den, who remains one of the principal officers with the title of past president. The new secretary general is Dionyz Blaskovic, vice chairman of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. Georges Laclavere, a French geographer, was elected treasurer.

At the IUPAP meeting, C. C. Butler was elected secretary-general, succeeding Pierre Fleury of the Institut d'Optique in Paris, who had held that post for many years. Professor Butler is head of the Physics Department at Imperial College in London. Professor Butler, collaborating with G. D. Rochester in 1947, discovered the first of the so-called *V*-particles, in cosmic-ray showers. Observed initially in two-cloud-chamber photographs, existence of the particles was confirmed two years later by Carl D. Anderson and colleagues. Professor Butler's most recent research has employed bubble chambers in the study of elementary particles.

An urgent need for reorganization led ICSU to convene its general assembly a year earlier than usual. Formerly, ICSU had an eight-man Bureau and an Executive Board, which consisted of the Bureau members and one representative from each of ICSU's fourteen scientific unions. Under the reorganization, an executive committee was formed instead. The latter consists of the four principal officers, one member from each scientific union, and ten members representing national academies and research councils of ten of the fifty-one nations associated with ICSU. Physicists among the national members of the committee are: Y. Fujioka, Japan; R. V. Garcia, Argentina; I. Malecki, Poland; D. F. Martyn, Australia; and G. Polvani, Italy. In an earlier action, the IUPAP general assembly had urged that, in ICSU's reorganization, the balance of power held by the scientific unions over the national members be preserved.

IUPAP is one of the fourteen scientific unions associated with ISCU. Thirty-four countries, from all parts of the world, are associated with IUPAP. The United States participates through a national committee appointed by the National Research Council. IUPAP's primary activities are: promoting international cooperation in physics, coordinating the preparation of abstracts and tables of physical constants, standardizing symbols, units, and nomenclature, and organizing conferences on special topics. Financial support for these activities has been fairly constant for the last several years. In 1962 IUPAP received $24 000 in member dues and $14 000 from UNESCO.

Tropical Meteorology

An Institute of Tropical Meteorology will be established at Poona, India, as part of the Indian Meteorological Department. Under the terms of an agreement signed last August in New Delhi, the United Nations Special Fund will provide a total of $873 500 toward the project through the World Meteorological Organization, which has agreed to serve as the administering agency. An additional $1.05 million will be supplied by the Indian Government.

The operations of the Institute will involve research on problems in tropical and subtropical meteorology, including the monsoons and their forecasting, warnings for tropical cyclones, medium-range forecasting for agriculture and allied fields, flood forecasting, and development of instrumental techniques for surface and upper atmospheric observations. The Institute is intended ultimately to develop into an international center for research in tropical meteorology.

Astronomy in Venezuela

The Cagigal Naval Observatory of the Department of Navigation and Hydrography in Venezuela is currently engaged in expanding its facilities for research in astronomy and astrophysics. Equipment installed last fall at the Observatory's site in Caracas include a Photo-Zenith telescope, an Am-100 transit, a Universal theodolite AUZ-27, and a Transit AM-190.

In addition, equipment for astrophysical experiments (including a Schmidt camera telescope, a refractor of 650 millimeters, a Cassegrain-Coude telescope, and a double astrograph) will be installed on the grounds of the University of the Andes in Mucubaji in the State of Mérida.