Council for Atomic Age Studies

Columbia University has announced the formation of the Council for Atomic Age Studies, a ten-member group that is made up of representatives from the fields of physics, law, philosophy, engineering, journalism, medicine, business, and others. The objective of the council is to make the university a center for the study of problems facing society as a result of the development of atomic energy.

Among the members of the new council are I. I. Rabi, Higgins professor of physics and Nobel prize winner; Philip C. Jessup, Hamilton Fish professor of international law and diplomacy and former U.S. ambassador-at-large; Edward W. Barrett, dean of the Graduate School of Journalism and former Assistant Secretary of State; John G. Palfrey, professor of law, formerly with the Office of General Counsel of the Atomic Energy Commission; and John M. Kernochan, professor of law and director of the university's Legislative Drafting Research Fund.

Television Psychotherapy

The use of closed-circuit television for group psychotherapy is described in the January *Archives of Neurology and Psychiatry*. Many new techniques of psychotherapy for mental patients have been developed, but they frequently cannot be used because of lack of trained personnel.

Closed-circuit television offers a method of delivering treatments to a large number of patients at one time, while still giving the impression of personal contact. The experimental program in the use of closed-circuit television was conducted at Agnews State Hospital, Agnew, Calif., under the direction of Hyman Tucker, hospital superintendent, and under the auspices of the department of psychology, San Jose State College.

Biological Field Station Awards

Eight biological field stations will receive National Science Foundation support this year. The grants will be used to provide funds for students, chiefly pre- and postdoctoral, who wish to conduct research at the stations during the summer. Some of the institutions still have grants-in-aid available, but applications should be submitted promptly.

The field stations are as follows: Bermuda Biological Station for Research, St. Georges, Bermuda; University of Michigan Biological Station, Cheboygan, Mich. (winter address: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.); Duke University Marine Laboratory, Beaufort, N.C. (winter address: Duke University, Durham, N.C.); Friday Harbor Laboratories of the University of Washington, Friday Harbor, Wash. (winter address: University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.); Highlands Biological Station, Highlands, N.C. (winter address: Wesleyan College, Macon, Ga.); Lake Itasca Forestry and Biological Station, Itasca Park, Minn. (winter address: University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.); Mountain Lake Biological Station, Mountain Lake, Va. (winter address: University Station, Charlottesville, Va.); and University of Oklahoma Biological Field Station, Willis (Lake Texoma), Okla. (winter address: University of Oklahoma, Norman, Okla.).

Data Processing for Industry

A course on electronic data processing for business and industry will be presented by Canning, Sisson and Associates, and Data Processing Counselors at the Sheraton-Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Ill., from 25 Feb. through 1 Mar. The course is unusual because of its emphasis on the applications aspect of electronic data processing rather than on the details of particular equipment.

Included in the program are sessions on patterns of data processing, making a systems study, procedural analysis, and planning the electronic system. Another session will be devoted to a new area in data processing that stresses fast access to file information and almost instantaneous reporting to management of the effects of each day's transactions.

NSF Budget Request

The budget request for the National Science Foundation for fiscal 1958 is for approximately $65 million, compared with appropriations of $40 million for fiscal 1957 and $16.12 million for fiscal 1956. The budget request is for the allocation of funds in the following principal ways (comparable figures for the allocations in 1957 are in parentheses): support of basic research in the sciences, $30 million ($16.25 million); development of manpower (fellowships, science education, register of scientists, and including $9.75 million for summer and academic year institutes for high-school teachers), $18.75 million ($14.5 million); scientific facilities (reactors, computers, observatories, and so on), $12 million ($5.8 million); communication of scientific information, including translations from the Russian and the support of programs in the Office of Technical Services and the Library of Congress, $1.5 million ($900,000); policy studies, including studies of research and development, surveys of manpower, and so on, $700,000 ($750,000); management and executive direction of NSF, including review of research and training program, $2.3 million ($1.8 million).

Edison Celebration

A National Science Youth Day to teach high-school students about modern careers in science and engineering will be inaugurated on 1 Feb., the 110th anniversary of Thomas A. Edison's birth. Charles F. Kettering, president of the Edison Foundation, has announced that American industry and education will cooperate in the event, which will be a part of the National Edison Birthday Celebration.

Walker L. Cisler, president of the Detroit Edison Company, is chairman of the birthday celebration. He is organizing a national program for the Youth Day in which industry will invite high-school students and teachers to visit local plants and research laboratories. The nation's leading corporations and professional scientific societies will be joined in the event by electric light and power companies as well as by public and private groups in Canada, Europe, South America, and Asia.

Oak Ridge Expands Training

The Atomic Energy Commission's Oak Ridge Operations Office announced that six universities have been selected for participation in a program designed to double the number of nuclear reactor specialists trained each year at the Oak Ridge School of Reactor Technology. The universities selected are as follows: Carnegie Institute of Technology, Case Institute of Technology, Northwestern University, University of California (Los Angeles), University of Florida, and Union College (Schenectady, N.Y.)

Two-year contracts are being negotiated with these universities to provide for concentrated courses of study designed to develop proficiency in chemistry, mathematics, physics, and engineering for students accepted for the program. All proposals received from colleges and universities were satisfactory and the six institutions chosen were selected because they were the most suitable to meet the immediate needs of the program.

Under the expanded program, the first 6 months of the 1-year course will be given at the participating institutions and the remaining 6 months at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. This arrangement will permit two classes of 120 students each to be trained each year. At present only one class of 120