

ended was sponsored by the 12 negotiating governments, which issued invitations to 87 countries—all members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies. Eighty-two countries accepted the invitations and 81 actually participated in the conference. The number of participating countries was the largest ever present at a meeting at United Nations Headquarters. Officers of the Conference were Joao Carlos Muniz (Brazil), president, and Pavel Winkler (Czechoslovakia), vice-president. At the request of the sponsoring governments, U.N. Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld served as secretary-general of the conference.

NSF Program to Make Research Results of Other Nations Available

United States scientists will be given broader access to results of research in other countries through the award of three new grants by the National Science Foundation. These grants, which total \$89,910, provide for an expanded program of translation of Soviet scientific publications, establishment of a center to collect scientific translations from all languages, and procurement of a large number of relatively rare chemical publications from many different countries. In announcing the awards, NSF director Alan T. Waterman pointed out that, because the foundation supports basic research in the physical sciences, life sciences, earth sciences, engineering, and certain areas of convergence between these broad fields, these grants forecast a time when foundation programs of disseminating results of foreign research would gradually expand into all these areas.

First of the three grants, \$57,860, was awarded to the American Institute of Biological Sciences, Hiden T. Cox, executive director. The institute will administer a program for translating and publishing four Soviet biological research periodicals, with the first English-language issues expected late this year or early 1957. The Russian publications to be translated include *Mikrobiologiia* (Microbiology), *Fiziologii Rastenii* (Plant Physiology), and *Doklady Akademii Nauk SSSR* (Reports or Proceedings of the USSR Academy of Sciences).

The first two will be translated from cover to cover and will appear six times yearly. Subscriptions, at \$20 and \$15 respectively, can be obtained from the American Institute of Biological Sciences, 2000 P St., NW, Washington, D.C. From the *Doklady*, principal publication of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, articles on zoological subjects and articles on botanical subjects will be translated and published in separate bimonthly periodicals.

Subscription to the biological sciences translations from *Doklady* will be at \$20 per year, while the botanical sciences section will be \$7.

Second of the three new grants, \$20,350, was awarded to the Special Libraries Association to operate a Scientific Translations Center to collect, announce, and sell photocopies of scientific translations of articles from all languages. The new program of the SLA Center, to be located at the John Crerar Library, Chicago, represents an integration of two smaller centers which have been in operation for several years.

SLA has operated a center at the Crerar Library to gather translations from all languages except Russian. Translations have been given or loaned to the center by Government agencies, industry, universities, and so forth, and announced through a monthly bibliography, *Translation Monthly*. For some time the foundation has supported the Library of Congress in establishing and operating a Russian Scientific Translation Center to provide the same service for scientists but providing Russian translations only. Library of Congress activities will be transferred to SLA at the end of 1956. The new SLA Center will thus begin with a collection of over 10,000 translations in science, technology, and medicine representing research from many countries. *Translation Monthly* will be subject indexed and greatly expanded beginning with the January 1957 issue. Its subscription price will remain at \$5 per year.

The third grant is for \$11,700, awarded to the Midwest Inter-Library Center, Chicago. The center, a joint operation of 16 midwestern universities and research libraries, will use the funds to acquire between 700 and 800 hard-to-get serial publications of chemical interest. It is believed that many of these publications are not received anywhere in the United States. When these publications are added to the extensive collected holdings of the members of the center, the result is expected to be one of the most complete collections of current periodical chemical literature anywhere in the world. The goal of the center, towards which this grant is an important first step, is to provide scientists with the original of any article abstracted in *Chemical Abstracts*, world authority on the periodical literature of chemistry.

In announcing these grants through its International Science Information Program, the NSF noted its past support of Soviet translations through the American Institute of Physics, American Mathematical Society, and Biological Abstracts, as well as its support of other types of projects designed to increase the availability of Soviet research information to English-reading scientists. Added to its

previous efforts in this field, the three new grants widen the dimensions of the foundation program, which is now envisioned to consist of four major phases.

The first phase will seek to assure that original source material is obtainable within the United States so that when a scientist searches the literature to determine what previous contributions have been made to his particular problem, he can be reasonably sure of finding the original version of any research paper in his field. The second phase is to assist in translating any periodical or book important enough to be needed in a complete version. The third phase is to assist where necessary in publishing English abstracts of those foreign papers not translated in full. The fourth phase is to collect translations and information on translations so that a scientist need not inadvertently undertake to obtain a translation of a paper already available in English.

NIH Russian-English Translation Program

The National Institutes of Health has established a new program to help American scientists keep abreast of Russian medical research findings. Plans call for the translation and distribution of Soviet scientific medical information in the biological and medical sciences. Objectives of the program are similar to those of the National Science Foundation in the field of the physical sciences.

The program will include support for the republication in English of several representative Soviet journals and other Russian scientific publications. These will be distributed by the National Institutes of Health to medical and scientific libraries and to government agencies. These translated journals will also be made available for purchase. The first two Soviet journals selected under the new program are *Biokhimiia* (Biochemistry) and *Biulleten' Eksperimental'noi Biologii i Meditsiny* (Bulletin of Experimental Biology and Medicine).

A second phase of the program calls for the translation of sections of *Sovetskoe Meditsinskoe Referativnoe Obozrenie* (Soviet Medical Reference Review), an extensive abstract journal wholly devoted to Soviet contributions. The four sections provisionally selected for translation and publication are as follows: microbiology and infectious diseases; normal and pathological physiology, biochemistry, pharmacology and toxicology, oncology, and internal diseases.

The third aspect of the program involves the selection of a limited number of monographs for translation and publication. Selection will be made by a