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

students can be accepted annually because of limited facilities at the laboratory.

Each of the universities will be assigned a minimum of 20 students beginning in February 1957. Successive classes totaling 120 students each will be assigned to the six universities in August 1957, February 1958, and September 1958. Applicants may state a first and second preference for the institution which they wish to attend for the first phase of training. The applicant's preference will be honored where possible, although applicants may be assigned to any of the six institutions.

Applicants are sponsored by industrial firms or government agencies. Minimum academic requirements for admission are a bachelor's degree in science or engineering, a course in ordinary differential equations, and an above-average scholastic record.

The charge for the Oak Ridge portion of the program now will be $1500. The fees for the university portion of the program will vary with the institution attended and are designed to cover the total cost of the program at the particular institution. The range of fees to be charged by the universities will be $1000 to $1500. These fees will be paid directly to the schools in the form of tuition by the student or the sponsoring organization. At present, the total charge for the course is $2500.

Brandeis Physiology Wing

Brandeis University (Waltham, Mass.) has announced that a research wing in physiology is being established in its Science Research Center by Julius M. Rogoff of Rowayton, Conn. Rogoff, a fellow of the university, is credited with the discovery of interrenalin, an adrenal hormone that is used in the treatment of Addison's disease.

Proposed Legislation

Of the many bills introduced in Congress, some have a special relevance to science and education. A list of such bills introduced recently follows:

HR 1. Authorize federal assistance to states and local communities in financing program of school construction. Kelley (D Pa.) House Education and Labor.

HR 82. Terminate authority of Housing and Home Finance Administrator to make loans to educational institutions for housing construction. Alger (R Tex.) House Banking and Currency.

HR 95. Provide for loans to enable needy and scholastically qualified students to continue post-high school education. Boland (D Mass.) House Education and Labor.

HR 44. Establish Commission on Programs for Aging. Coudert (R N.Y.) House Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

HR 147. Establish within Department of Defense a civilian department to be known as Department of Civil Defense. Dollinger (D N.Y.) House Armed Services.

HR 208. Make it a criminal offense for any officer of armed forces or member of armed forces or member of Chiefs of Staff to take retaliatory measures against any officer or enlisted man in armed forces of U.S. for any testimony he gives or answers he makes under oath before any committee of Congress. Burdick (R N.D.) House Judiciary.

HR 103. Authorize National Inventors Council to make awards for inventive contributions re national defense. Celler (D N.Y.) House Judiciary.

HR 107. Provide for adjustment of royalties and like charges for use of inventions for benefit of or by U.S. Celler (D N.Y.) House Judiciary.

HR 83. Provide for survey of production of fertilizer by TVA. Alger (R Tex.) House Government Operations.

HR 237. Amend Natural Gas Act. Ikard (D Tex.) House Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

HR 2. Authorize State of Illinois and Metropolitan Sanitary District of Greater Chicago, under direction of Secretary of Army, to test, on 3-year basis, effect of increasing diversion of water from Lake Michigan into Illinois Waterway. O'Brien (D Ill.) House Public Works.

HR 5. Authorize construction, operation and maintenance of Hells Canyon Dam on Snake River between Idaho and Oregon. Pfost (D Idaho) House of Interior and Insular Affairs.

HR 7. Amend Internal Revenue Code of 1954 to aid small and medium-sized business, encourage industrial expansion, counteract forces growing out of present tax structure which bring about widespread corporate mergers and consolidations, and to discourage growing concentration of business into a few giant corporations by substituting for nearly uniform tax rates now applicable to corporations of vastly differing sizes moderate graduation of tax rates on corporate incomes. Patman (D Tex.) House Ways and Means.

HR 129. Amend section 213 of Internal Revenue Code of 1954 to permit deduction of medical expenses without regard to maximum limitation of existing law. Curtis (R Mo.) House Ways and Means.

HR 163. Amend Internal Revenue Code of 1954 to provide additional $2500 exemption from income tax for amounts received as retirement annuities or pensions. Dollinger (D N.Y.) House Ways and Means.

HR 195. Provide for deduction of $1200 on income tax of parents for each dependent in college for each year of attendance. Burdick (R N.D.) House Ways and Means.

HR 231. Amend Internal Revenue Code of 1954 to provide partial tax credit for certain payments made to public or private educational institutions of higher education. Hillings (R Calif.) House Ways and Means.

February Scientific Monthly

Articles appearing in the February issue of *The Scientific Monthly* are: "Solar energy on clear and cloudy days," S. Fritz; "Rice culture in Spain," R. E. Crist; "Nature of genius," E. Jones; and "Formation of the elements," W. A. Fowler. Thirteen books are reviewed.

Scientists in the News

FARRINGTON DANIELS of the University of Wisconsin, an international expert on both nuclear and solar energy, has won the 1957 Priestley medal of the American Chemical Society. The gold medal, highest honor in American chemistry, will be presented to Daniels for "distinguished services to chemistry" at the society's 131st national meeting in Miami, Fla., in April.

EDWARD L. TATUM, professor of biochemistry and head of that department at Stanford University, has been appointed a member of the Rockefeller Institute. He assumed his post on 1 Jan. His field of research is the study of the genetics and metabolism of bacteria, yeast, and molds. He is attempting to arrive at a clear understanding, at the molecular level, of how genes determine the characteristics of living organisms.

SUBRAHMANYAN CHANDRASEKHAR, distinguished professor of theoretical astrophysics at the Yerkes Observatory of the University of Chicago, Williams Bay, Wis., will receive the biennial Rumford Premium of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The award will be for work on radiative transfer of energy in the interior of stars.

The citation by the Rumford Committee of the academy reads: "To Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar for extending to the cosmic realm the stochastic laws which, on the atomic scale, govern the phenomena of heat; and for his monumental work, 'On the Radiative Equilibrium of a Stellar Atmosphere,' in which heat is transported as light, and light