Manuscripts, Maps, Rare Books, Prints and Photographs, and Orientalia Divisions—the last-named consisting of Chinese, Hebraic, Japanese, Near East, and South Asia Sections. Consequently, while the bulk of the total science collection is located conventionally in the Stack and Reader Division, valuable parts of it are found in localized areas of special divisions. To cite but a few examples, first editions of Copernicus' *On the Revolutions of the Spheres* and Sir Isaac Newton's *Principia* are with Rare Books; the original manuscript of Albert Einstein's *Das Bi-Vektor Field* is with the Manuscripts Division as also are letters and papers of a number of other scientists; certain writings of Dayton C. Miller which have scientific value are in the Music Division, and so forth. Thus, considerations of over-all library organization, as well as of bulk, make it both undesirable and impractical to attempt to group all science holdings in a single stack area adjacent to a science reading room.

Now, having seen something of what the Library of Congress Science Division is not going to be, let us turn to what is envisioned for it. Raymund L. Zwemer, chief of the new division, sees its over-all task as involving both an internal responsibility to the rest of the Library and an external one to science as a whole. Internally, the Science Division must become and constantly remain aware of the exact extent, nature, and whereabouts of the scientific portions of the Library's total collection and be in a position to supply this information efficiently to the rest of the staff. Companion to this responsibility is the additional one of standing ready to advise and counsel with the other units of the Library in the acquisition and processing of scientific books and periodicals and in the adaptation of various technical advances to library operations.

Prerequisite to the discharge of any external responsibility is an internal one already mentioned—that of maintaining full and organized knowledge of the Library's science collections. It is not believed, however, that this knowledge and the Division's energies should be devoted to providing the kind of general technical reference service to which college students, writers of club papers, quiz contestants, and the like might write for scientific facts, figures, and quotations. (And, indeed, with its present initial staff, the provision of such service would be physically impossible even if it were deemed appropriate.) It is felt rather that the service which this division can render science should be something much greater than would be implied by maintaining such a question-and-answer department, and would consist fundamentally in making scientists and the scientific agencies of the nation aware of the facilities and holdings of possible interest to them, which are available in the Library of Congress. Beyond this, the advice of scientists and scientific organizations is earnestly sought with regard to specific ways in which the Library can serve science. Particularly valuable will be the opinions of experts regarding the completeness of present holdings in their respective fields of specialization and the gaps that can be filled most profitably.

To complete this brief description of the Science Division, two projects being carried on within it for the Armed Services can be mentioned. One is the Navy Research Section which operates under an Office of Naval Research contract and provides for the Navy bibliographic control and conventional library services—including cataloging, indexing, abstracting, and bibliography preparation—for technical reports resulting from government-sponsored research. This Section also is the official repository for all scientific reports of the World War II Office of Scientific Research and Development. The other Armed Services task is supported by the Corps of Engineers and involves provision of certain bibliographic services in the field of interest of that branch's Snow, Ice and Permafrost Research Establishment.

DWIGHT E. GRAY

THE PHOENIX PROJECT

ANN ARBOR'S RESEARCH CENTER

The University of Michigan's privately financed atomic research project, which promises to be unique in this country as a nongovernment-supported program designed to explore the field, formally came into being last October with the opening of a fund-raising drive and the announcement that some twenty research studies already were under way at Ann Arbor. Known as the Phoenix Project, the proposed research center will carry out a broad investigation of all constructive aspects of atomic energy research. All fourteen of the University's divisions (schools, colleges, and specialized institutes) will be actively involved in the project's work, which will include studies of social, economic, and cultural developments peculiar to life in the atomic age. Medical and biophysical research is expected to play a large part in the work of the new project, as will laboratory studies of cellular, molecular, and atomic processes.

The phoenix symbol, a direct derivative of that Egyptian bird, which, it is said, once rose again triumphant from its own well-cremated ashes, provides a note of quiet optimism unsullied by any inclusion of contracts for classified federal research at Michigan. While the Phoenix Project cannot hope entirely to compete with government-financed research in terms of wealth or equipment, still it is expected by those at Ann Arbor and elsewhere that much progress will be made (and that an example may be set which others will follow) in exploring the peace-time potentials of atomic energy.

ISOTOPE WORK AT OAK RIDGE

NEW ORINS COURSES

The special training division of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies has announced that three additional courses in the techniques of using radioisotopes in research have been scheduled during the winter and spring of 1951. They are to be held from January 8th to February 2nd, from February 19th to March 16th, and from April 16th to May 11th. Designed to acquaint research workers with the safe and efficient use of radioisotopes, the courses include laboratory work, lectures, and special-topic seminars. Experiments cover such matters as the use and calibration of instruments, purification and separation of radioactive materials from inert and other radioactive materials, and pile activation technology. The seminars cover various biological and medical uses of radioisotopes and the design of radiochemical laboratories.

Only thirty-two participants can be accommodated for any single course. Additional information and application blanks may be obtained from Dr. Ralph T. Overman, Chairman, Special Training Division, Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, P. O. Box 117, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

On February 5th a special two-weeks' advanced medical course in radioisotope work will be given by the Institute which will deal with radioisotopes in therapy and clinical studies. The course, intended for medical research workers who have had some experience in the basic techniques of using radioisotopes, will have as its lecturers specialists from