

WMO Secretary General visits AES

Professor Aksel Wiin-Nielsen, Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organization, spent a busy day visiting AES Downsview headquarters in March. His activities included lecturing, meeting management and scientific personnel, and touring some of the latest meteorological research and development installations.

In Canada to present the University of Toronto's Andrew Thomson Memorial Lecture, usually delivered by a world-renowned scientist, Professor Wiin-Nielsen found the time to visit such AES innovations as a weather-programmed Telidon demonstration and the stratospheric pollution laboratories of the Atmospheric Research Directorate, where a demonstration of the new Brewer spectrophotometer was given.

The highlight of Professor Wiin-Nielsen's visit was his lecture on "Wavy Motion" given in the Auditorium and attended by some 150 scientists from AES, the universities, the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society and the private sector. His present-

ation consisted of a mathematical look at global-scale "blocking" situations, or atmospheric conditions that cause the weather in a region to "stall" or stay the same for several weeks. His study took into account the effects of atmospheric linkage with large terrain features like the Rockies and with surface heat sources and sinks such as oceans or large desert areas. He then applied the theory to the question of climate prediction and change.

The lecture was followed by a lobby reception allowing the WMO Secretary General to meet his audience. The visitor also held a special one and a half hour meeting with AMC members during which such topics as an Atlantic drifting buoy system, an upper air system for the north Pacific and ship-board buoys were discussed.

Prof. Wiin-Nielsen met with scientists concerned with numerical modeling of the atmosphere and lunched in the AES cafeteria with some 15 scientists who had studied under him or worked with him, including those associated with



Doug Young of the Ontario Weather Centre demonstrates weather applications of Telidon to Professor Aksel Wiin-Nielsen during his visit to AES.

WMO technical commissions. Finally he met with Al Christie and other staff of the Air Quality and Inter-environmental Research Branch, covering such topics as the LRTAP program, the Toxic Chemicals program, atmospheric chemistry, energy problems and emergencies, with the emphasis maintained on modeling aspects.