

W. Lenz, Univ.-Klinik und Poliklinik, Hamburg-Eppendorf, Germany; Robert L. Noble, University of Western Ontario, London, Canada; E. Diczfalusy and Carl Gemzell, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden; Jean Bertrand, Hôpital Edouard Herriot, Lyon, France; Claude J. P. Giroud, Montreal Children's Hospital, Montreal; Norman Kalant, Jewish General Hospital, Montreal; R. H. Despointes and D. Das Gupta, Montreal Children's Hospital.

## News Briefs

**Biophysics placement service.** The fourth annual meeting of the Biophysical Society will be held at the Sheraton Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa., 24-26 February. A new feature will be the institution of a placement service. This service will be available to registrants free of charge. Rooms for interviews will be available. Further information and forms for registration by prospective employers and candidates prior to the meetings may be obtained by writing to: Irving Gray, 3504 Preston Court, Chevy Chase, Md.

**Seamount.** A submerged "island," which probably existed as a true island 8000 to 10,000 years ago, has been discovered in the South Atlantic, 550 miles west of the Cape of Good Hope, by Columbia University scientists aboard the university's research vessel *Vema*. The formation, a geological seamount, rises 15,980 feet from the ocean floor, higher than any peak in the United States, except in Alaska. Its top, in the form of a circular platform, is 210 feet below the surface of the ocean; one isolated knob rises to within 120 feet of the surface. The formation is about 35 miles across at the base and about 5 miles across at the top.

**Computers.** The Denver Research Institute of the University of Denver will hold a Symposium on Computers and Data Processing at the Stanley Hotel in Estes Park, Colo., 28-29 July. The continuing theme of this series of meetings is the advanced treatment of basic problems in computer technology. Papers will be presented in the fields of components and devices, logic design, and philosophy of computer design. Although the program will be comprised largely of invited papers, a limited number of others will be selected for presentation. Authors who wish to submit papers should send

abstracts of approximately 150 words, no later than 1 April to: W. H. Eichelberger, Denver Research Institute, University of Denver, Denver 10, Colo.

**Draft deferment.** A leaflet entitled "Critical Personnel and the Draft" has been prepared by the Scientific Manpower Commission (1507 M St., NW, Washington 5, D.C.). In the spring of 1959 Congress extended the draft act by 4 years, but with the knowledge that administration of the act by the Selective Service System is more liberal than it was previously with respect to the deferment of critical personnel. Among the latter are students and teachers of science, mathematics, and engineering and research workers and professionals in these fields. Queries about the operation of the law have been so numerous that the Manpower Commission has released the leaflet to help employers and Selective Service registrants.

**Radioisotopes.** An international symposium on radioisotopes in the biosphere was held recently at the University of Minnesota under the sponsorship of the Atomic Energy Commission, the National Science Foundation, and the Agricultural Research Service of the Department of Agriculture. Proceedings will be published by the University of Minnesota at cost. The hard-cover volume may be obtained at a prepublication price of \$6.50. Orders must reach the Center for Continuation Study at the university (Minneapolis 14, Minn.) before 1 April.

**Atomic energy meetings.** The Atomic Energy Commission has published a 29-page catalog, *Proceedings of Technical Meetings*, which is available, without charge, from the commission's Technical Information Service Extension, P.O. Box E, Oak Ridge, Tenn. The catalog lists and describes the published proceedings of 126 selected meetings, conferences, and symposia held during the past 10 years and sponsored, cosponsored, or participated in by the commission or its contractors. Information on the availability and price of the *Proceedings* for each of the meetings is also given.

**Soviet spectroscopy.** The Optical Society of America has recently undertaken the translation and publication of the Russian journal *Optika i Spektroskopiya*, with the help of a grant from the National Science Foundation. This translation journal is being dis-

tributed free to all OSA members; it is also available to nonmembers on subscribing to the *Journal of the Optical Society*, at \$25 per year. For nonmember subscriptions, write to the American Institute of Physics, 335 E. 45 St., New York 17, N.Y.

**Chemical Society division.** The American Chemical Society has announced the establishment of a Division of Public, Professional, and Member Relations at ACS headquarters in Washington. James H. Stack, managing editor of the ACS News Service, has been appointed director of the new division. Roy Avery, assistant managing editor of the News Service, becomes managing editor. The News Service has been made a part of the new division but will remain in New York.

**Biological handbooks.** The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, Washington, D.C., has been awarded a 2-year grant by the National Science Foundation for partial support of the Office of Biological Handbooks, which is operating at the federation headquarters under the direction of Philip L. Altman. Other agencies supporting the Office of Biological Handbooks are the National Institutes of Health and the Department of the Air Force.

**Dental journal.** A new journal, *Dental Progress*, to be published by the University of Chicago Press, will seek to bridge the gap between the researcher and the clinician. The Institute of Dental Research of the U.S. Public Health Service has made a 5-year grant of \$137,000 to the University of Chicago to finance the undertaking. Rollin D. Hemens of the University of Chicago is executive editor, and George W. Teuscher, dean of the Northwestern University Dental School, has been selected as editor.

**Mathematics.** The Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics has announced the first issue of volume 4 of *Theory of Probability and Its Applications*. This is a complete translation into English of the corresponding issue of the Russian quarterly journal *Teoriya Veroyatnostei i ee Primeneniya*. During 1960 the society will publish separate translations of all four issues of volume 4 (1959), will begin the translation of volume 5, and will publish in bound form full translations of volumes 1 (1956), 2 (1957), and 3 (1958). It is expected that by early

1961 translations will be appearing within 4 months of publication of the Russian original. Inquiries may be addressed to the society at Box 7541, Philadelphia 1, Pa.

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**Radio telescopes.** A temporary Advisory Panel on Radio Telescopes has been appointed by the National Science Foundation. The purpose of the panel, which is under the chairmanship of J. R. Pierce of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, is to (i) study the present and predictable needs of radio astronomers with regard to improved instrumentation; (ii) study the capabilities of existing and proposed instruments; and (iii) advise the foundation with regard to the desirability and feasibility of constructing more powerful instruments. Scientists and engineers wishing to bring their ideas to the attention of the panel are encouraged to communicate them to the Astronomy Program, National Science Foundation, Washington 25, D.C.

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**Boulder meeting.** More than 1000 people will visit Boulder, Colo., during 1960 to attend two national scientific conferences for which the National Bureau of Standards will serve as host. First of the two meetings will be the 1960 Conference on Standards and Electronic Measurements, to be held 22-24 June. This will be followed (12-14 December) by a combined meeting of U.S. members of the International Scientific Radio Union and the Institute of Radio Engineers.

W. D. George, acting chief of the NBS Radio Standards Division, is co-chairman of the standards conference, and Alan Shapley, assistant chief of the NBS Radio Propagation Physics Division, is in charge of local planning for the December conference.

### Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

**Allergy.** The Scientific and Educational Council of the Allergy Foundation of America has announced that a limited number of quarterly or summer scholarships are available to second- and third-year medical students in the United States and Canada. These \$600 scholarships are for a minimum of 8 weeks of work, during which the student will receive training and experience in both clinical and research allergy. Each medical school has been invited to submit the name of one applicant through the dean's office. 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 17, N.Y.

**Heart disease reporting.** Entries are now being received by the American Heart Association in its eighth annual competition for the Howard W. Blakeslee Awards for outstanding reporting in the field of heart and blood-vessel diseases. The contest year, which began last March, will come to a close on 29 February. Newspaper and magazine articles, books, radio and television programs, and films published or produced during that period will be eligible. Deadline for submission of entries is *1 May*.

The winning entries and the number of awards will be determined by the association's Blakeslee Awards Committee. The awards carry an honorarium of \$500 each.

Entries submitted by local daily or weekly newspapers and local radio and television stations will be considered apart from entries submitted by national wire services, syndicates, or radio-TV networks and will be eligible for awards in separate categories. Entry blanks and rules folders may be obtained from local Heart Association offices or from the American Heart Association, 44 E. 23 St., New York 10, N.Y.

**Medicine.** The Association of American Medical Colleges, with the aid of a \$180,000 grant from the Smith Kline and French Pharmaceutical Company, has established a program to provide foreign fellowships through which students of United States medical colleges may travel abroad for a limited period of time to work in remote areas of the world. Any student who has completed his third year of medical school is eligible to apply for a fellowship. If accepted, he may spend 12 weeks or more at a foreign mission or other remote private medical facility, or at a public health unit, clinic, or hospital.

Cash awards will be made on an individual basis. A contribution to the expenses of the wife or husband accompanying the fellow will be made when this seems desirable. No awards will be made for the expenses of dependent children. Medical students who wish to apply for a fellowship must submit their application to the dean of their medical school.

**Monograph prizes.** The American Academy of Arts and Sciences has announced a 1960 Monograph Prize Program. These prizes are intended to

encourage and assist the publication of scholarly contributions to knowledge that are too long for publication as articles in the professional journals and too specialized or too short to be published in book form. In response to the announcement of this prize competition that was made nearly a year ago, more than 500 manuscripts were submitted by scholars and scientists from all parts of the English-speaking world. The great majority of the monographs were of high quality, and a considerable number of them, in addition to those awarded prizes and those selected for honorable mention, impressed the judges as being worthy of publication.

The deadline for receipt of manuscripts in the 1960 competition is *1 October*. For information, write to the Committee on Monograph Prizes, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 280 Newton St., Boston 46, Mass.

**SEATO.** The Southeast Asia Treaty Organization has announced its research fellowship program for 1960-61. The aim of the SEATO program is to encourage study and research (preferably leading to publication) on such social, economic, political, cultural, scientific, and educational problems as give insight into the present needs and future development of Southeast Asia and the Southwest Pacific, viewed against a background of SEATO objectives. A limited number of advanced research fellowships is offered for 1960-61 to candidates from member states (Australia, France, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and the United States). A candidate must be a national of a member state and should plan to undertake his research in SEATO countries situated within the treaty area. The applicant's project should be of interest to SEATO and, preferably, to two or more member countries, rather than to a single one, but it should not involve extensive travel.

Grants are intended for well-established scholars. A grant will provide a monthly allowance of \$400 and will cover tourist-class round-trip air passage to the country or countries of research. Grants may be authorized for periods of from 4 to 10 months. Application forms and additional information may be obtained from: Conference Board of Associated Research Councils, Committee on International Exchange of Persons, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington 25, D.C. Applications should be submitted no later than *1 March*.