

It will be designed to provide living quarters for 75 students and will also provide accommodations for married couples. A special feature of this dormitory will be temporary residential accommodations for graduate students from other universities who will be invited to the institute for brief periods of special study with members of the institute.

Theta Tau Discrimination Clause Causes Resignations

Two members of the Columbia University faculty, Wesley J. Hennessy, associate dean of the faculty of engineering, and Mario Salvadori, professor of civil engineering, have resigned from Theta Tau, professional engineering fraternity, because it bars Negroes from membership. The discriminatory clause in the fraternity constitution limits membership to white males.

In their letter of resignation, Hennessy and Salvadori say: "The reports of the Theta delegation to the national convention . . . clearly indicate that the fraternity as a whole is not ready to renounce the discriminatory clause and wishes to wait at least until 1958 before deciding upon this issue. To maintain such a clause in any constitution in the year 1957 is morally unacceptable."

Pomona Physics Building

Pomona College (Claremont, Calif.) has received an anonymous gift of \$1 million for a new physics and mathematics building. Construction will begin this spring and the building will be occupied in September 1958. The new building's 40,000 square feet of floor space will more than double the space now available at Pomona for physics and mathematics instruction.

IBM Merit Scholarships

One of the largest industrial scholarship programs ever launched—calling for an average annual expenditure of approximately \$250,000 when in full operation—has been announced by the International Business Machines Corporation. The program has been developed in honor of the late Thomas J. Watson, IBM board chairman, and will be known as IBM's Thomas J. Watson Memorial Scholarship Program. The National Merit Scholarship Corporation will cooperate in administering the program.

IBM's plan provides for 50 scholarships of 4 years each to be awarded annually on a competitive basis; 25 will go to high-school seniors who are chil-

dren of IBM employees, and 25 to other high-school seniors in public, private, and parochial schools throughout the nation. This means that 4 years from now 200 students will be receiving benefits each year from the program.

In addition, a minimum of 25 matching scholarships will be awarded annually by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Each scholarship, whether awarded by IBM or National Merit, includes an equitable cost-of-education grant to the institution selected by the scholarship recipient.

Recipients will be selected on the basis of merit, without regard to financial need. The amount of the award, however, will vary from a minimum of \$100 per year to the full cost of education and will be determined by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation on the basis of need.

Harvard Medical Center

Harvard Medical School and its seven teaching hospitals have incorporated themselves as the Harvard Medical Center, Inc., for the purpose of raising a common endowment fund. The charter of the new corporation states that its purposes are to "improve and advance knowledge, practice and teaching of medicine in all its branches; assist in the advance of medical research and investigation and in improvement of medical teaching facilities and methods; solicit and receive contributions from whatever sources in trust or otherwise and whether unrestricted or for undesignated purposes or subject to specified conditions."

In addition to the medical school, the center consists of the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, the Harvard School of Public Health, Beth Israel Hospital, Boston Lying-in Hospital, the Children's Medical Center, the Free Hospital for Women, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, Massachusetts General Hospital, and Peter Bent Brigham Hospital.

George Packer Berry, dean of Harvard Medical School, is president of the center. The vice presidents are Ralph Lowell, a trustee of Massachusetts General, and Robert Cutler, chairman of the trustees of Peter Bent Brigham.

Lockheed Critical Assembly at Stanford

The Atomic Energy Commission has filed notice of the proposed issuance to Lockheed Aircraft Corporation of a permit for the construction of a critical experiments facility in Palo Alto, Calif. Announcement of the proposed issuance appeared in the *Federal Register* on 26 Feb. The permit will be issued unless,

within 15 days of that date, a request for a hearing is filed with the commission.

A critical assembly differs from a reactor in that the arrangement of the fuel assembly and other components is not permanent but may be rearranged easily and quickly. The chain reaction is maintained at or near zero power, and little radiation is emitted. Assemblies of this sort are used to study the behavior of fissionable materials at various degrees of enrichment and in different shapes. Lockheed plans to use its facility primarily for testing reactor cores.

The Missile Systems Division of Lockheed Aircraft will build the facility on a 22-acre plot leased from Stanford University. The site is on the university's industrial research property, about 2 miles southeast of the Stanford campus.

The critical assembly building is to be an underground structure of reinforced concrete 40 feet from the nuclear physics building in which the control room will be located. Lockheed has indicated that the earliest date for completion of the facility is 31 Mar. 1957; the latest date, 30 Sept. 1957.

Britannica Films for Educational TV

The Westinghouse Broadcasting Company, Inc., which recently became the first commercial broadcaster to purchase the entire Encyclopaedia Britannica Films library for use on its television stations, is making selections from that library of 650 films available free to educational stations within the service areas of the Westinghouse stations.

Berkeley Basic Science Institute

The University of California has announced that its new Institute for Basic Science Research has started operations on the Berkeley campus with the appointment of eight faculty members to research professorships in the institute. The appointments will free the scientists from teaching and other university duties so that they may devote their entire attention to their research. It is expected that the institute will concentrate on a modest number of substantial projects—possibly ten—rotating among several fields and supporting some investigations that might have difficulty obtaining financial assistance from other funds.

The institute was established in 1955 with an endowment of nearly \$2.75 million from an anonymous donor who provided that the institute "shall be dedicated to the encouragement of creative thought and the conduct of research and investigation in pure science. . . . The