

FIELD TRIP
October 13, 1961

A rainy, wet, but informative morning was spent touring the Argonne National Laboratory at Argonne, Illinois. This laboratory, which is operated by the University of Chicago under contract with the United States Atomic Energy Commission, is a major center for atomic energy research. About half of its effort is devoted to basic research associated with atomic energy; the other half is devoted to applied work primarily associated with reactor development. Basic and applied research is conducted in the fields of physics, chemistry, biology and medicine, chemical engineering, electronics, high-energy physics, mathematics, metallurgy, radiological physics, reactor engineering, remote control engineering, and solid state physics.

In a well-illustrated lecture, Dr. Solon Graves explained the workings of the biological spectrograph, one of the world's largest, and the responses of plants to monochromatic light. Dr. John Skok conducted a tour through the greenhouses and explained his work on the mineral nutrition of plants.

After lunch at the "Robin Hood," the rain had cleared, and we were en route to the Morton Arboretum at Lisle, Illinois.

The open-air bus tour conducted by Dr. E. L. Kammerer through the Arboretum, with the "Fall Foliage Color Display" at its height, was a most pleasant one.

The Morton Arboretum is privately endowed and was founded in 1921 by J. Sterling Morton. Approximately 4,800 varieties and hybrids of woody plants of the world are presently included in the living plant collection. The ultimate aim is to include every tree, shrub, and vine able to survive the climate of northern Illinois.