NEWS AND COMMENT

(Continued from page 1206)

sibility in all these areas and suggests that the government "find a mechanism for facilitating as promptly as possible our programs in population rerearch, education, and public service, perhaps by the appointment of a person at a high national level with specific responsibility for leadership in implementing population programs."

In thrusting itself into the middle of domestic discussions on population the Academy has joined ranks with a great many other institutions that have only recently abandoned attitudes of unconcern or neutrality. Chief among these is, of course, the government, which was committed by President Johnson's State of the Union Message to "seek new ways to use our knowledge to help deal with the explosion in world population and the growing scarcity in world resources," and which is now providing birth control assistance to foreign governments who request it, through the Agency for International Development. In addition the American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, and a number of other agencies and institutions have begun to take an interest in the population problem. The direction of the next effort by the Academy committee has not yet been determined, but it is certain that it will attempt to provide what amounts almost to a new 'movement" with the same enlightened leadership that has characterized its first two efforts.—ELINOR LANGER

Announcements

Vannevar Bush, retired president of the Carnegie Institution, will present the first Warren G. Magnuson Lecture 1 June at the Pacific Science Center, Seattle, Washington. The lecture, on science and government, will begin a series, and honors Senator Magnuson's "continuing, resourceful leadership on behalf of science, the Pacific Science Center's development, and the Pacific Northwest," according to Edward E. Carlson, president of the Pacific Science Center Foundation.

Erratum: Figure 3 of the article, "Computerized bibliographic services for biomedicine," by L. Karel et al. (7 May, p. 769), is a composite of two sets of data. The cards (lower right), both labeled "National Library of Medicine," should have been designated to set them off from data on "Therapy of Chromoblastomycosis." The last item under "Therapy of Chromoblastomycosis" is incomplete.

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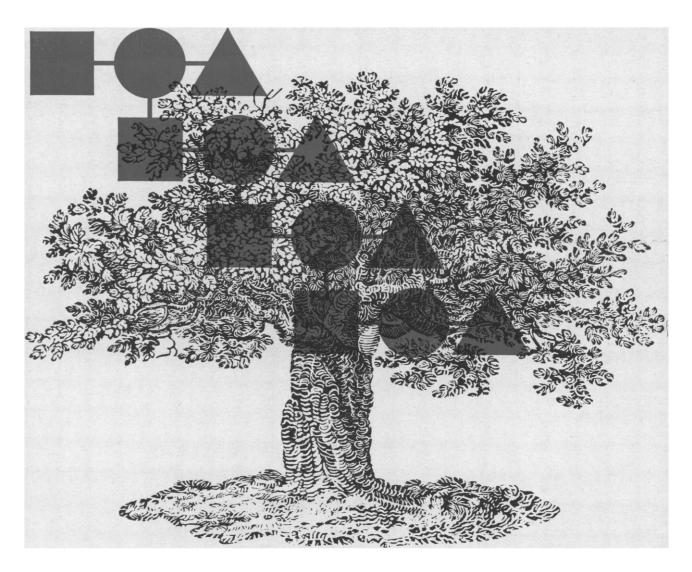
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1258 SCIENCE, VOL. 148

New Products

Compact explosion-proof refrigerator, Fisher model 17-182V2, with 4.5-ft³ capacity; outside dimensions: 23 by 24.5 by 34.5 inches high (59 by 62 by 88 cm). Designed for under-the-counter, free-standing, or built-in use. Explosionproof inside and out; approved by Underwriters' Laboratories for protection against class I, group C and D hazards. There is a static condenser in the rear of the unit and a rugged compressor on the bottom. All arcing points fully enclosed; all conduits explosion-proof. Self-defrosting; has only one control for temperature adjustment. Interior has one-piece polystyrene liner. Fiberglass insulation. Reaches normal operating temperature (40°F) in 30 minutes. Two shelves, one movable; permanent shelf is a storage tray, with a glass top. Additional storage space in the door liner. Door held closely by a positive magnetic latch; opens 200 deg. Door easily adjustable to open from left or right. Available with various counter tops. Unit warranted for 1 year: the sealed compressor, for 5 \$465.—D.J.P. (Fisher years. List: Scientific, Dept. S417, 415 Fisher Building, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15219)

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The material in this section is prepared by Denis J. Prager (D.J.P.), Laboratory of Technical Development, National Heart Institute, Bethesda 14, Md. (medical electronics and biomedical laboratory equipment).

The information reported here is obtained from manufacturers and from other sources considered to be reliable. Neither *Science* nor the writers assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information.

Address inquiries to the manufacturer, mentioning Science and the department number.

data-presentation panel mounted in a single console, with set-up controls, operating controls, and displays on the front panel. Scintillation-detector assembly incorporates two photomultiplier tubes in a shielded detecting chamber [2-inch (5-cm) virgin lead] which is completely light-sealed. An automatic light shutter above the detecting-chamber entrance allows operation under room lighting. Summation of output pulses from both photomultiplier tubes provides isotope separation, and efficiency for counting low-energy isotopes. Pulses from both tubes are used to establish scintillation coincidence and reject tube noise. Automatic externalratio standardization measures the degree of quenching and calibrates the counting efficiency of the system. A sealed gamma standard automatically moves to a precisely reproducible position in the counting chamber after each sample count is recorded. With the standard in position, a count is made on the sample to determine the quenching. Net counts generated by the gamma source are recorded in two separate calibration channels. The ratio of these two channels is electronically computed, displayed, and printed out. A highly stable, logarithmic pulse-amplification method permits discriminator adjustment over the complete energy range from tritium to P32 with a single dial. The overall resolving time of the system is less than $0.5 \mu sec$, insuring less than 1-percent dead-time counting loss per 1 million count/min. Plug-in modules provide fixed discrimination channels for separating known isotopes, including tritium, C14, and P32. Modules with adjustable discriminators are also available for facilitating analysis of the lesscommon isotopes. The 200-sample changer allows complete automatic or manual operation. Electronic computation computes the count-per-minute rate every 1.2 seconds, providing continuous digital presentation of count rate during the counting cycle. The countper-minute rate for each channel is computed in both preset time and preset count modes, with automatic back-

ground subtraction. Total data-process-

ing time, including complete samplechanging and print-out, 7 seconds. Sample number, counting time, channel identification, automatic external standardization ratio, and counts or count rate and 26 statistical counting errors for each channel are typed on the Teletype-33 typewriter and indicated on the display panel. The system automatically checks and rejects samples with less than a preselected activity level. An adjustable reject-level control is provided for each data channel.-D.J.P. (Beckman Instruments, Inc., Scientific and Process Instruments Div., Dept. S430, Fullerton, Calif. 92634)

Needle and pipette puller (Brinkmann model 111) facilitates the making of glass needles and pipettes with tips of various lengths and shapes. Two controls: one regulates current to the nichrome heating coil; one determines the force of the electromagnet that automatically separates the glass as it softens in the heating coil. Combinations of these controls determine the bore, length, and shape of the tip. Once the desired configuration is defined and the dials are set, a number of pipettes and needles can be pulled quickly. Consists of a single housing measuring 7.38 by 4.75 by 6 inches high (19 by 12 by 15 cm). List: \$275.—D.J.P. (Brinkmann Instruments, Dept. S422, Cantiague Road, Westbury, N.Y.)

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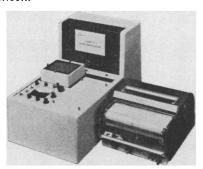
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1260 SCIENCE, VOL. 148

AGING . . .

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Aging in the total organism: M. Landowne, G. Pincus, P. Handler, E. W. Busse

Theories of aging: N. W. Shock, H. Selye, P. Prioreschi, B. L. Strehler, J. E. Birren, S. E. Stumpf

Oral aspects of aging: R. F. Sognnaes, A. A. Dahlberg, J. Nalbandian, J. Klingberg, L. Cancellaro, E. O. Butcher, J. R. Ring

Financing medical costs after age 65: J. T. Freeman Discussions. Index

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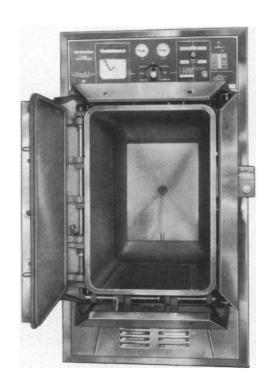
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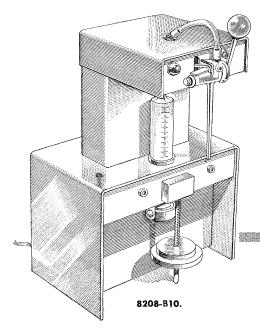
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*See Dr. David Seligson, Am. Journ. Clin. Path., Vol. 28, No. 2 (Aug., 1957), pp. 200-207.

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