will be located at the American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th Street in New York City, and will be administered within the Institute's Department of Education and Manpower. The main purpose of the Center will be to stimulate a nation-wide effort to develop better apparatus for physics teaching. It will also act as a national centre for information about the use and availability of new apparatus and materials for demonstrations and student experiments. Prof. Christensen has been associate professor of physics at St. Olaf College since 1953. The Center will be supported initially by a two-year grant for 120,750 dollars from the National Science Foundation.

The British Gelatine and Glue Research Association

THE fourteenth annual report of the British Gelatine and Glue Research Association covers the year ended September 1962, in which two Research Panel meetings were held (Pp. 16. London: The British Gelatine and Glue Research Association, 1963). The report of the director of research refers to fundamental work on the amino-acid composition of collagen preparations from human adult dura mater and post-menopausal uterus, and the problem of attaching functional groups to the gelatine chain has largely been solved. Much work was carried out on the mechanism of a cross-linking reaction for gelatin, and the Sanger method—as modified by Courts—has been adapted for determining the average chain-lengths of gelatins and glues of low molecular weight. Work on the improvement of the Bloom gelometer was completed and re-examination of the physical properties of soluble cross-linked glues revealed some unexpected features. A list of publications is included.

The Furniture Industry Research Association

THE second annual report of the Furniture Industry Research Association covers the year ended December 31, 1962, and although apart from two short-term investigations, one on health hazards from polymethane lacquers and the other on rubber-based adhesives, there was no expansion of the research effort, work on *ad hoc* enquiries increased (Pp. 12. London: Furniture Industry Research Association, 1963). Both the number and complexity of enquiries increased, and without more support for the co-operative long-term general research programme difficulty is foreseen in keeping a balance between the long-term and short-term investigations. A full theoretical stress analysis of a typical upholstery chair frame was completed, a survey has been made of lacquers in use in the industry and progress is reported in developing a wear test for cold-catalysed and the harder cellulose nitrate finishers. The response to the appeal for funds for the Research Centre at Stevenage has been immediate and encouraging.

Recruitment, Training and Education in the Clothing Industry

A RECENT study of recruitment, training and education in the clothing industry represents an independent survey of some interest outside the clothing industry to which its conclusions and recommendations relate (*Training in the Clothing Industry: a Study of Recruitment, Training and Education*. By Eunice Belbin and Robert Serjean. Pp. vii + 199. London: Twentieth Century Press (1962), Ltd., 1963. 7*s*. 6*d*.). It includes a brief comment on the prospects of automation in that industry, and on factors contributing to and militating against technical development which have implications outside that industry; there is a useful bibliography. Generally, the report substantiates the view that recruits are not being attracted in the numbers or the quality required and that this is due to lack of conviction inside and outside the industry that it offers attractive jobs and conditions of work. In spite of this need to make the most efficient and economic use of a limited labour force, training was sadly neglected, little or no provision being made in the factory and educational opportunities outside were half-heartedly supported.

Nuclear Power in Britain

THE two lectures given by Sir Christopher Hinton in Japan, in 1962, have now appeared in *Atom*. In the first of these, published in March 1963, Sir Christopher reviews the problems and prospects of nuclear power in Britain generally, outlining the development of the programme to date and describing the potentialities and problems of the more advanced reactor systems, including the advanced gas-cooled reactor, the high-temperature gas-cooled reactor and the heavy-water reactor, between which a choice must ultimately be made for the 1970's. The second lecture, published in the May issue, describes more particularly the siting and construction of the nuclear power plants in England and Wales. For the last station to be ordered, at Oldbury, a major advance in design is noted, with a pre-stressed concrete pressure vessel and the integral design concept, and it is believed that reactors with a capacity of 700 MWE will be possible. Assuming a life of twenty years, a load factor 75 per cent and an interest rate of 6 per cent, this should give electricity at an estimated cost of 0·53*d*./unit, or 0·42*d*. if a load factor of 90 per cent and a life of 30 years are achieved. The May issue of *Atom* also includes an account of the *Herald* research reactor at Aldermaston and the first part of a review of reactors at Harwell.

Die Naturwissenschaften

Die Naturwissenschaften, founded in 1913 by A. Berliner and C. Thesing, is now completing its fiftieth year of publication. Throughout the half-century of its life it has consistently maintained the highest standard of production, and a large number of scientific discoveries have first been recorded in its pages. The celebration of its jubilee must be considered a noteworthy event in the history of scientific publication. While the journal covers the whole range of scientific activity, it is particularly strong on the biological side. This will be noticed in the first April number (two numbers appear each month) for 1963, which contains eight longer articles and 27 short original contributions. The longer articles all deal with some aspect of cell physiology or structure, the first article, a lecture given by K. E. Wohlfarth-Bottermann on the fundamental elements of cell structure, being particularly noteworthy, not less on account of its fine illustrations.

Die Naturwissenschaften is really international in its appeal. Thus, although, as is to be expected, most of the short original contributions are from German institutions, there are also contributions, most in English, from Holland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the U.S.S.R., India, Japan and Argentina. Among these is a report on the effect of gibberellin on the development of *Ficaria verna* by R. Dostál who, now in his seventy-seventh year, was one of the pioneers of developmental physiology more than fifty years ago. Other contributions range from the estimation of geological age with chlorine-36 to the nuclear sex in the Indian elephant, from the photochemistry of chlorophyll compounds to the behaviour of *Daphnia* in diffuse light. The satisfaction of reading *Die Naturwissenschaften* is enhanced by the excellence of its production.

Human Biology

THE Society for the Study of Human Biology has adopted the journal as its official organ. *Human Biology* was founded in 1929 by Raymond Pearl. There was no scientific society to support the journal; the publishers were Warwick and York of Baltimore. The first volume included papers on human evolution, demography, growth, the genetics of skin colour, ageing and physical constitution in relation to disease. In 1931 the Johns Hopkins Press