The National Research Council of Canada has granted 267 scholarships for 1955–56, with a total value of $336 300. These scholarships include 62 bursaries to be held in Canada worth $800 each, 133 studentships worth $1100 each, and 18 fellowships worth $1400 each. Special scholarships awarded for study abroad include 33 awards worth $1900 each to be held in the following countries: 11 in the United States, 19 in the United Kingdom, one in France, one in Sweden, and one in Denmark. Twenty-one overseas postdoctorate fellowships at $2500 each have been granted for work in the United Kingdom, Sweden, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, and Belgium.

Solar Energy

The University of Wisconsin has received a gift of $250 000 from the Rockefeller Foundation to support a four-year solar energy research program under the technical direction of Farrington Daniels, chairman of the University's chemistry department. The grant, for "research on methods to trap and directly utilize the energy of sunlight", will permit a major expansion of the University's long-standing program of solar energy research, which has included studies of photosynthesis, the growth of algae, fundamental problems in meteorology, and other relevant matters. The new program will be conducted under the administration and coordination of John A. Duffie of the University's College of Engineering and will stress the development of solar cookers, engines, refrigerators, and pumps, with research to be directed to problems of solar radiation measurement and collection and to long-range studies in photochemistry, photosynthesis, photoelectricity, and the storage of electrical energy.

The Bell solar battery, announced last year, has been almost doubled in efficiency, according to the Bell Telephone Laboratories. Trial models of the improved battery will have their first practical test as part of the telephone system this summer in Americus, Georgia, where controlled experiments will determine the usefulness of the battery in supplying power to amplifier stations on rural telephone lines.

New Officers

The Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society has announced that A. E. Ruark, of the University of Alabama, was elected chairman at its recent meeting at the University of Florida. Other officers for 1955–56 are Howard Carr, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, vice chairman; Dixon Callihan, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, secretary; Robert Lagemann, Vanderbilt University, treasurer. Karl Morgan, ORNL, was elected to the executive committee.

Elections for the 1955–56 officers of the American Association of Physics Teachers Chesapeake Section were held on April 16th. New officers are: John S. Toll, University of Maryland, president; J. Ross Heverly, Operations Research Office, secretary; Urban E. Schnaus, Catholic University, AAPT representative; and Julius H. Taylor, Morgan State College, and Robert C. White, McDonogh School, members of the executive committee.

Education

The Atomic Energy Commission has announced that 32 scientists and technicians from twenty-one nations are participating as students in a special four-week course in radioisotope techniques that began May 2nd at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The project is one of several launched by the Commission in furtherance of the President's atoms-for-peace program. So many applications for enrollment were received from interested nations that another session will be offered in the fall for those who applied but could not be accommodated now. The isotope training courses have been given at Oak Ridge since 1948 and are part of the work contracted by the AEC to the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, an educational corporation of thirty-two colleges and universities in the South. This special session, the first to be devoted exclusively to foreign students, is identical with training given to U. S. scientists and technicians six times a year by the Oak Ridge Institute.

Popularized Science Demonstrations, "a snappy series of startling stunts—yet not a trick in the truck load", is a one-man traveling show conducted by Glenn L. Morris, former high school science teacher. Bookings for the more than 10 000 programs given so far were generally with junior and senior high schools, or with teachers colleges, service clubs, and other organizations, and have been arranged both independently and through the extension divisions of several universities. For further information contact Glenn L. Morris, 112 Elm Street, Madison 5, Wisconsin.

Fisk University is sponsoring its 6th annual Infrared Spectroscopy Institute during the week of August 29 to September 2. The Institutes are designed to introduce physicists, chemists, biologists, and engineers to the methods and scope of infrared spectroscopy. Morning sessions will be devoted to introductory lectures, afternoons to laboratory work, and evenings to lectures on more advanced and specialized topics. Laboratory facilities will include a variety of single and double beam spectrometers of both university and commercial design which will permit covering a spectral range from the visible to the far infrared. This year's guest faculty includes Robert C. Gore (American Cyanamid Company), Alvin Nielsen (University of Tennessee), and A. Lee Smith (Dow-Corning Company). Regular faculty members include Nelson Fuson (Fisk University), Ernest Jones (Vanderbilt University), and James Lawson (Tennessee A & I State University). Further information and application forms can be obtained from Dr. Nelson Fuson, Infrared Spectroscopy Institute, Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.