

such as interference with natural water cycles may rule out many otherwise attractive sites. The disposal of unwanted journals is made possible by devices from O. Kay Engineering Services Ltd, which has exhibited a "Newsprint Conditioner" and a "Magazine Ruffler".

NATIONAL LABORATORY

Oak Ridge Reshuffle

THE Oak Ridge National Laboratory recently announced a reorganization of its Biology Division which will now operate as six sections, each with a director who will serve for a three year period. While continuing their own research, the six section leaders will help the division director, Dr H. I. Adler, and the deputy director, Dr S. F. Carson, to administer the scientific effort of the whole division.

The first six section leaders are Dr W. E. Barnett (genetics and developmental biology) who has been at Oak Ridge since 1961 working on the genetic code and its translation; Dr F. T. Kenney (carcinogenesis) who joined the laboratory in 1959 and works on mammalian biochemistry; Dr W. L. Russell (mammalian genetics) who has been at Oak Ridge since 1947 and is working on genetics of melanin pigmentation, genetic effects of radiation, and the relative importance of heredity and the prenatal environment; Dr R. B. Setlow (biophysics and cell physiology) who has been the biophysicist at the laboratory since 1961 and worked on molecular biophysics, effects of ionizing and non-ionizing radiation and the photochemistry of nucleic acids and proteins; a newcomer to Oak Ridge, Dr J. B. Storer, who is currently the deputy director of the AEC's Division of Biology and Medicine and who will head the pathology and immunology section; and finally the biochemistry section will be led by Dr E. Volkin, who has been working at Oak Ridge since 1948 on biochemistry and biophysics of nucleic acids.

PLANNING

Army to the Rescue

A SOLUTION has been found to the Tate Gallery controversy (see *Nature*, 221, 703; 1969) which should please everybody and which could even be ideal. Public opinion has scored, the gallery's trustees seem to be delighted, and the British Government has successfully completed what must have been tricky negotiations with the army doctors. There is even money available. The solution is that the Tate's present building with its portico and steps is almost certain to be kept intact, as an extension will be built on at the back; and the gallery will get a brand new building on the site of the Queen Alexandra's Military Hospital next door when the army doctors vacate it in about five years time. This change of plan has come about because the doctors have at last agreed to move from their Millbank site to a new military hospital which will be built on army land at Woolwich. The hospital will cost £6 million, but half of this would in any case have been spent to modernize the existing Millbank and Woolwich military hospitals.

What has obviously helped to sway the Government in the right direction was the recent decision by the

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation to give the Tate Gallery the handsome sum of £250,000 to house temporary exhibitions. Together with the money promised by the Government—a basic contribution of £850,000 and a special contribution of £200,000 announced earlier for the Henry Moore collection—this should go a long way towards meeting the £2 million which the new proposals will cost, itself about the same as the Tate's trustees had in mind for the earlier controversial proposals. This, however, may be a little optimistic, although it is certainly a good deal less than the £12 million which the trustees last February bemoaned would be the cost of a new gallery.

Everything is not yet plain sailing. First, the design of the new building will have to be approved. Second, the Government's decision in no way clears up the thorny issue of public support for art galleries in Britain, nor the future status of the Tate itself. Will it for example, continue to be the National Gallery of British Art and the National Gallery of Modern Art under the new proposals?

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Courses for Electronics

A STEP towards closer cooperation between universities and junior colleges in the United States is made by a one-year project, based on the University of Illinois, to develop teaching materials for a new associate degree course in electronics technology. The project, directed by Professor Daniel S. Babb and supported by the National Science Foundation with a grant of \$183,000, culminates next summer in a teachers' course which will introduce the new laboratory and classroom methods and, after this, the preparation of teachers' guides should be complete in time for the new academic year. Practical testing of the ideas that emerge is to take place chiefly in Parkland Junior College (Champaign) throughout the project, though six other colleges are also concerned.

The university hopes that its work will rectify a shortage of suitably qualified teachers in the newer technological fields. It has already developed techniques for training, among others, microprecision technicians to work in space science, and its latest plans should help fill an equally important gap.

ARCHITECTURE

Prize Buildings

A RESEARCH station and a computer centre are two of the ten buildings selected by the Royal Institute of British Architects for its awards this year. The Gas Council Engineering Research Station was selected as the best building in the northern region. It was designed by Ryder and Yates, and this is its third architectural award, having won last year's *Financial Times* Industrial Architecture Award and a commendation in the 1968 Civic Trust Awards. The architects were asked to design a building whose future requirements are conjectural and dependent on research programmes. "The result", the jury says, "is a scheme in which there is remarkable flexibility of space and services and the skill with which this has been done is most impressive. Within the flexible framework,