

News and views

Science and Foreign Relations

European Researchers to Study in U. S.

One hundred and fifty young research scientists from countries participating in the Organization for European Economic Cooperation will be brought to the United States, each for a period of two years, under a program announced during the summer by the National Academy of Sciences and the Foreign Operations Administration. Designed to contribute to closer scientific relations between this country and the OEEC nations in Europe, the program will enable specialists in the physical sciences from abroad to carry on basic research in American universities or private laboratories and subsequently to explore the "practical applications of basic research" in industrial laboratories where they will work on problems in applied research.

Participants will not be able to choose their own problems but will be assigned to specific laboratories to work on established research projects. The candidate must have a PhD or its equivalent, must be able to speak English, must receive a security clearance, and must agree to return to his country upon completion of his assignment. Each scientist will receive transportation and an allowance of nine dollars per day for the two-year period, and arrangements have been made to enable each visitor to attend at least one scientific meeting each year that he is in the United States.

Candidates will be selected in this country by the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council on the recommendation of the corresponding organizations in the several European countries. The following fields will be represented: agriculture, anthropology, astronomy, biochemistry, biophysics, botany, chemistry, engineering, forestry, geography, geology, geophysics, mathematics, paleontology, physical geography, physics, psychology, and zoology.

Scientific Translations

NSF-AEC Center at Library of Congress

As was mentioned last month in these pages, a Scientific Translations Center recently established in the Library of Congress will collect, catalog, announce, and make available for purchase foreign scientific translations from a large number of cooperating government agencies and laboratories, industrial laboratories, and scientific societies. Initially it will concentrate on translations of articles from Russian scientific journals with the possibility of eventually expanding the service to

include enough languages to provide reasonably comprehensive coverage of the world's non-English scientific literature. The Center was established by the National Science Foundation in collaboration with the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission.

The program will be two-fold and will include, on the one hand, a vigorous effort to build up an extensive collection of translations of Russian scientific literature and, on the other, an earnest endeavor to make these translations known and available to as large a segment of U. S. scientists as possible. With regard to the former, the management of the Center urges all organizations engaged in translating Russian scientific material to cooperate by submitting copies of articles translated. The potential worth of the service obviously will be limited by the extensiveness of the collection upon which it is based. Only one clear copy of each translation need be sent in and this can either be used for retention or on loan for just long enough to permit microfilming.

With respect to the availability of the translations collected by the Center, it is planned to publish monthly lists of those received along with information on how copies can be obtained. Items in the list will be arranged by broad subject categories and it is hoped, in the interests of the widest possible dissemination of the information, that journals in the various scientific disciplines will reprint the sections pertinent to their interests. The first list of translations is scheduled for publication late in October; distribution of these will be gratis for at least three months and probably on a subscription basis thereafter.

The prices which have been established for the translations listed are as follows: 1. Full-sized photoreproductions: 1-10 pages, \$1.25; 11-15 pages, \$1.75; 2. Microfilms: 1-50 pages, \$1.00. The monthly listings also will include notices of translations available by direct purchase from commercial and other translating services; the Center will not supply photocopies of this material.

Inquiries regarding the service should be addressed to Scientific Translations Center, Science Division, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D. C.

The Astin Case

NBS Director Reinstated

On August 21st, one hundred and forty-four stormy days after the forced resignation of Allen V. Astin as director of the National Bureau of Standards (see *Physics Today*, VI, 5, 20, May 1953), Secretary of Commerce Sinclair Weeks issued the following press release:

"I have asked Dr. Allen V. Astin to continue as Director of the National Bureau of Standards and he has agreed to do so. I am taking this action because I am convinced that it is in the best interests of the Bureau and the public.

"Since this step is contrary to my previous views, I shall set forth the reasons for the change.