

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Technical literature on atomic energy, which is already massive in volume, has been growing very rapidly, but there is still a great need for handy volumes in which all available information on a particular subject is summarized, classified and arranged for easy reference. In fact, it is the enormous growth of technical publications that makes such compilation particularly necessary. The original sources of information are widely scattered, often unwieldy in volume or detail and sometimes not easily accessible. A specialist in a particular discipline may sometimes find it necessary to consult these sources in the original, but the majority of scientific and technical workers engaged in the practical applications of atomic energy would find it more useful and convenient to refer to publications in which the essential information, collected from all available sources, is presented in simple, clear and uniform arrangement. And even the specialist investigating a particular problem in the minutest detail may often find it useful to turn to a brief compendium of all allied information as a basis of comparative review.

This is the purpose of a good many of the publications of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Collection and dissemination of scientific and technical information is one of the most effective ways in which the Agency can promote the world-wide development of the peaceful applications of nuclear energy. While some of the information transmitted may be completely new, based on the latest scientific research and technical development, a major portion must be in the form of a comprehensive collation of available data representing the widest possible expert thinking and experience.

International Directories

This scheme was followed in two of the Agency's earliest technical publications, the first volumes of an International Directory of Radioisotopes and a Directory of Nuclear Reactors, which have been well received in interested circles all over the world. The work has been followed up in the second volumes of both directories which have recently been published.

The first volume of the Radioisotope Directory gave detailed information of a practical nature on unprocessed and processed radioisotope preparations and solid radiation sources; the second contains similar information on chemical compounds labelled with the radioactive isotopes of carbons, hydrogen, iodine, phosphorus and sulphur. Under each of these groups, the labelled compounds are listed in alphabetical order by their familiar names and information is given on sources of supply, price, specific activity and any special characteristics.



Detailed information on 77 research, test and experimental reactors in 22 countries is given in the second volume of the Reactor Directory. All these reactors are now either in operation or under construction. The reactors have been grouped in seven categories: light water moderated, pool type; light water moderated, tank type; liquid homogeneous; solid homogeneous; heavy water moderated; graphite moderated; and organic moderated. Full details are given for one representative reactor in each group and for those which have little similarity with any other. For the rest, general information and major modifications are presented. The detailed information includes physics data and data on the core and the fuel element, core heat transfer, control, reactor vessel, overall dimensions, reflector and shielding, containment and cost estimates. Sketches are provided of the fuel element or the fuel element assembly and of horizontal and vertical sections.

A third volume of the Directory covering the remaining research reactors now in operation or under construction will be issued within a few months. The first volume was devoted to power reactors.

Review Series

In addition to reference books of this type, the Agency has also started a series of publications reviewing recent developments and the present state of knowledge in some major fields of the peaceful utilization of atomic energy. The first in the series, published recently, deals with the survey and evaluation of radioactive deposits, prepared on behalf of the Agency by Mr. A.H. Lang, Chief of the Mineral Deposits Division of the Geological Survey of Canada. Each of these reviews, to be prepared by well-known specialists, will be published in one of the Agency's

four working languages (English, French, Russian and Spanish), with summaries in the other three. The subjects to be covered in the near future include the application of tritium in biology, experience in the operation of nuclear power stations, research reactors, heavy water production, application of radiation chemistry in industry, radioactive waste processing, and controlled thermonuclear reactions.

The Agency has also initiated a series of legal documentation concerning the peaceful uses of atomic energy with the publication of a volume containing the texts of ten important multilateral agreements. The project stems from the Agency's statutory objective of making international co-operation a major instrument in the development of these uses throughout the world.

Scientific Meetings

Lastly, the Agency is publishing the proceedings of the scientific meetings held by it or organized with its assistance. These meetings are among the most

useful means of an exchange and dissemination of information on the findings of current research and experiments, and the publications contain both the papers presented at the meetings and records of the discussions based on those papers.

The proceedings of an international seminar on medical radioisotope scanning, organized jointly by IAEA and WHO in Vienna in February 1959, were published early this year. Thirty-six experts from 22 countries participated in this seminar, a report on which was published in the IAEA Bulletin in April last year. Now that the complete proceedings are available, a much wider community of medical scientists will be able to benefit from the exchange of views that took place at this seminar on the relatively new technique of determining the distribution of a radioisotope within the human body and thereby further strengthen the tools of their profession.

IAEA has also published in two volumes the proceedings of the International Symposium on Nuclear Electronics, which met in Paris in September 1958 and was attended by some one thousand scientists from 30 countries.

CONFERENCES AND TRAINING COURSES RELATING TO ATOMIC ENERGY

May - September 1960

Extract from the periodic publication "Atomic Energy: Conferences, Meetings, Training Courses" which is available free of charge to those specially interested from the Division of Scientific and Technical Information, IAEA, Körntnerring 11, Vienna I

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Subject and Location</i> | <i>Convening Body and/or Organizers or Sponsors</i> | <i>Address for Enquiries</i> |
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| April 25 - May 20 | French-language course on Radiation Protection for Factory Inspectors, Safety Engineers and Industrial Medical Personnel (Saclay, France) | International Labour Organisation | Mr. C. W. Jenks, Assistant Director General, International Labour Organisation, Rue de Lausanne, Geneva, Switzerland. |
| May 2 - 3 | Second Conference on Reactions between Complex Nuclei (Gatlinburg, Tennessee, USA) | American Physical Society | Dr. Robert S. Livingston, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tenn., USA. |
| May 2 - 13 | Course on Advanced Chemistry - No. A/Chem/4 (Isotope School, Wantage Radiation Laboratories, Wantage, Berkshire, UK) | United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority Isotope School | UKAEA Isotope School, Wantage Radiation Laboratories, Wantage, Berkshire, UK. |
| May 2 - 13 | Course on Basic Radiological Health (Cincinnati, Ohio, USA) | Robert A. Taft Sanitary Engineering Centre | Chief, Training Programme, Sanitary Engineering Centre, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati 26, Ohio, USA. |