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

which have advanced the history of chemistry in any of the following ways: by publication of an important book or article; by the furtherance of the teaching of the history of chemistry; by significant contributions to the bibliography of the history of chemistry; or by meritorious services over a long period of time which have resulted in the advancement of the history of chemistry.

All information, in duplicate, should be sent to the secretary of the Division of History of Chemistry *by 10 March*. Information should be as detailed as possible and should include outstanding as well as minor contributions of the nominee. Failure to furnish full information may unintentionally penalize your candidate. The division secretary is Sidney M. Edelstein, Dexter Chemical Corporation, 845 Edgewater Rd., Bronx 59, N.Y.

Radioisotopes. The Atomic Energy Commission has announced the establishment of a new program of assistance to colleges and universities for education and training in radioisotope principles and technology. The new program provides for direct financial assistance to colleges and universities in obtaining demonstration apparatus, student laboratory equipment, and training aids needed to offer adequate laboratory course work in radioisotope technology. Examples of apparatus and equipment available under the program are as follows: ionization chambers; scintillation counters; scalers and ratemeters; radioactivity standards; Geiger-Mueller counters; gas flow counters; pulse analyzers; radiation sources; training aids that illustrate industrial applications of isotopes; and equipment for the safe storage, proper handling, and disposal of radioactive materials.

Requirements for submission of proposals for equipment grants under this program, and the criteria used in evaluating proposals, may be obtained from the Director, Office of Isotopes Development, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington 25, D.C.

Scientists in the News

CARL DJERASSI, an internationally known organic chemist and professor at Wayne State University, has won the $1000 Leo Hendrik Baekeland Award of the American Chemical Society's North Jersey Section. Djerassi, on leave of absence from Wayne, is vice president for research of Syntex, S.A., Mexico City manufacturer of hormones.

Djerassi has made important contributions to the synthesis of cortisone, other hormones of the steroid class, and antihistaminic drugs. He was coinventor of Pyribenzamine, one of the earliest antihistamines. He has described the chemical structure of numerous products derived from plants. His laboratory methods based on studies of optical rotatory dispersion have created a new field in physical organic chemistry and have provided scientists with a powerful new analytical technique. As director of research for Syntex, Djerassi played an important role in the development of a class of orally effective steroid hormones now being used for the treatment of female disorders, such as infertility.

GEORGE WALD, professor of biology at Harvard University, has been named recipient of the 1959 Rumford Premium of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Boston. The formal presentation will take place at a meeting of the academy on 11 March 1959. Wald is being honored with the $5000 award for his studies on the biochemical basis of vision. His research has centered on the chemistry of the visual process, with particular reference to the chemical changes that take place in the rods and cones of the eye following excitation by light quanta.

An award is being established in honor of MERVIN J. KELLY. Bell Telephone Laboratories and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers have announced the Mervin J. Kelly Award, a $1000 prize that will be given annually for achievement in telecommunications.

Kelly, formerly president of Bell Laboratories, is now chairman of the board. He will retire on 1 March after 41 years of scientific and administrative service with the Bell Telephone System. The first Kelly award will be made by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers in 1960. The award is being sponsored by Bell Laboratories but will be administered solely by the institute.

ALLEN E. PUCKETT, specialist in aerodynamics, has been named a vice president and director of the systems development laboratories of Hughes Aircraft Company (Calif.). Puckett joined Hughes in 1949 after 4 years as chief of the wind tunnel section of the Jet Propulsion Laboratories of California Institute of Technology. He served as head of Hughes' aerodynamics department of the guided missiles laboratories, then moved to the systems development laboratories as director of advanced planning and later as director of operations and associate director.

WILFORD R. GARDNER, physicist at the U.S. Salinity Laboratory, Riverside, Calif., will study in England and The Netherlands for a period of 1 year, under a National Science Foundation Senior fellowship award. He will spend 4 months at the Agricultural University at Wageningen, The Netherlands, where he will be associated with W. R. van Wijk in the study of the transpiration of water by plants, and 8 months at Cambridge University School of Agriculture in England with E. C. Childs, head of the Unit on Soil Physics. In both institutions, Gardner plans to study and conduct research on the physical processes in soil-plant relationships.

HERBERT A. SMITH, professor of education at the University of Kansas, has been appointed to head the U.S. Office of Education's new Division of Science, Mathematics, and Foreign Language. Smith has served as director of the program for educating science teachers at Kansas since 1953.

ALVAR P. WILSKA, on leave as professor of physiology, University of Helsinki (Finland), has been appointed visiting professor of cell research in the department of anatomy, Louisiana State University School of Medicine, New Orleans, for a period of 2 years. The primary purpose of the visit will be to complete the construction of a refined model of a "slow-beam," high-contrast electron microscope originally designed by Wilska. The instrument will be used to investigate new problems of cell research at the macromolecular level of organization.

ENOCH R. NEEDLES, consultant in civil engineering, has been reelected president of the Engineers Joint Council for 1959. AUGUSTUS B. KINZEL, vice president for research at the Union Carbide Corporation, has been elected EJC's vice president.

POLYKARP KUSCH, professor of physics and Nobel laureate, and CARL F. KAYAN, professor of mechanical engineering, both members of the Columbia University faculty, have each received a Great Teacher Award from the university's Society of Older Graduates.

The board of medical editors of *Modern Medicine* has announced the winners of the publication's ten annual Distinguished Achievement Awards. The 1958 recipients were chosen from hundreds of candidates nominated by deans of medical schools and readers of the journal. The award winners follow.

HENRY K. BEECHER, Henry Isaiah Dorr professor of research in anesthesia at Harvard University and director of anesthesia at Massachusetts General Hospital, for "zeal in improving methods of anesthesia and development of means for critical evaluation of new analgesic and anesthetic agents."

PAUL C. BUCY, professor of surgery at Northwestern University and president of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies, for "research elucidating the functions of the motor cortex and