

## **New Guinea Expedition**

### **Returns with 76,000 Specimens**

The Sixth Archbold Expedition to New Guinea has returned to the American Museum of Natural History after 8 months of field research, which included the most extensive biological survey ever undertaken on Mount Wilhelm, highest mountain in eastern New Guinea. The return of Leonard J. Brass, associate curator in the museum's department of mammals and leader and botanist of the expedition, and Hobart M. Van Deusen, assistant curator and expedition mammalogist, preceded by a few days the arrival of 17 packing cases and crates containing approximately 76,000 animal and plant specimens collected in the Territory of New Guinea, northeast sector of the main island.

The total count of specimens is broken down as follows: 2295 mammals, 50 birds, 4105 amphibians and reptiles, about 50,000 insects and spiders, and 18,271 plants. In addition, approximately 1500 ectoparasites of mammals were collected for the research department of the Army Medical Service. The botanical specimens are being turned over to the United States National Herbarium in Washington for further study.

The expedition, like its five predecessors in New Guinea and one in Australia, was sponsored by Richard Archbold, research associate of the museum and president of Archbold Expeditions, a nonprofit corporation affiliated with the museum. The present project was also financed in part by a grant to Brass from the National Science Foundation and a grant from the Explorers Club to Van Deusen. The over-all aim of the Archbold Expeditions is to shed light on the geographical and ecological relationships of the animal and plant life of the New Guinea-Australia area.

### **Nutrition of Chileans Studied**

#### **by United States Team**

In response to a request from the Government of Chile, a team of U.S. experts began, on 28 March, a 70-day survey of the nutritional status of the Chilean population. The purpose of the study is to assess the current standards and needs of the people, to formulate practical recommendations for improvement consistent with the country's resources, and to provide technical assistance for the development of stand-

ard ration requirements and local nutrition services.

The survey was arranged by the Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition for National Defense, which operates administratively through the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, National Institutes of Health. Team members include physicians, biochemists, food technologists, and others, who are working with Chilean personnel during the survey.

Large numbers of individuals from the Chilean Armed Forces and selected civilian groups will be examined during the study. Laboratory equipment and supplies, which have already been shipped to Santiago, will be turned over to the Chilean Government under Mutual Assistance Program procedures upon completion of the survey.

The director of the 15-member team is William F. Ashe, Jr., head of the department of preventive medicine, Ohio State University. Deputy survey director and laboratory director is Carl A. Baumann, department of biochemistry, University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture.

Nutrition surveys have been completed by the Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition for National Defense in Alaska and in 11 countries: Korea, Iran, Pakistan, the Philippines, Turkey, Libya, Spain, Ethiopia, Peru, Ecuador, and Viet Nam. Future surveys are scheduled to be made in Columbia (May 1960), Formosa (September 1960), Thailand (October 1960), and Lebanon (March 1961).

### **Moscow Polio Conference**

#### **Inaugurates Exchange Agreement**

Four American scientists have been designated so far to represent the United States at a joint American-Soviet meeting on poliomyelitis to be held in the Soviet Union in May. The formal invitation to send an American delegation to the meeting was extended to Surgeon General Leroy E. Burney of the Public Health Service by Sergei Kurashov, Minister of Health of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in accordance with the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Exchange Agreement of 21 November 1959.

The mission is the first to take place under the agreement. The agreement, in addition to providing for joint meetings on poliomyelitis, cancer, and heart disease, calls for exchange missions between the two countries on scientific

matters and authorizes the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service and the Soviet Minister of Health to develop cooperative projects in scientific and medical areas of joint interest.

The poliomyelitis meeting will be held at the Poliomyelitis Institute of the Academy of Medical Sciences in Moscow from 12 to 16 May. A similar joint meeting will be held in the United States next year.

The personal representative of the Surgeon General and chairman of the United States delegation will be David E. Price, Assistant Surgeon General of the Public Health Service. The three other members of the delegation that have been named are Roderick Murray, of the service's National Institutes of Health; Alexander Langmuir, of the PHS Communicable Disease Center, Atlanta, Ga.; and Albert Sabin of Children's Hospital, Research Foundation, Cincinnati, Ohio.

### **Foundation Sponsors Special Physics Institute at Wisconsin**

A special Summer Institute for Theoretical Physics will be held at the University of Wisconsin, 20 June-26 August, with support from the National Science Foundation. The purpose of the institute is to bring together in a relaxed and informal atmosphere a number of theoretical physicists having mutual interests. The principal activities of the institute will consist of informal discussions and independent research. There will be no courses, but each invited member will present a lecture or two concerning his current research.

Invited members, who will be in residence for a period of 3 weeks or more, include the following: P. Federbush, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; R. Haag, University of Illinois; K. Johnson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; H. Lehmann, University of Hamburg; P. T. Matthews, Imperial College, London; L. Michel, University of Paris; A. Salam, Imperial College, London; and J. C. Ward, Carnegie Institute of Technology. Theoretical physicists on the staff of the University of Wisconsin will also join in the activities of the institute.

Participation will be open to qualified theoretical physicists. Limited funds are available for travel support for those attending. Inquiries and applications for support may be sent to: Summer Institute for Theoretical Physics, Sterling Hall, University of Wisconsin.