ing summer to help in-service teachers who are taking summer work for advanced degrees. Awards were made to institutions in which curricula for master's degrees in teaching include substantial emphasis on subject content in science and mathematics.

In addition to its grant to improve teaching, the company will give $290,000 to universities for fundamental research and $165,000 for postgraduate fellowships in science and engineering, including grants-in-aid of $15,000 each to ten universities and $10,000 each to nine others. There are also summer research grants of $1500 each to 20 universities. These are to enable younger staff members of university chemistry departments to undertake research of their own during the summer months.

Finally, the company is awarding 43 fellowships for the next academic year, 13 in chemistry, 16 in chemical engineering, six in biochemistry, four in mechanical engineering, and two each in physics and metallurgy. As in previous years, Du Pont is making the awards to the colleges and universities, with the detailed use of the funds left up to them.

Lafayette's Olin Hall

Lafayette College's new Olin Hall of Engineering Science, built with a $1,250,000 grant from the Olin Foundation, was dedicated recently. It will house the physics, chemistry, and mathematics departments. The building contains 15 offices for 36 faculty members; two drafting rooms for 90 students; 15 laboratories for 295 students; ten classrooms for 340 students; a chemistry lecture room for 200 students, and a physics lecture room for 100 students.

Laryngoscope in Music

The laryngoscope has apparently found a useful place in the field of music. William A. C. Zerffi, a voice and speech teacher at the New School for Social Research, has reported that he uses the instrument to determine a singer's voice type.

Voice identification is usually left to the teacher's judgment. But because of bad singing habits or because of the human ability to imitate various sounds, a voice is sometimes misidentified. This can lead to improper training, bad singing habits, or even the shortening of a singer's career. These difficulties can be avoided by using the laryngoscope. The teacher simply looks at the length of the vocal cords. The shorter the cords, the higher the voice; thus a soprano has shorter cords than a contralto, and a tenor has shorter cords than a bass.

Technical Publication Index

A new *Index of Technical Publications* has been published by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, 1512 H St., NW, Washington 25, D.C. The 222-page volume is the fifth supplement to the basic 1919–49 index.

The new index covers NACA research reports issued from June 1955 through June 1956, and reports published previously but declassified in the same period. The arrangement lists reports in numerical and chronological order of subjects, and includes alphabetical indexes of subjects and authors.

Aerojet Reactor Training Program

Aerojet-General Nucleonics, San Ramon, Calif., reactor manufacturer, has announced that it is establishing a reactor training program that will be available to industry, colleges and universities, the medical field, and power utilities. The new 1-week course will allow the participant to handle nuclear controls and reactor hardware, such as control rods and fuel elements, in addition to receiving instruction in nuclear reactor theory, operations, and licensing requirements. Students will participate in assembling a reactor and seeing it go critical.

G.E. Summer Fellowships at Stanford

The General Electric Educational and Charitable Fund for high-school teachers of mathematics, chemistry, or physics will establish a summer fellowship program at Stanford University. Fifty high-school mathematics teachers, to be selected by the university from high-school faculties in 14 western states, will have an opportunity to study new aspects of their subject as well as the application of mathematics to science and industry.

Paul W. Berg of Stanford's mathematics department will direct the program, which will consist of three courses: the first will survey number theory, projective geometry, and other fields bordering on high-school subjects; the second will deal with the fundamental concepts of the calculus; the third will be a seminar on the methods of problem solving. The seminar will attempt to help the teachers in their twofold job of challenging the curiosity of high-school students and developing in them a scientific temper.

In addition to classroom work, the fellows will take field trips to General Electric laboratory and manufacturing facilities in the San Francisco Bay area. Special lectures will be given by members of the company's management, scientific, and engineering staffs.

Instruction will begin late in June and last 6 weeks, with the company paying all expenses, including transportation. This is the firm's sixth summer fellowship program and the first in a western university.

Drop in Shock Therapy

The Veterans Administration reports that electric and insulin shock treatment for mental illness has been reduced by an estimated 90 percent at VA mental hospitals through use of the new tranquilizing drugs. Ivan F. Bennett, chief of psychiatric research in the VA central office at Washington, D.C., made the estimate from a representative sampling of VA neuropsychiatric hospitals throughout the nation.

Microbiologists Join IGY in Antarctica

The U.S. National Committee for the International Geophysical Year has approved the Society of American Bacteriologists' project for a microbiological survey in Antarctica to be undertaken during 1957–58 in conjunction with the IGY program that is already planned for the region. This is the first officially recognized biological program to be included in this country's IGY plans. The National Committee considers that the project, "while nongeophysical in nature, offers the prospect of providing very important and significant scientific information concerning the microbiological aspects of Antarctica."

The SAB participation in the Antarctic program is being formulated by a committee composed of Claude E. ZoBell (chairman), Richard H. McBee, and Frederick D. Sisler. Inquiries should be directed to Dr. Claude E. ZoBell, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, Calif.

RCA Special Systems Department

The Radio Corporation of America has established a special systems and development department that will be devoted to the planning and development of electronic systems for future military needs. C. B. Jolliffe, vice president and technical director of R.C.A., has been appointed manager of the new department. Other executive posts in the department are as follows: A. W. Vance, chief systems engineer; G. L. Dimmick, chief development engineer; A. C. Gay, manager, projects engineering; and E. W. Pritchard, administrative engineer.