mation that could save hundreds of millions later on. Officials view it as part of the function of the Defense basic research program to support these risky projects which an agency like the NSF, not so closely aware of potential practical applications, is likely to be unwilling to support. There seems to be substantially less of the "that's been tried before and it isn't going to work" attitude in Defense than in NSF, and the Defense officials argue that that is precisely the way it should be.

Congressional Recess: Some Matters Left Undecided until August

There has been a great deal of speculation over the exact reason for the Congressional recess and even more over what the postconvention session will accomplish. The only precedent is the 1948 session Harry Truman called in order to dramatize his charges about the "do-nothing" 80th Congress. That session accomplished nothing of significance, since the Republicans who controlled it understandably had no intention of carrying out Truman's program. This time the situation is very different: the session is being called on the initiative of the party that controls the Congress, and the Democrats will necessarily be making a determined effort to make at least a start toward carrying out the program of their newly adopted platform.

During the closing hours before the recess, both houses adopted the conference report on Independent Agency appropriations (*Science*, 1 July 1960). This included $175.8 million for the National Science Foundation and $915 million for the Space Agency. Both houses also cleared the "Health for Peace" proposal. Action was put off until August on the HEW appropriation with its big proposed increase in funds for medical research, and on the Antarctic treaty, which in effect internationalizes the Antarctic, outlawing the establishment of military bases there and opening the entire continent to the scientific expeditions of all nations.

One thing that is certain is that federal support of scientific research and development will reach a new high in the fiscal year that began 1 July. It will run close to $9 billion, substantially more than the total of all nonfederal support for R & D and triple the presputnik level prevailing before fiscal 1958—H.M.

News Notes

Eugenics in New Guinea

A plan to introduce a eugenic policy, apparently without precedent anywhere, has just been announced by the administration of the Territory of New Guinea [*South Pacific Post* (24 May 1960)]. This measure affects the tribe of Fore, some 30,000 strong, which inhabits an area of about 884 square miles in the Eastern Highlands. Almost half of the women and one-tenth of the men of the Fore tribe die of a hereditary disease known as kuru. This is a grave neuropathological disturbance for which no cure is known and which leads to death, usually within a few months from the appearance of the first symptoms.

As shown by studies conducted in the Fore area by a group of investigators from the University of Adelaide (South Australia), kuru is transmitted by a gene which behaves apparently as a Mendelian dominant in females and a recessive in males. The presumed homozygotes of both sexes die in childhood, usually before adolescence; heterozygous females die later, after most of them have produced children. The extremely high incidence of kuru in the Fore tribe and its absence in neighboring tribes except as introduced by migrants from the Fore area remain unexplained. The heterozygous carriers of the gene for kuru probably possesss some considerable adaptive advantage, both the males who survive and perhaps also the females who die after having completed at least a part of their reproductive lives. The nature of this advantage is, however, completely unknown.

In part because of the ravages of kuru, some portions of the Fore tribe have great excesses of males over females (as much as 2.5 males per female). Fore men tend to move into neighboring tribes, and some of them, like members of tribes in which kuru is unknown, come as contract laborers to work on plantations in other parts of New Guinea. Since many of them are heterozygous carriers of the gene for kuru, it is feared that the disease may spread and afflict the populations of other districts.

To counteract this danger, the administration's plan is to quarantine the Fore tribe, by prohibiting the emigration of its members from the tribal area. All Fore men who have been recruited as laborers from the area will be returned there. This is obviously a severe restriction to be imposed on a whole tribe. Realizing this, the administration is considering ways and means of developing the Fore area to provide work for its people and to make emigration unnecessary. The study of the disease is to be continued, in the hope of finding a remedy for kuru victims and a way of identifying the carriers of the kuru gene in heterozygous condition before the appearance of the disease symptoms.

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Documentation Center Opened

A Scandinavian Documentation Center (SCANDOC) was opened recently in Washington, D.C., to further the exchange of scientific and technical information and documentation among the Scandinavian countries, the United States, and Canada. SCANDOC, a nonprofit organization offering free service, is financed and directed by the research councils and scientific academies of the four Scandinavian countries through their common Scandinavian Council for Applied Research.

The center will procure nonclassified and nonconfidential documents and information not readily available and will channel this information to the interested countries through information offices organized under the research councils and academies of the countries concerned. Arne Sverdrup, former head of the Laboratory for Steroid Research of the Norsk Hydro's Institute for Cancer Research, Oslo, will head SCANDOC. Sverdrup is also science attaché at the Norwegian Embassy.

Dedication of NIH Building

The Division of Biologics Standards Building of the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md., was dedicated on 30 June. Roderick Murray, director of the division, delivered the principal address, which commemorated the fifth anniversary of the creation of the division as a separate unit of NIH.

The $3.5 million structure was designed to house the scientific and ad-

ministrative operations of the division, which is responsible for the safety, purity, and potency of all biological products within the jurisdiction of the Public Health Service.

King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand was invited to dedicate the new building in recognition of his work to improve health measures in his country and his interest in the SEATO–NIH Cholera Research Project. The work of U.S. and Thai scientists during the 1958–59 cholera epidemic in Thailand demonstrated, by a greatly reduced death rate, the value of collaborative research. The U.S. cholera research advisory group was headed by Joseph E. Smadel, NIH associate director for intramural research, who will become chief of the laboratory of virology and rickettsiology of the Division of Biologics Standards.

Symposium on Experimentation below the Microgram Range

The National Academy of Sciences–National Research Council recently sponsored a symposium on Experimentation below the Microgram Range. Attendance was limited to 27 invited participants. The proceedings will be published in a separate issue of the *Microchemical Journal* this fall.

Nicholas D. Cheronis of Brooklyn College was chairman of the planning committee and general chairman of the symposium. In his opening address, Cheronis stated that two of the principal objectives of the meeting were (i) to stimulate interest in the field and (ii) to gather investigators from separate areas of the natural sciences to exchange information on the problems of such experimentation.

Henry Eyring, dean of the Graduate School of the University of Utah, delivered the closing lecture, in which he discussed the theoretical aspects of kinetics of chemical reactions in the microgram and submicrogram range. He asserted that surface reactions are more critical at the submicrogram range.

Committee Established for Cell Culture Collection

The Cell Culture Collection Coordinating Committee was established on 3 June on the recommendation of the advisory panel on viruses and cancer of the National Advisory Cancer Council.

The committee's primary aim is the development of criteria to certify strains of mammalian cells. Meetings between virologists and cell culturists, which were sponsored by the National Cancer Institute during the past year, indicated the need for a new disciplinary approach to the study of cell cultures.

Fourteen U.S. laboratories will assist the committee; two will undertake most of the cell line characterization and one will act as a central repository and distribution center. Lewis L. Coriell, research director of the South Jersey Medical Research Foundation, Camden, and Cyril S. Stulberg, senior research associate in the Child Research Center of Michigan, Detroit, will establish the first centers for the study and banking of cell strains. William A. Clark, director of the American Type Culture Collection, Washington, D.C., will direct the central repository.

In addition to Coriell, Stulberg, and Clark, the committee is composed of the following scientists.

Joseph W. Beard, professor of experimental surgery and associate professor of virology, Duke University School of Medicine.

John F. Enders, chief of the research division on infectious diseases, Children's Medical Center, Boston.

Morgan Harris, professor of zoology and chairman of the department, University of California, Berkeley.

John G. Kidd, professor of pathology, Cornell University Medical School.

Jerome T. Syverton, professor of bacteriology and head of the department, University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, *chairman*.

All inquiries should be sent to the committee chairman in Minneapolis.

News Briefs

Translating Soviet journals. The Soviet publishing firm Mezhdunarodnaya Kriga and Consultants Bureau Enterprises of New York renewed, for a 2-year term, a contract covering the exclusive translation into English of 23 major Soviet scientific journals. The agreement was concluded between Aleksandr Belostotsky, an official of the Moscow firm, and Earl Coleman, president of Consultants Bureau. The original contract, made in 1958, was the first such agreement between an American publisher and the Soviet Union; the contract was renewed for 1 year in 1959. A special clause in the new agreement requires the Moscow company to notify Consultants Bureau of publication of any new scientific and technical Russian journals.

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Conference on aging. The 5th congress of the International Association of Gerontology will meet in San Francisco, 7–12 August. All papers will present results of original research or systematic evaluations of operating programs. They will cover the biological, clinical, psychological, and sociological aspects of the aging process. Additional information may be obtained from Louis Kuplan, President, Fifth International Congress of Gerontology, P.O. Box 2103, Sacramento 10, Calif.

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Nutritionists meet. A symposium on world food needs and food resources will highlight the program of the 5th international Congress on Nutrition in Washington, D.C., 1–7 September. The balance of the program will be divided into panel discussions and sessions of short papers on unpublished original research. The organizing committee will offer lectureship appointments, through the cooperation of American universities and research centers, and travel grants to aid foreign scientists who plan to attend the congress. For full information write to Milton O. Lee, General Secretary, 9650 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington 14.

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Centennial conference. A conference will be held in London, 20–23 September, to commemorate the centennial of the passage of the world's first pure food act. Papers reviewing the contributions of legislation and technology to the establishment of high standards of food purity will be presented by scientists from Canada, England, the United States, and Wales. Inquiries should be sent to A. J. Amos, Chairman of the Executive Committee, Pure Food Centenary 1960, The Secretariat, 14 Belgrave Square, London S.W.1.

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Teratology Society. Scientists interested in the etiology and morphogenesis of congenital malformations have formed the Teratology Society of America as a result of action taken at the 4th teratology conference, held earlier this year in New York. The National Foundation assisted in the formation of the society. Inquiries should be addressed to the secretary-treasurer, Marjorie M. Nelson, Department of Anatomy, School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco 22.

Scientists in the News

The Gravity Research Foundation of New Boston, N.H., has presented awards to five scientists for essays.

Lloyd Motz, of Rutherfurd Observatory, Columbia University, received $1000 for his essay on gravity and the nature of fundamental particles.

Banesh Hoffmann, of the department of mathematics, Queens College, Flushing, N.Y., was awarded $300 for his paper on the noon-midnight red shift.

F. J. Belinfante, of the department of physics, Purdue University, received $200 for his essay on whether fast motion or fast rotation or vibration of an object can decrease the effect of gravity on it.

W. F. G. Swann, director emeritus of the Bartol Research Foundation, Swarthmore, Pa., was awarded $150 for his paper on the possibility of developing a shield against gravitation.

Charles J. Lyon, of the department of botany, Dartmouth College, received $100 for his essay on the dependence of plant form and function on gravity.

Charles W. Hargens, head of the bioelectronics branch of the Franklin Institute Laboratories, has been promoted to technical director in charge of electrical engineering. Hargens will direct research and development programs in electronics, life sciences instrumentation, electromechanics, and power and control systems.

Waclaw Szybalski, former head of the microbial genetics unit of the Institute of Microbiology of Rutgers University, is continuing his work on the molecular genetics of bacterial and human cell lines as associate professor of oncology in the McArdle Memorial Laboratory of the University of Wisconsin Medical School.

Harris Busch, professor of pharmacology at the University of Illinois, will become chairman of the department of pharmacology at Baylor University on 1 September.

Arthur W. Galston became chairman of the department of botany of Yale University on 1 July. He will spend the academic year 1960–61 on sabbatical leave in Canberra, Australia. **Norman H. Giles** will serve as acting chairman in Galston's absence.

Ian M. Sussex, of the department of biology of the University of Pittsburgh, became an associate professor in Yale's botany department on 1 July. **Diter H. von Wettstein**, of the Forest Genetics Institute in Stockholm, was also named associate professor in botany.

Donald B. Shutt, dairy bacteriologist in the department of microbiology of Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Canada, retired on 30 June. He is a specialist in the flavor and color defects in dairy products, and in dairy sanitation.

Four British scientists are visiting the United States this summer.

H. Davson, a member of the Medical Research Council's scientific staff at the department of physiology of the University College (London), began a 3-month assignment at Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory at the end of May.

H. A. Gebbie, principal scientific officer in the basic physics division of the National Physical Laboratory (Teddington), is spending a month at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, before attending the Gordon Research Conference on infrared spectroscopy, 22–26 August.

E. King, a member of the Medical Research Council's scientific staff in the department for research in industrial medicine at the London Hospital, will be in New York from 24 to 31 July to attend the International Congress on Occupational Health.

E. G. Youngs, senior scientific officer at the Agricultural Research Council's unit of soil physics (Cambridge), will begin an 8-month visit on 11 August. He will visit the University of Wisconsin, the University of Illinois, and the U.S. Salinity Laboratory (Riverside, Calif.).

Gladstone B. Heisig has been named professor emeritus of chemistry at the University of Minnesota, after 41 years of service.

Ivor Griffith, president of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, has been named the 37th recipient of the Remington Honor Medal by the American Pharmaceutical Association. The medal will be presented at the awards dinner on 7 December in New York.

Henry Turkel of Detroit, Mich., is a visiting professor on the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy, Port au Prince, Haiti.

E. R. Tompkins is now assistant to the Naval attaché in the U.S. Office of Naval Research in London, where he is responsible for liaison in physical and nuclear chemistry between ONR and European research installations. Tompkins formerly headed the chemical technology division of the U.S. Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory in San Francisco.

Robert J. Anderson, chief of the Communicable Disease Center of the Public Health Service in Atlanta, is now deputy chief of the service's Bureau of State Services.

Harla Ray Eggleston, professor of biology and chairman of the department at Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio, retired on 6 June after 45 years as head of the department. Eggleston is an authority on the ecology of the bivalve mollusca. He received the bachelor's degree from Hamilton College in 1912, the master's from Harvard in 1913, and a doctor of science degree from Hamilton in 1950.

Recent Deaths

Joseph K. Folsom, Boston, Mass.; 66; professor of sociology at Vassar College, 1931–59; former editor of the *American Sociological Review*; 3 June.

Ivan M. Johnston, Cambridge, Mass.; 62; associate professor of botany at Harvard University; associate director of the Arnold Arboretum, 1948–53; authority on American flowering plants; 1 June.

Theodore K. Just, Chicago, Ill.; 55; chief curator of botany of the Chicago Natural History Museum; professorial lecturer in the department of botany of the University of Chicago; 14 June.

William St. Lawrence, Southampton, N.Y.; 72; founder of the clinic for study of heart disease in children at St. Luke's Hospital, New York; associate in the diseases of children at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, 1920–29; 3 June.

Wladimir S. Woytinsky, Washington, D.C.; 74; former research director of the Twentieth Century Fund and research professor at Johns Hopkins University; economist, statistician, and writer; 11 June.

Constantin P. Yaglou, Belmont, Mass.; 63; professor of industrial hygiene at the Harvard School of Public Health; expert on human adaptation to climatic extremes; 3 June.