

United States owes much to Teller's enthusiasm and eloquent support.

Like every dedicated man with strong convictions, Teller has many sincere friends and admirers, as well as many vigorous critics. No one can deny the warmth of his personality and his human understanding. He is a lover of music and of poetry, of long walks and excursions. Violence creates in him a deep aversion, and the humiliation and torment of people, in Hitler's concentration camps and elsewhere all over the world, cause him deep anguish and an almost irresistible revulsion. So do deceit and treachery.

Like many others born in Hungary, Teller has a rich store of jokes which he uses to advantage in discussions and arguments, political and scientific. He relishes scientific discussions and throws himself wholeheartedly into them. Many of his ideas were developed, and perhaps even conceived, in the course of discussions with his friends and students. All that he does is done with great intensity and dedication. Even Fermi was once overwhelmed and told him, in mock exasperation, "Teller, you are the only monomaniac I know who has thousands of manias!"—EUGENE WIGNER  
*Princeton University*

## Announcements

The National Academy of Sciences' Geophysics Research Board has recommended that the Government undertake a \$31,000,000 "**Upper Mantle Project**" as the U.S. contribution to a 3-year international program to explore the interior of the earth. The project would concentrate on the uppermost 600 miles of the mantle, which extends some 1800 miles below the earth's outer 30-mile crust. The studies will attempt to determine the structure, composition, and physical state of the mantle, and interpret the relative influence of the crust and mantle upon surface geophysical observations.

Project Mohole, the plan to drill a hole at sea through the earth's crust to the upper mantle, will be a major contribution to the U.S. program, although Mohole expenditures are not included in the proposed budget for the Mantle Project.

The Philip L. Boyd **Desert Research Center**, recently completed at the University of California's 10,000-acre Deep

Canyon Desert Research Area near Palm Springs, is now available free of charge for experimental research on native plants and animals. The air-conditioned center consists of a laboratory equipped with gas, electricity, running water, dissecting microscopes, and lamps, and living quarters sufficient to accommodate from two to four resident researchers. Investigators must provide their own funds, instruments, and equipment. The facility may be used either for long-term studies within the area, or as a base for studies in the surrounding desert or mountains. (Control Committee, Deep Canyon Desert Research Area, Division of Life Sciences, University of California, Riverside)

## Meeting Notes

Syracuse University's annual **reading conference**, intended for teachers, supervisors, administrators, reading specialists, and school psychologists, will be held from 24 to 28 June. The program will include lectures, demonstrations, workshop sessions, and discussion meetings aimed at the improvement of reading instruction in the schools. Graduate and undergraduate credit is available for those who register for a prescribed schedule of conference activities. Attendance will be limited; advance registration is required. (Roy A. Kress, Annual Reading Conferences, 508 University Place, Syracuse 10, N.Y.)

Papers are being solicited for the Institute of the Aerospace Sciences' national specialist meeting on **simulation for aerospace flight**, to be held from 26 to 28 August in Columbus, Ohio. Deadline for receipt of abstracts (300 to 400 words): *1 January*. (P. L. Marshall, Flight Sciences Research, North American Aviation, Inc., 4300 E. Fifth Ave., Columbus 16, Ohio)

## Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

The Genetics Society of America is offering travel grants to attend the 11th **international congress of genetics**, to be held in The Hague, Netherlands, from 2 to 10 September 1963. Applicants need not be members of the society. Deadline: *15 January*. (Francis J. Ryan, Dept. of Zoology, Columbia University, New York 27)

Sigma Delta Epsilon, graduate women's scientific fraternity, is offering a \$500 grant-in-aid for research or relevant course work by a woman in the **mathematical, physical, or biological sciences**. Preference will be shown to applicants who are 35 years of age or older. Deadline: *1 February*. (Virginia Bartow, 7 Chemistry Annex, University of Illinois, Urbana)

## Scientists in the News

Recent staff appointments at the National Science Foundation:

**Philip Grant**, assistant professor of pathobiology at Johns Hopkins University, as director of the developmental biology program; and **John W. Mehl**, chairman of the department of biochemistry at the University of Southern California, as program director for molecular biology in the division of biological and medical sciences.

**Robert H. Owens**, associate professor of mathematics at the University of New Hampshire, as associate director of the mathematical sciences program; and **Robert H. Linnell**, laboratory director at Scott Research Laboratories, Perkasie, Pa., as associate program director of the chemistry program in the division of mathematical, physical, and engineering sciences.

Capt. **James A. Roman**, chief of the biodynamics branch of the Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, San Antonio, Tex., has received the newly created Air Force Systems Command's scientific achievement award for his work in developing and testing automatic instruments to monitor the functions of pilots and astronauts under flight stress.

**Duke C. Trexler, Jr.**, field director for the People to People Health Foundation (Project HOPE), has been named executive director of the Commission on Drug Safety, established last July by the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association to develop new knowledge of human reactions to drugs and help assure increased safety in drug development and testing procedures.

**Henryk Szarski**, chairman of the department of general zoology at Copernicus University, Toruń, Poland, will serve as visiting professor of zoology at the University of Rhode Island during the forthcoming spring semester.