

cooperation that may yet extend into the political field. The search together of all men of science to advance fundamental truths about the universe may yet wear away differences and distrust on political issues.

COSPAR, ICSU's International Committee for Space Research, which had its third international symposium in Washington recently, more dramatically, perhaps, than any of the other special committees, underscores the unique cooperative spirit of science. Soviet and American scientists at the space symposium worked harmoniously despite bitter exchanges by their representatives at Geneva over the resumption of U.S. nuclear tests in the atmosphere.

Soviet Cosmonaut Gherman Titov and U.S. Astronaut John H. Glenn Jr. reported on their space voyages to more than a thousand scientists from countries all over the world attending the international meeting held at the Department of State. Nor was the East-West political split a barrier to an invitation extended to Cosmonaut Titov by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to visit America's best known satellite launch site, Cape Canaveral.

COSPAR, together with the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics and the World Meteorological Organization, this year sponsored the first International Symposium on Rocket and Satellite Meteorology. Soviet scientists participated actively in the proceedings with scientists from more than 20 other nations, including the United States, and publicly advocated greater international cooperation in weather studies.

Indian Ocean Explored

Another international effort to conquer nature is represented by SCOR, the ICSU Special Committee on Oceanic Research. More than 20 nations have pooled their resources and scientific manpower to explore the Indian Ocean and provide information about its climate, food and mineral resources, particularly for the densely populated countries forming its coastline.

Twelve countries are exchanging scientists and working together to explore the Antarctic under the ICSU committee known as SCAR, the Special Committee for Antarctic Research. Territorial claims in this icy continent have been frozen for 34 years by treaty agreements among the nations with land bases in Antarctica. The spirit of international scientific cooperation is underscored by the mutual ban against arms in the Antarctic and the use of any of its territory for military purposes.

The International Committee on Geophysics is the fourth of the special ICSU committees in which nations from East and West are working together. However, international cooperation in science is by no means limited to these special non-governmental ICSU committees or the 13 independent ICSU groups or unions working in astronomy, biological sciences, pure and applied chemistry, pure and applied physics, mathematics, crystallography, history and philosophy of science, geography, scientific radio, physiological sciences, theoretical and applied mechanics, biochemistry and geology. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNES-

CO), an inter-governmental organization, also is actively promoting cooperation among scientists of many nations.

The scientific efforts of ICSU and UNESCO are bound together by a formal agreement, and the two groups complement each other. ICSU, by virtue of its independent non-governmental nature, is a coordination of science academy activities aimed largely at pure research, just for the sake of knowing. UNESCO, on the other hand, because of its inter-governmental character, must concentrate its efforts toward the application of scientific research to advance the economic and social welfare of man.

The World Health Organization is perhaps the best known of the UNESCO groups, although, like ICSU, it has its own governing body and includes among its members nations not in the U.N. Activities of WHO have shown that men can and will lay down their arms to fight disease. This was demonstrated not long ago in the Middle East when Israelis and Arabs joined in spraying certain border areas in the fight against malaria.

The International Atomic Energy Committee, formed to promote the peaceful uses of atomic energy, is still another example of the unity of science, a manifestation incidentally not limited to the age of atoms and space. It can be said, in fact, to date back to the discovery of fire and the wheel, discoveries outside of man which could be verified by all men and thus were truths to be shared and owned in common.

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OTOLOGY

Animals' Hearing Hurt By Tobacco Poisoning

► SPECIFIC EAR DAMAGE from experimental tobacco poisoning of guinea pigs by two doctors in Parma, Italy, was reported.

Other investigators have called attention to the harm brought by tobacco to hearing organs, they said, but the present study was directed to the causes of the damage and to the particular structures of the hearing system most affected.

"Nazionali" cigarettes, consumed most widely in Italy, were used in the experiment by Drs. Giacomo Maffei and Pietro Miani of the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic of Parma University. The study was reported in the Archives of Otolaryngology, 75:386, 1962, published by the American Medical Association.

Two types of injury were observed: 1. those of a vascular nature observable in acutely "intoxicated" animals; and 2. degenerative lesions of elements of the cochlea, a spiral shaped cavity of the internal ear.

"Furthermore," the researchers said, "the lesions of the eustachian tubes contribute to the acoustic damage in subjects already affected by the marked and severe cochlear lesions previously revealed."

Damage to the hearing function in tobacco smokers has been reported by French and German scientists from as far back as the middle of the 19th century. Hearing deficiency with buzzing of the ears and vertigo are among the symptoms reported.

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