

Foundation activities in the social sciences are guided by an advisory committee, now termed a divisional committee, whose members include Leonard S. Cottrell of the Russell Sage Foundation, New York; Fred Eggan, of the University of Chicago; John Gardner of the Carnegie Corporation, New York; Pendleton Herring of the Social Science Research Council, New York; Joseph Spengler of Duke University; S. S. Wilks of Princeton University; Logan Wilson of the University of Texas; and Dael Wolfle of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

News Briefs

Tritium symposium. The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has announced that the International Atomic Energy Agency will convene a Symposium on the Detection and Use of Tritium in the Physical and Biological Sciences, 10-14 April 1961, possibly in Vienna, Austria. The symposium, the first comprehensive international meeting on this subject, reflects the growing recognition of the uses of tritium as a research tool. Those interested in participating must submit abstracts by 3 January 1961, and completed papers by 1 March 1961, either directly to the International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna 1, Kaerntnerring, Austria, or to the Office of Special Projects, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington 25, D.C.

Karolinska's 150th year. The Karolinska Institute in Stockholm has just celebrated its 150th anniversary with a specially arranged anniversary week program that began on 29 November. Among the distinguished speakers were the following from Canada and the United States: Charles H. Best of Toronto, Francis D. Moore and Walter Bauer of Boston, and Irving S. Wright of New York.

Influenza bibliography. The first installment in a continuing bibliography on influenza research has been released by the American Institute of Biological Sciences. Volume 1, Number 1 contains 176 references in the following categories: general and review; epidemiology; clinical; pathology; prophylaxis; immunology; virology; and animals. Approximately 2600 journals, domestic and foreign, are searched.

Volume 1 contains references for the period 1 June through 31 August 1960. A separate volume, soon to be published, will cover 1 January 1957 through 31 May 1960.

More scientists in industry. Employment of scientists and engineers in industry rose nearly 7 percent between January 1959 and January 1960, according to the National Science Foundation. This compares with only a 5-percent rise from 1958 to 1959. The proportionate increase from 1959 to 1960 was greatest for physical scientists, but the growth in number of engineers greatly exceeded the growth in other occupational groups.

The figures are based on preliminary estimates from a survey conducted for NSF by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. More than 10,000 companies cooperated to furnish the data, which will aid in developing programs designed to strengthen the country's scientific manpower resources. The foundation will publish a final report on the survey early in 1961, presenting detailed employment statistics.

Colgate-Palmolive Research Center. The Colgate-Palmolive Company has announced the start of construction of a multi-million dollar research center adjacent to the Rutgers University Science Campus near New Brunswick, N.J. When completed, in the spring of 1962, the building will house the company's scientists working in such fields as biology, oral health, pharmacology, biochemistry, physiology, enzymology, and bacteriology. Colgate-Palmolive and Rutgers have worked closely in the past on a number of basic research projects.

Education guide for nuclear science. The Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies has polled more than 300 colleges and universities to compile a 76-page brochure on nuclear science education programs in the United States. The main section of the publication lists in detail the degrees, courses, and facilities at each of 175 universities and notes the availability of fellowships and assistantships. A comprehensive table summarizes this information for institutions offering a formal degree in nuclear science, or offering the option of nuclear-science courses as part of a conventional degree.

The institute plans to issue subse-

quent editions in future years and is considering the inclusion of data for universities in other countries. Copies of the publication, *Education Programs and Facilities*, are available free of charge from the University Relations Division, Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, P.O. Box 117, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

U.S. mortality rate. There were 1,656,814 deaths in the United States during 1959, a rate of 9.4 deaths per 1000, the U.S. Public Health Service reports. The rate is almost the same as that for 1956 but is more than 1 percent lower than the 1958 rate and about 2 percent lower than that for 1957.

The differences in death rates by color have become smaller over the past decade. Among males, a difference of 15 percent (lower for the white group) in 1950 had decreased to a 4 percent difference in 1959. Among females, a difference of 24 percent in 1950 had decreased to 9 percent in 1959.

Over this same period, the difference in the death rate by sex in the white population has remained relatively unchanged. The rates were 36 percent higher for males than for females in 1950 and 37 percent higher in 1959. For the nonwhites, however, the difference has increased. Rates for males were 26 percent higher in 1950 and 30 percent higher in 1959.

Medicine. Financial Assistance Available for Graduate Study in Medicine, just published by the Association of American Medical Colleges, can be purchased for \$2.50 from AAMC headquarters, 2530 Ridge Ave., Evanston, Ill. The 1960 revised edition is designed to aid both foreign and North American students seeking graduate and fellowship opportunities primarily in the United States and Canada. It is a comprehensive manual containing information on fellowships, funds, and prizes offered by foundations, professional organizations, federal agencies, and U.S. and Canadian medical schools.

Silk worms wanted. Hans Laufer, an embryologist and assistant professor of biology at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, is seeking the aid of young naturalists and others interested in science in obtaining pupae of giant silk worms for his research. Laufer, who needs the silk worms for cellular dif-

ferentiation studies, has announced that he will pay well for each cocoon brought or sent to him at the biology department, Homewood campus. In 1948 Johns Hopkins made a public appeal for fireflies. Donors were paid 25 cents per hundred.

Most people think of silk worms as existing only on mulberry trees in the Orient and are surprised to learn that they can be found in large numbers throughout the United States. Moreover, the best time of the year to find them is in the fall and winter.

* * *

Civilian reactor series completed. The Atomic Energy Commission has published the final volume [*Status Report on Gas-Cooled Reactors as of 1959* (TID-8518-8)] of the commission's 11-volume report on the civilian power reactor program (book 8 of part 3). The volume is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., for 55 cents.

A volume related to the over-all report—*Power Cost Normalization Studies, Civilian Power Reactor Program—1959* (SL-1674)—may be obtained from the Office of Technical Services, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D.C., for \$2.50. This volume (containing 164 pages of text, tables, graphs, and engineering drawings) deals with the cost estimates of the eight reactor concepts discussed in the volumes of part 3.

* * *

Data processing school. The International Business Machines Corporation has opened a Systems Research Institute in New York that is perhaps the first industry-sponsored graduate school to educate people for advanced professional work in data processing systems engineering. Thirty-five I.B.M. computer specialists from the United States, Great Britain, Germany, and Canada reported for the opening of classes. The corporation expects to invest about \$2 million annually to train eventually up to 400 people a year at the institute. The director of the institute is I.B.M. vice president John C. McPherson. The assistant director is Frank S. Beckman, formerly data systems manager of the I.B.M. Watson Laboratory.

* * *

Fund drives. The proliferation of fund-raising health organizations is causing concern. National drives have skyrocketed from 15 in 1940 to more than 100 today; annual contributions

total \$1 billion; duplication abounds. For example, 19 agencies compete nationally for money to aid in rehabilitation of the handicapped; Los Angeles had 538 of the campaigns in 1959. Campaign costs vary from the United Funds' 5 percent to as high as 33½ percent.

* * *

Soviet World's Fair. A World's Fair will be held in Moscow, 20 May–20 November 1967, to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Soviet Union's Great October Socialist Revolution. The motto of the fair will be "Progress and Peace," and all nations, regardless of their political and social systems, will be invited to demonstrate their achievements in economics, science, technology, and culture. The U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers has formed a state committee for the event that will be headed by A. N. Kosygin, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers. N. P. Dudorov has been appointed general government commissioner. The fair will be organized in conformity with the Convention on International Fairs and recommendations of the International Bureau of Fairs.

* * *

NBS advisory committees. Two new technical advisory committees have been established by the National Bureau of Standards, one on calibration and measurement services and one on engineering and related standards. William Wildhack, special assistant to the director of NBS, is chairman of both. The committees include leaders in specialized fields who are drawn from industry. The purpose of the two new bodies is to aid the bureau in cooperating with industry in the fields of precision measurement, calibration, and standard practices.

* * *

Poliomyelitis decreases. Incidence of poliomyelitis in the United States for the full year 1960 will be well below that for any year since the introduction of the Salk vaccine in 1955, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company statisticians predict. On the basis of the 2127 cases of the disease reported in the first 38 weeks of the year, it is estimated that there will be approximately 3000 cases by year's end. This compares with 8425 cases in 1959, and with 5485 in 1957, the smallest number for any year since 1942. About 29,000 cases were reported in 1955, and in the immediate pre-Salk era, 1950–54, the annual number averaged close to 39,000.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Anthropology. Two \$5000 research fellowships, the Ogden Mills Fellowships, are offered annually by the department of anthropology of the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, for anthropologists who might benefit by a year at the museum. Preference will be given to applicants who can make most use of the museum's collections and archives (unpublished field notes, films, sound recordings). These fellowships are not intended for field work, although it is possible that such activities may occasionally be included.

Candidates in their early postdoctoral years will be given preference, but there are no rigid requirements as to age, sex, degrees, or academic background. The application deadline is 1 February. For information write to Dr. Harry L. Shapiro, Department of Anthropology, American Museum of Natural History, New York 24, N.Y.

Demography. The Population Council is offering 25 fellowships for training in the field of population at the predoctoral and postdoctoral levels during the 1961–62 academic year. These awards are available for study in appropriate universities in the United States and other countries.

Council fellowships are for training in demography, although related study in sociology, economics, biostatistics, and other relevant fields may form part of a total program. The plan of study and choice of university are made by the applicant. A candidate must have completed at least 1 year of graduate study.

Applications are accepted from well-qualified persons of all countries, preferably under 40. Particular consideration is given to students from the economically underdeveloped areas.

Fellows receive support for full-time study, usually for a period of 12 months. The basic stipend is \$2700; this may be supplemented to provide for tuition, maintenance of dependents, travel, and exceptional expenses. It may be diminished to take account of lesser needs or partial support from other sources. Somewhat larger stipends are granted to postdoctoral than to predoctoral fellows.

Applications for the academic year 1961–62 should be received before 1 February 1961. Requests for application forms should be addressed to: The Population Council, 230 Park Ave., New York 17, N.Y.