

for example, has had its origin many thousands of miles away in a set of complex events related to solar activity, to oceanography, and to hydrology. Any marked advance in weather forecasting depends upon world-wide meteorological data of both the lower and upper atmosphere in both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. At present reasonably adequate data exist only for the lower atmosphere in the Northern Hemisphere.

As with meteorology, studies of the ionosphere--necessary for improvements in radio transmission--require international collaboration on a broad scale. Each of the other fields in the program is characterized by similar needs for world-wide measurements made synchronously; and, since these fields are also inter-related in a complex fashion, the value of such data in one field enhances, and is enhanced by, the value of the data in all the others.

The United States program has been prepared by the U. S. National Committee for the IGY established by the National Academy of Sciences - National Research Council, as the adhering U. S. body to the International Council of Scientific Unions. The Academy turned to the National Science Foundation in December 1953 as the logical Federal agency for the securing and administering of Government funds for this activity, which has many broad National values and implications and which is of particular interest to the Government.

The total budget approved by the Bureau of the Budget for the United States program is \$13,000,000. Of this the Bureau of the Budget