JOHN F. TAYLOR, chairman of the University of Louisville biochemistry department, is on leave of absence from that post to serve as visiting professor of biochemistry at the Physiological Institute of the University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway.

THOMAS B. NOLAN, since 1944 assistant director of the U.S. Geological Survey, has been named by President Eisenhower to succeed William E. Wrather as director of the Survey. The appointment awaits Senate approval.

JONATHAN E. RHOADS, professor of surgery and surgical research in the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and professor of surgery in the Graduate School of Medicine, was elected provost of the university on 17 Jan.

HAROLD C. UREY, distinguished service professor of chemistry at the University of Chicago, has been named Eastman professor at Oxford University, Oxford, England, for the 1956–57 academic year. The chair was founded in 1929 by George Eastman to send senior American scholars to lecture at Oxford. The Association of American Rhodes Scholars administers the fund and assists in making the annual selection.

Urey, who was the Nobel prize winner in chemistry in 1934, has specialized in the structure of atoms and molecules, thermodynamic properties of gases, and separation of isotopes. He discovered the hydrogen atom of atomic weight 2 and conducted research for the production of heavy water and U-235.

Recent Deaths

HENRY M. CRANE, New York, N.Y.; 81; consulting engineer to General Motors Corporation; a past president of the Society of Automotive Engineers who helped to prepare the standard American aeronautic safety code in 1926; 21 Jan.

JAMES E. DAVENPORT, New York, N.Y.; 68; retired vice president for engineering development and research of the American Locomotive Company; 24 Jan.

ADOLPH EICHHORN, Pearl River, N.Y.; 82; authority on animal husbandry; consultant on the veterinary medicine research staff of the Lederle Laboratories; 23 Jan.

RAPHAEL GINZBERG, Tomah, Wis.; 60; authority on diseases of the aged; chief of the geriatrics department of the Veterans Administration Hospital at Tomah, Wis.; 19 Jan.

ROYAL S. HAYNES, New York, N.Y.; 78; retired specialist in pediatrics; former clinical professor of pediatrics at College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University; 19 Jan.

ROBERT LOWY, Philadelphia, Pa.; 72; hydraulic engineer; special lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania and a former associate professor at Pennsylvania Military College; 21 Jan.

HARRY W. ORR, Stillwater, Okla.; 60; dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine of Oklahoma A. & M. College; 14 Jan.

ALEXANDER O. RANKINE, Hampton, England; 74; emeritus professor of physics at the Imperial College of Science and Technology; former chief physicist for the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company; World War II worker in the Petroleum Warfare Department on dissipation of fog on airfields; 19 Jan.

BLAKE VAN LEER, Atlanta, Ga.; 62; hydraulic engineer and president of the Georgia Institute of Technology; 23 Jan.

Education

■ S. F. Posen, president of Beltone Hearing Aid Company, Chicago, has given $7000 to Northwestern University for a new soundproof hearing laboratory. The laboratory will make it possible to conduct research on various tests for the diagnosis of hearing impairments. The soundproof testing chamber is being constructed in the department of otolaryngology at the university's Medical Center in Chicago.

■ The 25th Venereal Disease Postgraduate Course for physicians sponsored by the University of Washington School of Medicine and the Public Health Service will be given in Seattle, Wash., 19–23 Mar. The course is designed to acquaint the practitioner with the latest developments in diagnosis, treatment, and management of the venereal diseases. The faculty for the course, which is accredited by the American Academy of General Practice, will be drawn from various universities, the Public Health Service, and from among authorities in the field.

No tuition will be charged. Applications for admission are to be sent to the University of Washington School of Medicine, Division of Postgraduate Medical Training, Harbor View Hospital Annex, 325 Ninth Ave., Seattle 4, Wash.

■ A new full-time program of graduate study in physics will be started next fall at Western Reserve University. This marks the first time in the history of the university that work leading to the Ph.D. degree in physics has been offered.

Although most of the research in physics will be carried out in the university's physics laboratory, advanced graduate students in certain fields will be able to take advantage of the unusual research facilities in nuclear physics and chemistry at Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, Ill., to complete their dissertations *in absentia*. Western Reserve has also announced an expanded program of studies in physics at the undergraduate level, including the regular offering of all advanced courses in physics every year.

■ The North Carolina State College School of Engineering has added a new degree to its curriculum—bachelor of metallurgical engineering.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

■ Negotiations for the extension of the Fulbright exchange program with India have just been completed. Application forms may be obtained from the Conference Board of Associate Research Councils, Committee on International Exchange of Persons, 2101 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington 25, D.C.

A booklet describing in detail the operation of the program will be sent out with forms. In view of the lateness of the announcement in relation to the beginning of the 1956–57 academic year in India, grantees will not be expected to arrive in India until July or August. To insure consideration applications should be postmarked *no later than 20 Feb.*

■ The 23rd annual program of Tau Beta Pi fellowships for graduate study in engineering have been announced. These include the Charles H. Spencer fellowship, the Louis Allis Company–Tau Beta Pi fellowship, and the Honeywell–Tau Beta Pi fellowship.

Each award is for $1200, payable in ten monthly installments. For additional information, write to Paul H. Robbins, 1121 15 St. NW, Washington 5, D.C.

■ The Grass Foundation for research in neurophysiology will provide one or two fellowships for work at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Mass., during the summer of 1956. The stipend will range from $500 to $1000, depending upon the financial needs of the candidate. Two candidates may apply jointly to work together with stipends of $500 each. The fellowships are designed for young investigators in the predoctoral or early postdoctoral stage.

Applications may consist of a brief letter, preferably from some senior investigator who knows the candidate well, describing his qualifications and giving a brief account of his plans for research and how he would use the fellowship. Reprints of published work will also be helpful to the selection committee. Let-

ters and supporting material in triplicate should be sent to Dr. Robert S. Morison, Room 5500, 49 W. 49 St., New York 20. The closing date for applications *is 1 Mar.*

■ A Swedish-American exchange fellowship program to promote closer coordination in cancer research has been established by the American Cancer Society and the Swedish Anti-Cancer Society. An agreement was signed on 21 Jan. at the American group's headquarters in New York.

The arrangement provides for $10,000 from the American organization and a like amount from the Swedish body to finance the program. Arne Tiselius, former president of the Swedish society's research board, and Mefford R. Runyon, executive vice president of the American society, signed the commitments. The project was initiated as the result of a recommendation by the Committee-on-Growth of the National Research Council.

■ A prize contest for engineers and designers for the best new applications of thin gage and/or high-precision tolerance stainless steel strip has been announced by the American Silver Company. Complete information and entry blanks may be obtained from the Chairman, Prize Awards Committee, American Silver Company, Flushing 54, N.Y. Thirty-one separate cash awards will be made in the contest, which closes at *midnight, 30 May 1956.* First prize is $350.

In the Laboratories

■ The Atomic Energy Commission has announced approval of a program to encourage private industry to build and operate plants for the chemical processing of irradiated fuel elements from research and power reactors. Chemical processing plants perform the operations of recovering the fissionable and fertile materials present in the irradiated fuel elements for re-use, and of converting the radioactive fission products into disposable or usable forms. So far these operations are being performed only by Government-owned plants at various AEC sites.

To encourage industry to build its own plants for these purposes, the AEC will make available (i) commission technology in the field of chemical processing, and (ii) limited amounts of certain irradiated fuel materials from AEC reactors for processing by industry.

Firms must submit acceptable proposals to the commission at a date to be specified, probably approximately 18 months from now.

AEC facilities may be utilized by private firms for research and development and training in connection with the chemical processing field. The full costs of such utilization would be defrayed by the user.

In evaluating the proposals, the commission will take into consideration such factors as the advancement of chemical processing technology that will result from construction and operation of the proposed plant, reasonableness of prices, size, and start-up date of the commercial plant, and assurances against abandonment of the project.

Another criterion on which proposals will be evaluated is the manner in which the waste disposal problem will be handled. This criterion has been established in order to give industry the greatest possible incentive to reduce the cost and risks connected with this operation and to develop economical uses for the radioactive materials that are now generally regarded as waste products.

On the basis of its evaluation, the commission may select one or more of the proposals that it receives, or it may reject all of them. Further details about the program, together with certain classified information useful in the preparation of the proposals, will be made available to all interested and qualified companies.

■ The International Business Machines Corporation has established a new independent research organization. The new group will remain within the company's research and engineering department in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., but will be independent of its parent. It will be headed by Ralph L. Palmer, formerly I.B.M. director of engineering.

I.B.M. has also announced that a portion of the company's present engineering operations at Poughkeepsie will be reorganized into a product development laboratory. The new laboratory will be directed by Horace S. Beattie, former manager of the Poughkeepsie Engineering Laboratory.

Miscellaneous

■ The first issue of a new monthly bulletin, *Progress in Health Services,* has been issued by the Health Information Foundation, an organization that is sponsored by 200 companies in the drug, pharmaceutical, chemical and allied industries. This leaflet will interpret health statistics for the layman.

■ The Iranian Ministry of Education invites applications from qualified teachers to lecture in the provincial colleges of Tabriz, Shiraz, and Mashed, and at the University of Teheran. Openings are in the following subjects: internal medicine, anatomic pathology, microbiology, serology, anatomic physiology, psychiatry and nervous diseases, chemical biology, preventive medicine and hygiene, parasitology, histology, microbiology, physics, chemistry, physiology, animal biology, and urology.

Maximum salaries in the colleges are approximately $380 per month; at the university, $625, with an additional allowance for rental. The Ministry of Education will also pay traveling expenses for the teachers and their families to and from Iran. Inquiries and applications should be addressed to the Iranian Embassy, Washington 8, D.C.

■ The University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia, has open a position as professor of agriculture. Closing date for receipt of applications in Australia *is 15 Mar.*

■ Drawings and models of the inventions of one of the colorful figures of the late 18th and early 19th centuries—Benjamin Thompson (Count Rumford)—are on display this month at Harvard University. Count Rumford devoted much of his research to the development of an efficient and simple coffee maker and is generally credited with being the first to produce a drip-type coffee pot. A description of this invention was carried in his essay "Of the excellent qualities of coffee" published in 1809.

Count Rumford's scientific curiosity covered a wide range: he conducted research in photosynthesis; he devoted a number of years to experiments that resulted in improvements in oil lamps; and he developed a portable cooking stove that freed housewives from their complete reliance on the fireplace.

■ N. R. Brewer, veterinarian at the University of Chicago, is interested in obtaining dogs with leukemia, dogs with symptoms of muscular dystrophy, dogs with certain types of cancer, dogs with anemia, diabetic dogs, dogs with pancreatic disease, and dogs with senile cataracts. These animals are needed to try specific treatments still in the research stage. They will be used for no other purpose. The University of Chicago will make arrangements for transportation, and there will be no charges involved for the treatment of any of these cases.

Ample funds are available for transporting dogs with symptoms of leukemia or muscular dystrophy from any part of the country. Limited funds are available to transport dogs with cancer, anemia, senile cataracts, diabetes and pancreatic disease. Those who wish to help this project should communicate with Brewer at 951 E. 58 St., Chicago 37, Ill.