primary purpose of the Institute shall be to discover and encourage the work of individuals of great talent and promise."

The university regents approved three professorships in the institute, effective 1 Jan.: Daniel Mazia, professor of zoology, for research on the life-history of the cell; Jerzy Neyman, director of the Statistical Laboratory, for research on the distribution of galaxies and expansion of the universe; and Stephen P. Diliberto, associate professor of mathematics, for research on stability of the moon's orbit and also on the three body problem.

Five more professorships will be effective on 1 July: G. H. Curtis and J. F. Evernden, both assistant professors of geology, who will continue work to establish geologic time correlation between continents and to set up a world-wide time scale by absolute dating of rocks, using the potassium-argon method; W. A. Nierenberg, professor of physics, for research in the hyperfine structural anomalies in cesium and rubidium; Roger Y. Stanier, professor of bacteriology, for research on photosynthetic pigments; and James Cason, professor of chemistry, for research on the electrochemical reduction and the chemistry of organo-phosphorus compounds. In addition, provision was made for the appointment of a visiting research professor of radio astronomy; a scientist for this post will be named later.

Initial appointments and grants have been made in the amount of approximately $170,000, including the payment of salaries and administrative and other costs. Under the terms provided by the donor, research professors and fellows will hold appointments for varying terms, not to exceed 5 years, unless the time is extended by a favorable vote of three-quarters of the regents of the university on recommendation of the Advisory Board.

The appointments reported so far will extend for periods of from 6 months to 2 years. In each case, the researcher holds an appointment in the institute comparable to his faculty post. When faculty members are appointed to temporary research professorships in the institute, their regular university salaries are to be made available to their departments to provide for replacements on the teaching staff.

The plans for the administration of the institute were drawn up by a committee of 12 faculty members headed by Chancellor Clark Kerr. The major organizational components of the institute are the Advisory Board and the Executive Committee.

The seven members of the Advisory Board include three scientists nominated by the National Academy of Sciences: Jerome Hunsaker, aeronautical engineer of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; I. I. Rabi, Nobel laureate at Columbia University; and Paul Weiss, head of the laboratory of Developmental Biology of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. Four Advisory Board members on the university staff are President Robert G. Sproul, chairman, *ex officio*; William R. Dennes, professor of philosophy; Glenn T. Seaborg, Nobel laureate and professor of chemistry; Curt Stern, professor of zoology. The Executive Committee is composed of the four University of California members, with Dennes as chairman.

Synthetic Racemic Material Available

CIBA Pharmaceutical Products, Inc., Summit, N.J., has made available to the Endocrinology Study Section, National Institutes of Health (Bethesda 14, Md.), its limited supply of *d,l*-aldosterone for biological and clinical investigation. This synthetic racemic material has one-half the biological activity of the natural *d*-aldosterone.

The synthetic material is available to qualified investigators in the following forms: *d,l*-aldosterone 21-monoacetate in a purified sesame oil solution (200 μg/ml and 20 μg/ml); *d,l*-aldosterone 21-monoacetate in a 95-percent ethanol solution (1 mg/ml); and *d,l*-aldosterone (nonesterified) in a 95-percent ethanol solution (10 μg/ml). The monoacetate will be distributed for biological work and the nonesterified form will be limited to use as a chromatographic standard. The alcohol solution of the monoacetate can be diluted for intravenous injections. Purified sesame oil can be obtained from CIBA for those who have occasion to dilute the oil solutions.

Requests should be made by letter to Dr. R. T. Hill, Executive Secretary, Endocrinology Study Section. The letter should state briefly exactly how much of the material is wanted and then describe the nature of the investigation in which it is to be used.

Tulane Apprenticeships in Zoology

The zoology and botany departments of Tulane University have instituted an apprenticeship program to provide entering freshmen with an opportunity to follow their interests in biology under guidance of the faculties in zoology and botany. Each apprentice will be assigned to a professor in the appropriate field. The student will devote 4 hours each week to a biological problem of his selection and will be encouraged to participate in departmental activities such as special lectures and graduate seminars. The program pays no stipend.

Population Reference Bureau

The Population Reference Bureau of Washington, D.C., has issued an invitation to graduate students to join its summer workshop. Candidates should be, preferably, students of demography, sociology, conservation, economics, or geography. Each member of the workshop will carry through his own research problem, from the bare statistics to a finished, interpretive essay.

When applying, candidates should explain how their major interest is related to population problems. Their applications should be supported by two letters from professors, instructors, or faculty advisers.

The 1957 session, the bureau's sixth annual workshop, will begin on 17 June and close on 26 July. Only six candidates will be chosen. They will receive $300 toward transportation and subsistence in Washington. Applications should be submitted *by 30 Mar.* to the Population Reference Bureau, 1507 M St., NW, Washington 5, D.C.

Intermittent Publications

One of the recommendations of the first International Congress on Documentation of Applied Chemistry, London, 1955, was "that National Centres to deal with Intermittent Publications be created." This question has been given careful consideration by the Ad Hoc Committee on Abstracting and Documentation of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, under the chairmanship of H. R. Kruyt.

The committee was of the opinion that it would be inadvisable to stimulate the creation of new national bodies for this kind of documentation. It was, however, decided to write to each of the national adhering bodies of the union asking them about the present position with regard to the documentation of such publications in their countries. The term *intermittent publications* has been defined as documents which are not books in the ordinary sense and not regular periodicals; they may be printed, offset, mimeographed, photographed, or even typewritten; they comprise reports, monographs, symposia, surveys, conference papers, data sheets, students' theses, standard specifications, test specifications, bulletins, technical papers, circulars, leaflets, and memoranda.

Of the 30 or so countries queried, 17 have sent replies varying considerably in length and comprehensiveness. The following is an attempt to summarize the present position on the basis of the replies received.

All the national adhering bodies recognize the size of the task. Yugo-

slavia merely states that some action would be useful, whereas Spain and Colombia are willing to pursue the matter further. Australia and Sweden say that the question is already being discussed by organizations in their respective countries, while certain other countries—namely, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, and Denmark—state frankly that the problem is too vast to be solved as a whole, although certain types of intermittent publications, for example, university doctorate theses in Belgium, are now being documented.

However, according to Hungary, Norway, Finland (in part), India, and Japan, national intermittent publications are already documented; Japan is willing to take steps to make the documentation complete. Great Britain considers that nearly everything of importance finds its way into a recognized publication and is therefore documented in the usual way.

This opinion is not shared by Canada, who suggests that few, if any, intermittent publications ever appear in the abstract journals. France considers it sufficient that all publications must be deposited in the National Library and that the CNRS endeavors to document everything of importance. The Austrian reply was concerned with the production of intermittent publications by scientific societies rather than with their documentation.

It is obviously unwise to try to draw any general conclusions when only 17 national adhering bodies have replied, but the information obtained so far shows such a great diversity of approach to a common problem, that it seemed useful as an interim indication of the kind of information that the committee is collecting.

Darbaker Prize in Phycology

The Darbaker Prize Committee of the Botanical Society of America will accept nominations for an award to be announced at the annual meeting of the society in 1957. Under the terms of the bequest, the award is to be made for meritorious work in the study of the algae, particularly the microscopic algae. The value of the 1957 prize will depend on the income from the trust fund that supports it, but the amount is expected to be about $150.

The committee will base its judgment primarily on the papers published by the candidate during the last two full calendar years previous to the closing date for nominations. Only papers published in the English language will be considered.

Nominations for the 1957 award, accompanied by a statement of the merits of the case and by reprints of the publications supporting the candidacy, should be sent *before 1 May* to the chairman of the prize committee, George F. Papenfuss, University of California, Berkeley, Calif.

NSF Funds Available

The Division of Biological and Medical Sciences of the National Science Foundation has announced that the next closing date for receipt of research proposals in the life sciences is *15 May*. Proposals received after the May closing date will be reviewed following the fall closing date of *15 Sept*.

In addition to funds for the support of basic research in the life sciences, limited funds will be available during the current fiscal year for the support of research facilities and programs at biological field stations. Inquiries should be addressed to the National Science Foundation, Washington 25, D.C.

Microfilm Cameras for Libraries

A new microfilm camera that has been developed by Atherton Seidell and H. F. Flemer is being given free to research libraries on condition that the libraries substitute microfilms for interlibrary lending of original publications. Flemer is a specialist in microfilms who is in charge of the photoduplicating service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Seidell, to whom inquiries should be addressed, can be reached at 2301 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, D.C.

With the new microfilm camera the illumination, time of exposure, aperture of the lens, and development of the exposed film are all definitely fixed in advance, so that no adjustments of the unit are needed to get good microfilms of the usual library publications. Microfilm copying may therefore be performed by library employees who have had very little special training. Seidell and Flemer also have developed a small inexpensive microfilm viewer.

Taxonomy of the Actinomycetes

The Society of American Bacteriologists, through its Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of Actinomycetes, has received grants from industry to support fundamental research on the taxonomy of actinomycetes. The aim of the program is to foster research in this field and to encourage the training of people in the taxonomy of this group. The ultimate objective is to stimulate the publication of monographic treatments of the actinomycetes and the unification of this material for a system of identification. The companies that have so far made financial contributions to the project are Abbott Laboratories; Bristol Laboratories, Inc.; Chas. Pfizer and Company, Inc.; Eli Lilly and Company; Lederle Laboratories; Merck Sharp and Dohme; Parke, Davis and Company; and Upjohn Company.

The committee would welcome requests for support of work that deals with a phase of actinomycete taxonomy. Applications should be sent to the temporary chairman of the committee, Prof. K. L. Jones, Department of Botany, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Fishery Studies

Under the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, the funds allotted for market, technologic, and biological research and for the development of American commercial fisheries has been increased by almost $3.6 million. With the $3 million currently allotted for this work, the total now available for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1957 is almost $6.6 million. The sum will be administered by the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries in the Department of the Interior.

History of Science Prize

An annual award of $250 has been established by Henry and Ida Schuman of New York for an original prize essay in the history of science and its cultural influences. This competition is open to undergraduate and graduate students in any American or Canadian college, university, or institute of technology. Papers submitted for the competition should be approximately 5000 words in length, exclusive of footnotes, and thoroughly documented. It is hoped that the prize-winning essay will be suitable for publication in *ISIS*, the journal of the History of Science Society.

It is the wish of the donors that "history of science and its cultural influences" should be broadly interpreted. The papers—which should in each case be original contributions to learning—may deal with the ideas and accomplishments of scientists in the past; they may trace the evolution of particular scientific concepts; or they may study the historical influences of one branch of science upon another.

The phrase "cultural influences" is taken to include studies of the social and historical conditions that have influenced the growth of science, or the effects of scientific developments upon society in the realms of philosophy, religion, social