

News Notes

Venus-Bound Vehicle Launched from Sputnik; U.S. Restricts Satellite Data

The Soviet Union launched another spectacular earth satellite on 12 February. The satellite carried what is described as a "piggy-back" space ship, which was detached on command and sent toward the planet Venus. The official news agency Tass reported the launching when the Venus-bound "interplanetary station" was already nearly 100,000 miles from the earth on its 3-month trip.

The announcement followed by 8 days word of the successful orbiting of the 7.1-ton Sputnik V. As in that case, very little information was released. The newest vehicle was described only as "heavy" and functioning normally, transmitting signals on command from earth on a frequency of 922.8 megacycles. The space ship, which carries a Soviet flag, weighs 1415 pounds and is expected to "reach the areas of the planet Venus in the second half of May." The object of the project, Tass said, is to determine more exactly the "size of the solar system and to carry out a program of physical observations in outer space."

U.S. to Release Fewer Satellite Data

The dearth of information emphasized the effects of a little-noticed administrative change made in November, which gave the National Aeronautics and Space Administration responsibility for issuing news on satellites. Heretofore, several Defense Department information units—Navy, Air Force, and so on—have issued tracking and other information directly. On the day before the launching of the Venus probe, Pentagon officials made it clear to newsmen not only that all satellite data would be released through NASA but also that the amount of such information—both United States and Soviet—would be greatly reduced from now on, including information about missiles.

Test-Ban Talks Postponed

Early this month the Soviet Union accepted the United States request for a 6-week postponement of the nuclear test-ban conference in Geneva. The 2-

year-old talks, originally scheduled to start again on 7 February, will resume on 21 March; the new Administration requested the postponement so that it will have time to review the situation and develop new proposals. A special group under the supervision of President Kennedy's disarmament director, John J. McCloy, is studying the issues involved.

The Geneva conference of representatives of Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and the United States began in October 1958. A recess was called on 5 December 1960 when it became obvious that further progress was impossible until the new Administration was established.

UNESCO Science Program Has \$10 Million Budget for 2 Years

Science projects sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization over the 2-year period 1961-62 will be financed by a \$10 million budget. The over-all science plan was adopted by the eleventh session of the UNESCO General Conference in Paris in December. In addition to the plan for the upcoming 2 years, the program sets forth objectives for the next decade. The \$10 million budget includes projects to be financed under the United Nations Special Fund and the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance.

The agency stresses that the "scientific plan of action" deals with problems of an urgent and universal nature. These include the tapping of new reserves to supplant waning natural resources, exploration and exploitation of the oceans, and utilization of science and technology to help industrialize the world's underdeveloped nations.

Among the major steps taken at the General Conference were approval of the creation of an Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to be located at UNESCO House (along with an active oceanography program), the setting up of a division of studies and research in natural resources, and the establishment of another new division to deal with university science teaching.

One of the most significant aspects of UNESCO's work in the natural sciences will be its collaboration in the International Indian Ocean Expedition, planned by the Special Committee on Oceanographic Research. This expedition will send 20 oceanographic vessels

from 14 nations to investigate the world's least known and, at the same time, most important ocean—important in view of its effect on the hundreds of millions of people who live on its shores.

Research on Humid and Arid Areas

On land, the agency's program in the development of natural resources will include further investigation of such areas as the humid tropics and research on arid zones.

A research project which has been in operation in the dry belt that extends from North Africa to Southeast Asia is scheduled to come to an end in 1962, but its activities will be continued on a broader basis. In the coming 2 years, work will be centered on the study of underground water supplies in North Africa.

Among the problems which no single country can hope to solve are those of geology and seismology, UNESCO points out. Earthquakes have struck in recent years in the Middle East, North Africa, and South America, killing thousands and causing great damage.

While it is not yet possible to "predict" earthquakes, much can be done to reduce their toll through proper methods of construction and the mapping of areas where tremors are likely to occur. Under the program recently approved, UNESCO will send missions during the next 2 years to the Andes Mountains and to the Mediterranean.

A study of the earth's crust will also be made, under a plan to collect data on methods used in the search for natural resources. There will be, in addition, a long-term study of the soil itself.

Science and Industrialization

Another important aspect of UNESCO's science program concerns the role of science and technology in the industrialization of developing countries. The agency has been encouraged to go ahead with preparations for an international conference on this subject, to be organized during 1963 and 1964.

This conference would study the problems of rapid industrialization in the recent past in order to derive lessons for the future. It would attempt to learn how to transfer the achievements of industrialization from developed countries to agricultural countries without too abrupt a change.

Even before this conference is held, scientific aid is to be offered to new countries of tropical Africa, primarily

through helping them lay the foundations of organization, documentation, and teaching that will be required for any future national science program.

Coordination of Scientific Activities

Finally, approval has been given in Paris for continuation of the agency's efforts to coordinate the scientific activities of various nations. Toward this end, UNESCO has offered continuous help in the translating and abstracting of scientific papers and the setting up of new scientific organizations. The goal here is to keep international channels of science open.

Toward this same end, UNESCO supports a number of nongovernmental organizations, grouped largely in the International Council of Scientific Unions, which was instrumental in organizing the International Geophysical Year. In all, the agency will work with more than 85 international scientific unions and federations, thereby enlisting the cooperation of their 800,000 members.

All these aspects of UNESCO's science program for the next 2 years are in accordance with objectives set out in a "master plan," also adopted at the General Conference, which has listed priorities for the next 10 years. This plan was drawn up after completion of a survey on the main trends in scientific research, which was recently carried out pursuant to a resolution of the General Assembly.

Animal Disease Laboratory Nears Completion

The National Animal Disease Laboratory, located at Ames, Iowa, is nearing completion. This is a \$16¼ million installation of the U.S. Department of Agriculture that has been under construction since July 1958.

Nearly all of the government's animal disease research will be concentrated in this laboratory, except for projects concerned with exotic diseases and with animal parasites and parasitisms. Work on the former will continue at the Plum Island Animal Disease Laboratory, located on a small island lying off the eastern tip of Long Island, N.Y., and work on the latter will be carried on at Beltsville, Md.

A large number of research workers will be transferred to Ames next spring and summer from a number of locations in the United States, but the great-

est number will come from Beltsville, where all research on infectious diseases of animals will be closed down.

When fully staffed, the new laboratory will employ about 125 scientists and from 300 to 350 supporting staff members. A number of attractive positions will be available for bacteriologists, virologists, cytologists, immunologists, biochemists, and biophysicists. Generally speaking, only U.S. citizens will be able to qualify for appointments. All employees are appointed through the U.S. Civil Service, but examinations are not required; the qualifications of the applicants will be judged from their education and experience. Salary levels are commensurate with the qualifications of the individual.

Those interested in employment are invited to write to the laboratory's director, Dr. William A. Hagan, National Animal Disease Laboratory, Box 70, Ames, Iowa.

Translation Centers: 12 Countries Join Program at Delft; Bureau Founded by Biological Abstracts

Two major translation centers have been organized recently, one an international enterprise and the other a project of Biological Abstracts, Philadelphia. The first represents a new cooperative effort between the United States and a number of European countries to provide broader distribution among western nations of translations of scientific literature from the Soviet Union and other areas of Eastern Europe. The program was announced by John C. Green, director of the Office of Technical Services of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

A European Translation Center, sponsored by 12 member countries of the European Productivity Agency, has been established at the Technical University at Delft, the Netherlands. It will provide liaison among European countries handling such translations; serve as a center for bibliographic information on the availability of translations; and collect noncommercial translations from countries prepared to contribute them.

The Office of Technical Services, which is the U.S. Government's center for collecting and distributing translations and related information, is assisting the European Translation Center in establishing its procedures for bibliographic and other work. The OTS and

the European Center will exchange translations and bibliographic data and will use uniform methods in classifying the materials. It is expected that the OTS publication, *Technical Translations*, will be used as the medium for announcing material collected at Delft; this should greatly increase the circulation of the publication in Europe. Green commented:

"The significance of this cooperative endeavor is that it reduces the language barrier for scientists and engineers of the United States and Western Europe who are trying to keep up with Soviet Bloc developments. In Western Europe, most scientists can read English translations of Russian work, and in the United States many of our scientists can handle translations of Soviet Bloc material in French or German or similar European languages. However, in both the United States and Western Europe scientists in general do not know the Soviet Bloc languages."

Since 1958 the Office of Technical Services has been collecting and distributing translations prepared by U.S. Government agencies for their own use. It also gathers and publishes information on translations, completed or in preparation, which are available from any other source in the United States, public or private. Among the translations for which OTS provides an announcement and reference service are those collected from nongovernment sources in the United States by the Special Libraries Association Translations Collection Center at the John Crerar Library in Chicago.

In cooperation with the SLA Center, the Office of Technical Services began publishing *Technical Translations* in January 1959 to announce translations available from OTS, SLA, and other sources. It is published twice a month and sold by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., at \$12 a year (\$4 additional for foreign mailing).

The Europeans estimate that their contributions of bibliographic information to *Technical Translations* will increase by 10 to 15 percent the volume of listings in this publication in the first year of the European Center's operation, and that these contributions will eventually double the size of the publication. *Technical Translations* now announces about 500 new translations in each issue.

The Netherlands Government is providing financial support for the Euro-

pean Center. The center will operate under the legal authority of the Foundation for Scientific Literature Difficult of Access, of which L. J. Van der Wolk, director of the Library of the Technical University at Delft, is president. Formation of the center was fostered and encouraged by the European Productivity Agency of the Organization for European Economic Cooperation, with the advice and support of the U.S. National Science Foundation.

Biological Abstracts Opens Bureau

Simultaneously, Biological Abstracts has announced a program to increase greatly the amount of Soviet biological and medical information which it makes available to English-speaking scientists throughout the world. Through its newly founded Translation Bureau, Biological Abstracts will make and publish direct translations of selected abstracts from the Russians' own journal of abstracts, the *Referativnyi Zhurnal, Biologiya*. The project is made possible by equal grants, totaling \$111,000, from the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health.

By supervising the work in its own editorial offices, Biological Abstracts expects to provide scientifically accurate translation of the Soviet research material, to minimize the time lag, and, by lowering costs, to make greater numbers of significant abstracts available to non-Russian-speaking scientists. Cyrus C. Sturgis, Jr., who has had extensive experience in scientific translating and abstracting, has been appointed manager of the Translation Bureau. All of the translation will eventually be performed in the bureau itself, although initially some of it will be done by experienced outside agencies. During the first year, publication of 5000 translated abstracts from the Soviet literature is planned, and the figure will increase to 10,000 by 1963.

Other work of the Translation Bureau will include expansion of direct abstracting from the original Soviet journals and the establishment of a nucleus of translators of Chinese for greater coverage of the Chinese biomedical literature.

Biological Abstracts, which has offices in Philadelphia, is a nonprofit cooperative abstracting and indexing service organized in 1926 by a group of prominent biologists. Today the organization, which abstracts from more than 4900 primary journals, issues a semimonthly publication that is distributed to 97 countries.

News Briefs

UNESCO climate symposium. The UNESCO-World Meteorological Organization Symposium on Changes of Climate, with special reference to the arid zones, will be held in Rome, 2-7 October. One day will be devoted to each of the following subjects: (i) changes during the period of meteorological records; (ii) changes during the late geological and early historical record; (iii) theories of changes of climate; and (iv) significance of changes of climate.

Those who wish to present scientific papers are requested to send the title, together with a summary of not more than 250 words in English or French, to UNESCO's Department of Natural Sciences in Paris *not later than 1 March*. The full texts of all papers to be presented orally must reach UNESCO *before 1 May* in order to allow time for reproduction and distribution of the texts before the opening of the symposium.

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Radiation biology course. Argonne National Laboratory is offering a special summer course in methods in radiation biology, to be held 26 June-21 July. The fee for the course will be \$25. Inquiries and applications should be addressed to: Office of the Director, Division of Biological and Medical Research, Argonne National Laboratory, 9700 S. Cass Ave., Argonne, Ill. Only a limited number of applicants can be accepted; persons from foreign countries are invited to participate. Applications, which should be accompanied by a brief curriculum vita, must be received by 22 May.

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Army research unit transferred. The Army's Office of Ordnance Research at Durham, N.C., has been transferred to the command of the Army Chief of Research and Development. The office, redesignated the Army Research Office, will remain in Durham. With the transfer of command, the unit becomes the primary point of contact in the Department of the Army for those engaged in basic research in the physical sciences and in mathematics.

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Medical Association to aid students. In an attempt to alleviate the serious decline in the number and quality of applicants to medical schools, the American Medical Association's House of Delegates, at its recent meeting in Washington, D.C., unanimously ap-

proved a student honors program and a student loan program, drawn up by the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals. Both programs are designed to attract well-qualified students into the field of medicine. The loan program will provide long-term personal loans at moderate interest. The honors program will annually name about 250 outstanding college students as AMA scholars. Approximately 50 of those selected each year will receive grants of \$1000 per year for 4 years, payable when they enter medical school.

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Zoology quarterly. The American Society of Zoologists has announced the establishment of its own quarterly, the *American Zoologist*. The managing editor is Sears Crowell of the department of zoology at Indiana University.

Two issues of the quarterly will carry the programs and abstracts of all papers presented at each of the two annual meetings, plus reports on official society business; the other two issues will carry papers presented at the symposia and at "refresher courses" sponsored by the society and, in addition, will publish occasional contributions of wide zoological interest. The quarterly will be distributed to all members of the society after payment of dues. Non-members may subscribe by writing to Crowell.

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Antarctic insects. Living insects and mites have been found at an elevation of 6000 feet above sea level about 90 miles from McMurdo Sound in Antarctica, the National Science Foundation reports. This is believed to be the highest altitude at which insect life has ever been found on the ice-covered continent. The organisms were found by Keith A. J. Wise, a New Zealander working for the Bernice P. Bishop Museum in Honolulu. Wise is one of four Bishop Museum scientists currently studying the distribution and dispersal of airborne and ground organisms, primarily insects, in the antarctic. The work is supported by a National Science Foundation grant.

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Russell Cave. The National Geographic Society has given Russell Cave in Alabama, the oldest known home of primitive man in the southeastern United States, to the federal government, to be administered as an archeological monument and national park by the Department of Interior. Excavations have shown that Stone-Age people inhabited the cavern, which opens into

the slope of a wooded cliff near Bridgeport, Ala., for more than 9000 years.

To preserve the cave for scientific study, the society purchased it and the surrounding 262-acre farm and, with the Smithsonian Institution, sponsored 3 years of excavation. Buried deposits of bones, tools, weapons, and ancient fires revealed a continuous record of the cave's occupants.

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Wildlife Week. The National Wildlife Federation, Washington, D.C., has begun distributing, to state and local chairmen, kits for the 1961 observance of National Wildlife Week, 19-25 March. The week-long annual program, directed by Russell J. Neugebauer, assistant chief of the Division of Conservation Education, always starts on the first day of spring. This year's theme will be "Multiple Use—Balanced Conservation Planning for the Future."

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Vietnam nutrition film. A documentary film has been prepared which illustrates the work of a United States nutrition survey team in Vietnam. The 36-minute color film with sound, "Nutrition Survey, Republic of Vietnam, 1959," was produced by the Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition for National Defense, whose secretariat is located at the National Institutes of Health. The committee launched a nutrition survey program early in 1956 for the purpose of assisting developing countries, as part of the U.S. Mutual Assistance Program. The current release gives the story of the 12th nutrition survey.

The Vietnam film will be lent without charge to educational and professional groups interested in nutrition. Requests should be addressed to: The Executive Director, Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition for National Defense, Building 16-A, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda 14, Md.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Cancer. An international fellowship program backed by a grant of \$250,000 from the Eleanor Roosevelt Cancer Foundation has been announced by the International Union Against Cancer. The program, which will be supervised by the IUAC, provides for a two-way system of fellowships for promising cancer researchers from the United States and other countries throughout the world.

The International Union Against

Cancer is an international voluntary organization designed to provide coordination of efforts in research and control, including such broad programs as pooling and exchange of information and experience, development of standards and nomenclature, public education, and facilitation of the exchange of research workers. The International Union is supported by 51 member nations and is affiliated with the World Health Organization.

The fellowships will be available strictly on the basis of merit and qualifications, without regard to sex, race, color, or religion. For information, write: Office of Dr. Harold F. Dorn, General Secretary, International Union Against Cancer, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda 14, Md.

Tropical medicine. An intensive 2-month study of the research problems confronting medical scientists in the American subtropics is being offered by the Louisiana State University School of Medicine. Groups leave New Orleans in January, April, July, and October of each year. The program is open to teachers, research workers, and advanced Ph.D. candidates in parasitology, bacteriology, virology, mycology, medicine, pediatrics, public health, medical entomology, and medical statistics and in all areas of medicine, veterinary medicine, biology, or zoology dealing with disease transmission or with disease-producing organisms.

Travel and adequate subsistence funds are supplied through a training grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Director of the program is W. W. Frye, dean of the university medical school. Inquiries should be directed to: George A. Thurber, Coordinator of Interamerican Programs, Louisiana State University School of Medicine, 1542 Tulane Ave., New Orleans 12, La.

Undergraduate research participation. College science majors from all over the country are invited to apply for the privilege to participate in advanced research projects to be conducted this coming summer by scientists of the American Museum of Natural History. The Undergraduate Research Participation Program, which was initiated by the museum in 1959, is supported by the National Science Foundation. Students may apply for work on one of 12 projects, in animal behavior studies, astronomy, mammalogy, ornithology, herpetology, living and fossil invertebrate research, and vegetation studies. Those selected will receive a

stipend of \$600, and certain maintenance and traveling allowances when field trips are involved.

Most of the projects will be conducted at the museum itself or at the museum's Kalbfleisch Field Research Station in Huntington, N.Y. A study of schooling behavior in fishes will be conducted at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Massachusetts. Application forms, which must be returned by 15 March, may be obtained from Dr. Evelyn Shaw, The American Museum of Natural History, 79th Street and Central Park West, New York 24, N.Y.

Scientists in the News

The New York Section of the American Association of Clinical Chemists has named **Samuel Natelson**, chief of the department of biochemistry at the Roosevelt Hospital, New York, as the recipient of its fifth annual Van Slyke Award. The award, a medal and honorarium, is sponsored jointly by the Standard Scientific Supply Corporation of New York City and the Ortho Research Foundation of Johnson & Johnson, Raritan, N.J.

The presentation will take place on 8 March, during a dinner at the Barbizon-Plaza Hotel in New York, to be followed by an award lecture on "The Impact of Progress in Clinical Chemistry on Infant Care." Those interested in attending the dinner should communicate with Dr. Bernard Klein, Veteran's Administration Hospital, Bronx, New York.



Samuel Natelson

Burrell Wood has joined the staff of Science Service, Washington, D.C., as editor of the monthly experimental publication kits and as assistant editor of the magazine *Chemistry*. Wood was formerly at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, N.M., where he was professor of chemistry, admissions counselor, and assistant to the president.

Also at Science Service, **Leslie V. Watkins** has been made executive secretary of Science Clubs of America, succeeding **Dorothy Schriver**, who has been made assistant director for administration of Science Service and also continues as coordinator of the Westinghouse Science Talent Search. Miss Watkins came to Science Service from Roanoke, Va., with background experience of 13 years as a biology and physics teacher, science club sponsor, and active member of the junior and senior Virginia academies of science.

Kao Liang Chow, associate professor of physiology at the University of Chicago since 1954, has been appointed associate professor of medicine (neuro-histochemistry) at the Stanford University School of Medicine. Also, **William van Bogaert Robertson**, formerly of the University of Vermont, has been named associate professor of biochemistry in the department of pediatrics. Robertson will direct the laboratories and the research program at the Stanford Convalescent Home. Both appointments became effective on 1 January.

Two other long-term appointments at Stanford have been announced.

Ellis N. Cohen has been appointed associate professor of anesthesia, starting 1 July. He is at present associate clinical professor of anesthesiology at the University of Minnesota. He has been chief of the department of anesthesiology at Charles T. Miller Hospital, St. Paul, since 1949.

Bruno Gerstl has been appointed associate professor of pathology, effective 1 September. He will be in charge of laboratory services in the Palo Alto Veterans Administration Hospital. Gerstl has been chief of laboratory service at Oakland Veterans Hospital and an assistant clinical professor of pathology at the University of California since 1947.

Louis J. Baume, chairman of the department of dental medicine at the University of Geneva, will deliver the second Mershon Memorial Lecture on "Principles of Cephalofacial Develop-

ment Revealed by Experimental Biology," at the meeting of the American Association of Orthodontists on 17 April in Denver, Colo.

Rudolf L. Baer has been appointed chairman of the department of dermatology and syphilology at the New York University Medical Center, with which he has long been associated. In addition, he will serve as director of the dermatology and syphilology department at the New York University Hospital, including the Skin and Cancer Unit, and as visiting physician-in-charge of the dermatology and syphilology service at the Bellevue Hospital Center.

Lyman E. Fourt, assistant director of the Harris Research Laboratories, Washington, D.C., has been chosen as the 12th recipient of the Harold DeWitt Smith Memorial Medal, given by Committee D-13 of the American Society for Testing Materials. The medal, which is awarded annually for outstanding achievement in the science of textile fiber utilization, will be presented on 2 March at the Sheraton-Atlantic Hotel, New York, during the spring meeting of the committee.

The University of Michigan has announced that a number of faculty members will be on leave during the 1961-62 academic year.

David F. Bohr, professor of physiology, will take a sabbatical year to work in the laboratory of Hans Schaeffer of the University of Heidelberg. He will continue his study of single contracting muscle cells.

Minor J. Coon, professor of biological chemistry, will take a sabbatical year to work in the laboratory of Vladimir Prelog of the Technische Hochschule, Zurich, Switzerland.

Everett L. Ellis, associate professor of wood technology, has been granted half-time leave for the second semester of 1960-61 and the university year 1961-62 to permit him to serve as executive secretary of a special committee of the Society of Wood Science and Technology that is charged with conducting a study of educational needs in those areas. The study will be financed by the National Science Foundation.

Robert M. Haythornthwaite, professor of engineering science in the department of engineering mechanics, will be on leave during the second semester of 1960-61. He will devote the time to research and travel, with the University of Cambridge, England, as his base.

Floyd A. Peyton, professor of dentistry, is taking sabbatical leave from mid-January to mid-July to engage in research in countries of the Middle East, particularly in the United Arab Republic. The U.S. Department of State will help meet Peyton's travel and living expenses.

Jerome D. Schein has been appointed director of the Office of Psycho-Educational Research of Gallaudet College. He succeeds **Stephen P. Quigley**, who resigned to become executive secretary of the Sensory Disabilities Research Study Section of the U.S. Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. Schein has been affiliated with Gallaudet since last September, when he was appointed professor of psychology and clinical psychologist on the staff of the college's new Counseling Center for the Deaf.

William P. Jacobs of the biology department, Princeton University, is the new president of the Society for the Study of Development and Growth.

Anthony Ralston, manager of technical computing at the American Cyanamid Company, has been appointed an associate professor at Stevens Institute of Technology, where he will teach mathematics and take charge of the college's new high-speed computer.

William F. Talburt has been named director of the Rome, Italy, office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Research and Technical Programs Division. He was formerly assistant director of the Western Utilization Research and Development Division of USDA's Agricultural Research Service at Albany, Calif.

Talburt succeeds **Walter M. Scott**, an authority in the field of textile chemistry, who has been named assistant director of the Washington office of the Foreign Research and Technical Programs Division. He is former assistant administrator of utilization research in ARS and assistant chief of the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry.

After a 6-month leave devoted to writing and teaching, **W. C. Kelly** has resumed his post at the American Institute of Physics as director of education and editor of the newsletter.

Erratum: Thomas J. King is the head of the department of embryology at the Institute for Cancer Research, Philadelphia, not the former head, as reported in *Science* [133, 268 (27 Jan. 1961)].