

■ A new computer laboratory has been established on the University of California's Berkeley campus. It will begin operation in October with an IBM 701 that has been at the university's Radiation Laboratory in Livermore for the past 2 years. The budget for the laboratory's first year of operation will be \$154,233.

■ The National Science Foundation has awarded a grant of \$500,000 to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in support of a reactor for nuclear research. The remaining cost of the \$2-million facility will be covered by funds raised by M.I.T. alumni and by a \$250,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. The NSF and Rockefeller awards make it possible for the institute to proceed with the construction of the reactor, plans for which have been under way since 1952.

The reactor's medical and biological facilities will be centered in a therapy room, located underground directly beneath the reactor itself. Neutrons from the fission in the reactor will enter the room through the ceiling. This design is the key difference between the M.I.T. reactor and others now being built. The therapy room will, in effect, be a large and completely equipped operating room, making possible the irradiation of patients immediately after surgery.

■ Free college-credit courses by television, open to the general public as part of Chicago's program of public education, began on 12 Sept. The four credit courses—general biology, freshman English, social science, and national government—are being offered over WTTW by the Amundsen, Crane, Wilson, and Wright branches of the Chicago City Junior College.

Each of the four courses will be presented in 45 half-hour sessions, 3 days a week. Kinescope film of these programs will be shown to evening viewers 1 week later.

A free information folder, containing the course outlines, is available to anyone on request. Noncredit viewers may receive the study guide, including work assignments, for a charge of 50 cents.

Registration for credit is open to high-school graduates and to any adult 21 years of age or older. Legal residents of Chicago pay only the usual college general service charge. Students outside the city limits may enroll for credit, but they will be charged the usual nonresident tuition in addition to the service charge. Examinations will be held on the college campuses for credit students.

■ Lafayette College has lent a team of educators to Iran for the development there of the new Abadan College of Engineering. To prepare students for Aba-

dan, a junior college has been formed. The first class enrolls this month and will be taught by the visiting group. The groundwork for establishment of the new college was laid by Lafayette educators and engineers who visited Iran last spring and made a survey of the Abadan Technical Institute that was established by the Anglo-Persian Oil Company in 1935. Lafayette was asked to make the survey by officials of the Iranian Oil Company and associated United States and European companies.

■ Dartmouth College and its Thayer School of Engineering have announced a new program in engineering science that will be the basis for all engineering studies at the college. It will lead to a bachelor of arts degree in 4 years. To receive a bachelor of science degree, a candidate must enroll for an additional year of study in a civil, mechanical, or electrical engineering program.

### Miscellaneous

■ An exhibit built around one of the largest known shooting stars opened on 1 Sept. at the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium in New York. Ahnighito, the 34-ton meteorite which has been screened off from public view for 9 months, now rests on a large scale especially built for it by the Toledo Scale Company. Included in the new exhibit is a panel of ten photographs that tell the story of the meteorite's discovery by Adm. Robert E. Peary at Cape York, Greenland, in 1894 and of its subsequent journey to the American Museum.

Ahnighito is one of three meteorites recovered from the Cape York peninsula by Peary. It is the second largest meteorite known to exist. It is 10 feet 10 inches long, 7 feet 2 inches high, and 5 feet 6 inches thick. Still larger is the Hoba West meteorite, estimated to weigh between 50 and 60 tons, which lies partly buried in the ground where it fell near Grootfontein in South Africa.

■ The Civil Service Commission has announced an examination for geophysicist (exploration) for filling positions in the Geological Survey and various other agencies in Washington, D.C., and throughout the United States. Some positions may be filled in United States territories and possessions, and in foreign countries. The entrance salaries range from \$3670 to \$11,610 a year.

For positions paying \$3670 and \$4525, education alone may be qualifying. No written test is required. Further information and application forms may be obtained at many post offices throughout the country, or from the U.S. Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D.C.

■ *Report of NRL Progress*, published monthly by the Naval Research Laboratory, can now be obtained on a subscription basis from the Office of Technical Services. Annual rates are \$10 for a domestic subscription, and \$13 for a foreign one. A single issue is \$1.25. Orders should be addressed to OTS, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D.C.

■ A competitive examination for appointment of medical officers to the regular corps of the U.S. Public Health Service will be held on 27, 28, 29, and 30 Nov. at various places throughout the United States. A candidate will be tested at the examination center nearest his home.

Gross pay is identical to that of officers of equivalent rank in the Army and Navy. Regardless of grade at which an officer is appointed, assistant or senior assistant, entrance pay will be that of the senior assistant grade; for officers with dependents, this is \$7498 per year. (Assistant-grade entrants are assigned the temporary grade of senior assistant.) Entrance pay includes the \$1200 annual incentive pay received by medical officers as well as subsistence and rental allowance.

Application forms may be obtained by writing to the Chief, Division of Personnel, U.S. Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington 25, D.C., or from field stations of the Public Health Service. Transcripts covering all undergraduate and graduate education should accompany application forms. Completed forms must be received in the Division of Personnel no later than 13 Oct.

■ Articles appearing in the October issue of *The Scientific Monthly* are, "Science, humanities, and artifacts," Harcourt Brown; "New interpretation of the surface of Mars," Dean B. McLaughlin; "Interindustry analysis, new tool in economics," John H. Cumberland; "Studies on deep mass culture of algae in Israel," A. M. Mayer, A. Eisenberg, M. Evenari.

The "Association Affairs" section includes the program for the new headquarters building dedication, an account of AAAS meetings held in New York between 1887 and 1956, the financial report for 1955, and items on the Science Teaching Improvement Program and the junior academies of science. Twelve books are reviewed in this issue.

*Erratum:* The news note on the expansion of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation scholarship program [*Science* 124, 24 (6 July 1956)] stated that 11 institutions were already participating in the program, then named only 10. Carnegie Institute of Technology was accidentally dropped from the list, when actually it was one of the four institutions in which the Sloan program was started.

*Erratum:* The ninth Pacific Science Congress was incorrectly announced for 18 Nov.-9 Dec. 1956 [*Science* 124, 334 (17 Aug. 1956)]. The congress is to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, in 1957, not 1956.