Ortho Instruments announces the ICP Flow Cytometer — a unique, flow cytometry instrument with high numerical aperture arc lamp illumination. Use of a high-power, HBO 100 mercury lamp has the advantage of providing fluorescence excitation at wavelengths — and with optical filter combinations — which are familiar to the fluorescence microscope user.

The Kohler illumination optics and the large numerical aperture over which the fluorescence emissions are collected — achieve great precision even with cells in which the DNA is irregularly distributed. Measurement of DNA content of cells and even individual chromosomes is made possible by the ready availability of highly specific and stoichiometric dyes for DNA. Two fluorescence detectors permit correlated measurements of two dyes. For example, simultaneous measurement of per-cell DNA and protein content. A large choice of dyes and staining techniques for various cellular constituents is available.

The Ortho ICP Flow Cytometer can be obtained as a stand-alone flow cytometric analyzer, or can be combined in modular fashion with the Ortho laser illumination systems.

For further information contact the Research Instruments Division.
Gordon Research Conferences on cancer, held since 1943, first at Gibson Island in Maryland and later at Colby College in New Hampshire, are informal annual gatherings that are important for cancer research workers. In the relaxed, total-immersion atmosphere, there occur many exchanges of ideas that are exposed to constructive criticism and analysis. It is a week of scientific "retreat."

The Conferences were initiated in 1931 by Dr. Neil E. Gordon of Johns Hopkins; they are now directed by Dr. A. M. Cruickshank of the University of Rhode Island. Attendance is limited; the program, arranged by a chairman, is published in Science, but the proceedings are not recorded.

In 1954, the program, chaired by Albert Tannenbaum, was entitled, "Fifty years of cancer research: symposium on environmental factors in the causation of cancer" (Science, 119: 493, 1954). The participants are pictured, along with sketches of the setting.

M.B.S.
Happy Holidays!

Dr. Rudolf Süß of the Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum of Heidelberg, Germany, contributes the landscape of research on carcinogenesis featured on the back cover for this month.

In an accompanying letter, the authors write that they took Ames’ expression of a Sea of Carcinogens literally and transformed the flow diagram of carcinogenesis into a landscape, in order to convey the idea of diversity which is so characteristic of cancer research.

Once upon a time, they write, pilgrims to Mecca lifted stones along the way, and carried them for awhile. Other pilgrims did the same, so that eventually even the stones completed a pilgrimage to Mecca.

In cancer research, many stones are carried by many workers. No one knows which stones are the best, but we can be pretty sure that many different stones will have to be incorporated into the ‘‘final solution’’ of the cancer problem. It is this ‘‘multistonicity’’ that is pictured in the landscape.

Dr. Süß expresses thanks for suggestions from Drs. K. Goerttler, D. Meyer, A. Schleich, K. Wayss, H. Fischer, and W. Pyerin. And we are grateful to all, including the artists, for the landscape.

M.B.S.