Venezuela next spring. At that time, late in the planting season, rice seems to be most susceptible to *hoja blanca,* and the test for disease resistance is therefore likely to be more conclusive.

Atomic Post Filled

President Eisenhower has appointed Robert M. McKinney to represent the United States on the International Atomic Energy Agency, which was organized to carry out the President's Atoms for Peace program of 1953. McKinney, a Santa Fe, N.M., publisher, served as chairman in 1955 and 1956 of a panel on the impact of the peaceful uses of atomic energy. A Democrat, he supported Adlai E. Stevenson in the last Presidential campaign.

The appointment, which was made over Republican protests, is subject to Senate confirmation in January. When the impending appointment became known before Congress adjourned, Senator William F. Knowland (R.-Cal.) and Meade Alcorn, Republican national chairman, announced their displeasure. There may be a tough fight in the Senate over confirmation, but McKinney can expect strong support from Senator Clinton P. Anderson (D.-N.M.), who exercises considerable influence in the joint House-Senate Committee on Atomic Energy.

Chemical Society Building

The American Chemical Society will open this fall a $3-million drive for funds to build a new eight-story national headquarters on the site of the society's present building at 1155 16 St. N.W., Washington, D.C. The society's headquarters staff, which numbered 29 when the present building was acquired, now totals 204.

Besides offices, the new building will have a library, a meeting room seating 250 persons, accommodations for committee meetings, and a lobby large enough to make possible educational displays of interest to Washington visitors. Faulkner, Kingsbury, and Stenhouse are the architects. Plans have been approved by the Zoning Board of the District of Columbia.

More Nuclear Tests

The Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Defense plan to begin a new series of nuclear tests in April 1958 at the Eniwetok Proving Ground in the Pacific to advance the development of weapons for defense against aggression, whether air-borne, missile-borne, or otherwise mounted. Test operations will be governed by the declaration made in the Bermuda communique on 24 March 1957 of the intention of the United States "to conduct nuclear tests only in such manner as will keep world radiation from rising to more than a small fraction of the levels that might be hazardous."

An important objective of the tests will be the further development of nuclear weapons with greatly reduced radioactive fallout so that radiation hazard may be restricted to the military target. A United Nations agency will be invited to designate an international group to observe one of the detonations involving limited fallout, and studies are under way to determine the instrumentation which will facilitate their observation without making disclosures that would compromise restricted weapon information.

Radioisotopes Training for Latin America

The University of Puerto Rico has established a Radioisotope Techniques Training Center following a pattern similar to the Special Training Division of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies. This center is financed by the Atomic Energy Commission with the purpose of providing training in radioisotope techniques for Latin American scientists. The dates for the courses that will be offered during the rest of the academic year are as follows: 4 Nov.–29 Nov. 1957; 6 Jan.–31 Jan. 1958; 3 Mar.–28 Mar. 1958; and 5 May–30 May 1958. For further information write to: Director, Centro de Entrenamiento en al Manejo de Radioisótopes, Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Riedras, Puerto Rico.

IGY Data Exchange

There is evidence that both Soviet and Western scientists who are participating in the International Geophysical Year are withholding scientific information, according to Walter Sullivan's report in the *New York Times* on 17 Sept. Much of the success of the work during the IGY depends on the free exchange of information among the participating countries, because in many cases scientific observations from one place on the earth's surface will have little meaning until they have been coordinated with observations from other places.

Most Western scientists agree that the Soviets have been giving information more freely than in the past. In fact, a Soviet scientist recently lent an American scientist some unpublished maps that gave valuable data bearing on studies of the earth's structure. Nevertheless, in those fields that might be considered to border on the military, little data has been forthcoming from Soviet scientists.

Western scientists also appear to be holding back information. The reason is not because the data must be kept secret, but to provide a bargaining point in efforts to get the Soviet scientists to release comparable information. One instance of withholding data concerns the results of a recent survey that serves to correct present information about the relative positions of Europe and North America.

Reactor School

The Atomic Energy Commission has accepted 62 scientists and engineers, 50 of them from 21 foreign countries, for enrollment in the sixth session of the commission's International School of Nuclear Science and Engineering at Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, Ill. A part of the President's Atoms for Peace program, the training session is shared by the International School, North Carolina State College, and Pennsylvania State University.

The enrollment brings to 355 the number of scientists and engineers pursuing the course in unclassified reactor technology. Of these, 267 have come from 42 foreign countries. The 88 American students have been sponsored largely by United States firms interested in nuclear energy.

News Briefs

Humble Oil and Refining Company's Refining Research and Development Division is occupying a newly completed extension to its main laboratory building at the Baytown, Tex., Research Center. The 27,000-square-foot expansion provides a 70-percent increase in laboratory space and about a 40-percent increase in office space. The extension will house research personnel who formerly occupied space in other buildings and will provide for expansion in the staff. The building provides facilities for research in petroleum refining and petrochemical development.

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Bjorksten Research Laboratories for Industry, Inc., Madison, Wis., has announced the opening of its new Houston, Tex., laboratory for sponsored industrial research. Luther L. Yaeger, vice president, will be in charge.

* * *

Stockholders of Schering Corporation and White Laboratories, Inc., voted on 19 Sept. to merge the two firms into a single pharmaceutical company. The

merger became effective immediately; Schering is the surviving corporation. White Laboratories and its subsidiary, Pharmaco, Inc., will continue to operate under their present names. The activities of Schering's proprietary drug subsidiary, Union Pharmaceutical Co., will be merged with those of Pharmaco.

* * *

A program totaling $25,000 in agricultural grants-in-aid at ten universities and two independent research foundations will be sponsored by the Climax Molybdenum Company during 1957–58. Under this program, agricultural and biological research projects will be conducted on molybdenum as a trace element in an effort to compile additional data on its effect on plant life. Climax has sponsored programs in agricultural research for the past 8 years.

* * *

Controls for Radiation, Inc., is a new firm in Cambridge, Mass., that will provide a comprehensive "package" service covering the broad radiation safety and hazards control aspects of the nuclear industry. William E. Barbour, Jr., founder and former president and chairman of Tracerlab, Inc., is president of the new corporation, and Irving A. Berstein is vice president and technical director.

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CBS Laboratories, New York, has announced that a new laboratory will be built in Stamford, Conn. The completed project will cost in excess of $1 million and is expected to be ready for occupancy in the summer of 1958.

Inorganic Chemicals

The Commission on Inorganic Nomenclature of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry has officially adopted the following symbols for chemical elements: Ar, argon; Es, einsteinium; Md, mendelevium; and No, nobelium. The commission has now completed the revision of the 1940 rules for the naming of inorganic chemicals.

Zoological Nomenclature

The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature has announced that beginning 30 Mar. 1958 it will start voting on the following cases involving the possible use of its plenary powers for the purpose specified against each entry. Full details of these cases will be published on 30 Sept. in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (vol. 13, pt. 9): (i) *Phrynosoma* Wiegmann, 1828, validation (cl. Reptilia, order Squamata); (ii) *Pentila* Westwood, [1851], validation, and designation for, and for *Liptena* Westwood, [1851], of type species (cl. Insecta, order Lepidoptera); (iii) *Centris* Fabricius, 1804, designation of type species for; *dimidiata* Fabricius, validation (cl. Insecta, order Hymenoptera); (iv) *adspersus* Rathke, 1837 (*Palaemon*), protection (cl. Crustacea, order Decapoda).

A proposal has also been made for the adoption of a "declaration" on the question of the use of the diaeresis sign for zoological names. Comments should be sent as soon as possible, in duplicate, to the secretary of the commission, Francis Hemming, 28 Park Village East, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1, England.

Stricter Exposure Rules

The Atomic Energy Commission may adopt this fall new standards for permissible levels of radiation, to be based on the recommendations of the National Committee on Radiation Protection and Measurement. The recommendations, which for the first time establish standards for average levels of exposure over a period of years, provide standards both for workers in atomic installations and for the population outside atomic installations.

Atomic workers may receive at most an average of 5 rem a year, but as much as 15 rem in any one year. (The rem is defined as a dose of radiation equal in its biological effects to 1 roentgen of high-voltage x-radiation.) The outside population may receive one-tenth this exposure.

Under present AEC standards, instead of a maximum of 60 rem in a 12-year period, atomic workers may receive a total of 180 rem. The outside population may receive up to 1.5 rem a year. However, the levels that have actually been observed by the AEC in its own atomic installations lie within the new standards.

The new standards are planned because of the trend exhibited in recent scientific research. Although the exact effects of radiation on heredity and longevity may not be known for many years to come, evidence is accumulating that continuous low levels of exposure may be dangerous.

One consequence of stricter standards may be an adverse effect on the infant atomic industry, for the requirement of greater safety measures will drive costs up.

Advanced Study

The Public Health Service has announced a new program of financial support for advanced training of research scientists in neurological and sensory disorders, to be conducted by the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, Bethesda, Md.

A previous program, under which about 75 scientists received advanced training during the last fiscal year, was concerned exclusively with clinical training. The new program will also cover such basic sciences as neurochemistry, neuropharmacology, neurophysiology, and neuroanatomy.

Awards will be made for periods of 9 months to 1 year, with possible renewals of 3 years. Stipends may range from $5500 to $14,800 a year.

Applicants must have completed either (i) the residency training requirements in a clinical specialty, or its equivalent, or (ii) at least 3 years of pertinent postdoctoral training or research experience. For information write to the Chief, Extramural Programs Branch, National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda 14, Md.

Scientists in the News

CYRIL L. COMAR has been named director of the new laboratory of radiation biology at the Veterinary College of Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. Comar was formerly chief of biomedical research at Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies.

C. G. GOODCHILD, professor of biology at Emory University, has been appointed chairman of the department. He succeeds W. D. BURBANCK, who resigned the position and will be on leave of absence from the department during 1957–58. Burbanck's address for the year will be the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Mass.

ALBERT S. HUNTER, former senior soil scientist with the Agriculture Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Oregon State College, has been appointed professor of soil technology in the agronomy department of Pennsylvania State University.

The American Society for Metals has announced that the following awards will be made during the society's 39th National Metals Exposition and Congress, which is to be held in Chicago, Ill., 2–8 Nov. 1957.

JOHN CHIPMAN, head of the metallurgical department, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will receive the Gold Medal and Senior Award for his teaching and research.

ROY C. McKENNA, chairman of the board of Vanadium Alloys Steel Company, Latrobe, Pa., will receive the Gold Medal for the Advancement of Research.

TOKUSHICKI MISHIMA, profes-