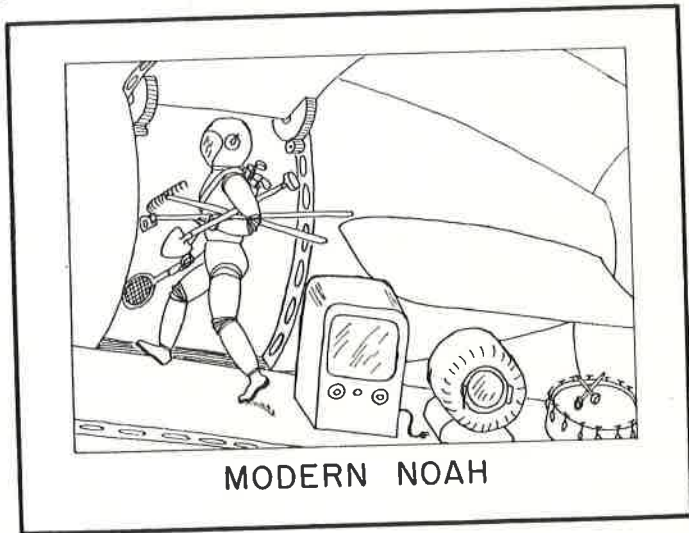


of measurement and of communication are beginning to be understood afresh by application of probability considerations. The result of every measurement may be called an improbable result, since so many different results might have been obtained. Similarly, every message communicated is an improbable message, because so many different messages might have been selected. The same thought may be extended to the domain of man-made objects. Clearly, every artifact is improbable, in that it might differ from itself in so many ways. Linking of this improbability to human purpose may be one of the necessary steps to be taken in launching a true science of man-made objects—a science which must include, among its other integral parts, a well-developed taxonomy.



NEWS OF TENNESSEE SCIENCE

Top event of scientific interest in the South during the summer was the Oak Ridge Symposium, August 25-30, on "The Role of Atomic Energy in Agricultural Research."

The Atomic Energy Commission is to develop Tennessee shale. A contract of 48,238 has been awarded to the Department of Geology of the University of Tennessee to cover continuation and expansion of studies of the Chattanooga shale. This study is under the direction of Dr. Paris B. Stockdale. Also, under contract with the AEC, the U. S. Bureau of Mines will begin operation of a small experimental mine near Sligo, Tennessee, to develop satisfactory methods of mining Southeastern shale deposits. These shales contain minute percentages of uranium and are of interest to the AEC as a potential domestic uranium reserve.

The Middle Tennessee Science Fair, sponsored jointly by The Nashville Banner and Vanderbilt University, was held in the gymnasium at Vanderbilt, April 23-25, 1953. There were over one hundred entries in ten divisions. The winners were: Chester Burns, David Lipscomb High School, with a display on Principles of Nutrition; Donald H. Miller, West End High School, with a display on Ground Water; and Ronald Smith, Isaac Litton High School,

(Continued on page 296)