

Australia	1	Ireland	1
Austria	1	Japan	1
Czecho-Slovakia	2	Latvia	1
England	1	Lithuania	1
Finland	2	Poland	2
France	1	Russia	2
Germany	4	Switzerland	7
United States	1		

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A COOPERATIVE COURSE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AT THE MASSACHU- SETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

WITH the opening of the fall term, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology took another step in carrying out its policy of maintaining the closest possible contact with the industries of the country. Arrangements have been completed with the Bell Telephone System by which a limited number of students in electrical engineering will be given an opportunity to get thorough first-hand knowledge of the manufacture, operation and development of the most modern electrical systems of communication including wire and wireless telephony and telegraphy.

By this new arrangement, a carefully selected group of students who have successfully completed the first two years of the regular course in electrical engineering at the institute, or the equivalent at other institutions, will be sent to New York. For four months they will be under the direction of the Bell Telephone System. During part of this time they will be put to work in the Western Electric Company's plant at Kearney, N. J., learning the actual details in the manufacture of telephone appliances. The remainder of the time will be spent in the work of installing and conditioning telephone switchboards in the vicinity of New York City.

During this time the students are on the pay roll of the Bell System and must turn out their day's work like other workmen, but as fast as they master one job they are transferred to another. The new course requires these students to attend regular institute classes while they are on the practical assignment and since they can not come to the institute, the institute goes to them by maintaining an instructing staff in New York. The class hours will be in the evening in order not to interfere with the practical work. The subject matter will be almost equally divided between electrical theory, and such cultural subjects as the writing and delivering of technical papers and reports and study of contemporary English literature and drama.

At the end of the four months this group of stu-

dents returns to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in time to join their schoolmates in starting the second term's work, and another group takes their place in New York. They will spend the alternate terms at the institute and on the job in New York City where they will complete their practical experience by doing actual telephone operating in the various plants of the New York Telephone Company and getting familiar with the technical and practical problems of maintaining plant and equipment.

A final cooperative period will be spent in the Bell Telephone Laboratories carrying on research and studying the design and development of engineering processes and apparatus for both wire and radio systems.

Because of the advanced nature of the instruction and the research work of the last year, the higher degree of master of science in electrical engineering as well as that of bachelor of science is conferred upon those who successfully complete the course. Students are subject to the usual requirements applying to the employees of the cooperating company. The compensation paid by the company to students in this cooperative course, exclusive of the allowance for expenses incidental to changes in residence, amounts approximately to a total payment of fifteen hundred dollars during the cooperative periods. The working week ranges between thirty-nine and forty-eight hours depending on the character of the work assigned.

NEW HALL OF REPTILE AND AMPHIBIAN LIFE AT THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

EARLY in the coming year a new hall of reptile and amphibian life will be opened at The American Museum of Natural History, occupying the entire third floor of the east wing, according to *Museum News*.

Here for the first time the groups prepared under the direction of the late Mary C. Dickerson—groups characterized by the curator of the department, G. Kingsley Noble, as "perhaps the finest series of reptile and amphibian habitat groups ever produced"—will be seen unconfused with an incongruous overflow from the Hall of Mammals; and with them will be shown a whole series of new groups.

An effort has been made to arrange the material within the hall so that the various types of visitors may readily discover what interests them without wearying themselves in fruitless staring at what does not. The synoptic series of models and the systematic and "biological diagrams" illustrating principles or facts of importance to the technical student are to be found in the main body of the hall. In a cloister