measles and 1361 from poliomyelitis.

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The Professional Group on Information Theory of the Institute of Radio Engineers, 1 E. 79 St., New York 21, N.Y., has announced a new affiliate plan.

Under the plan, members of selected technical societies are entitled to become affiliated with and receive the publications of some of the professional groups of the IRE without having to join the IRE itself. They need only pay the regular professional group dues, plus \$4.50, rather than the much larger fee (\$10) for full institute membership. The regular PGIT dues are \$3.

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The General Electric Lamp Division, Cleveland, Ohio, has dedicated its new Lamp Research Center at Nela Park and thus launched an intensive program aimed at "advancing the frontiers of knowledge of light production and its effect on all living things." Carl L. Olson, manager facility, said it was built to house an organization of some 250 research people who will not be bound by current thinking as regards the source, form, fabrication, operation, and application of light.

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The U.S. Department of Interior has announced the establishment of a Branch of Archeology, which has started operations with a staff of seven employees. John M. Corbett is head of the branch, which is a part of the National Park Service's Division of Interpretation. Corbett has been with the service since 1957. The new unit's responsibilities include both the locating of historical sites of possible national significance and the uncovering of evidence of the country's pioneer settlers.

### Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

*Allergy.* The Scientific and Educational Council of the Allergy Foundation of America has announced the availability of a limited number of quarterly or summer scholarships at \$500 each in approved medical schools in the United States and Canada. These scholarships, which are to be for a minimum of 8 weeks of training in clinical and research allergy, are available to students who have completed their second or third year in medical school.

Each medical school has been invited to submit the name of one applicant through the dean's office, with a letter from the dean in support of the candidate's application. Direct application from students will not be considered. All applications must be sent *before 1 March* to Dr. Robert A. Cooke, Chairman, Scientific and Educational Council, Allergy Foundation of America, 801 2nd Ave., New York 14, N.Y.

*Chemistry.* Nominations are invited for the \$500 Dexter Award in the history of chemistry administered by the Division of History of Chemistry of the American Chemical Society. The award will be made on the basis of services