increasing number of qualified teachers and investigators in those fields. The schedule will provide generous allotments of free time so that students can engage as actively as possible in research during their formative years in medical school.

Shortened time for medical education will mean a cut in the total cost of training. Earlier completion of training will enable more students to obtain optimal postgraduate training in hospital residencies.

National Science Policy

The following suggestions for an adequate national science policy are discussed in a recent issue of the *Saturday Review* by Sidney Hyman, *Washington Post* reporter:

"A Secretary of Science in the Presidential Cabinet ought to be considered. Failing it, the very least we can ask is a Science Commission on the same level of prestige and authority as the Bureau of the Budget, the Council of Economic Advisors, and the National Security Council. On this Science Commission the National Science Foundation should be represented alongside major department heads, including the Secretary of State. And the Secretary of State in that position should be the channel for Science Attachés in American embassies to acquaint the President with impacts of science abroad. . . .

"As a Congressional offset to the growing autonomy of a science-entrenched Executive one thing is plainly needed. It is a Joint Congressional Committee on Science, backed in depth by a technical staff. . . ."

Radiation Protection Group Appoints New Executive Committee

The National Committee on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP) has announced a change in the membership of its executive committee. Within the operating procedures of the NCRP, the executive committee is responsible for the broad policies and direction of the work of the committee, and its membership is selected to provide as broad representation as possible of the many disciplines that are involved in the philosophy and development of radiation protection.

Sponsored by the National Bureau of Standards, the NCRP is an advisory group of experts in various phases of the radiation field and is made up of representatives from the following organizations: American College of Radiology, American Dental Association, American Industrial Hygiene Association, American Medical Association, American Radium Society, American Roentgen Ray Society, International Association of Government Labor Officials, National Bureau of Standards, National Electrical Manufacturers Association, Radiological Society of North America, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, U.S. Navy, and U.S. Public Health Service. The recommendations of the committee are published by the U.S. Government Printing Office in the NBS Handbook series.

The members of the new executive committee and their institutional affiliations are as follows: L. S. Taylor, chairman, Atomic and Radiation Physics Division, National Bureau of Standards; E. C. Barnes, Industrial Hygiene Department, Westinghouse Electric Corporation; C. B. Braestrup, Physics Laboratory, Francis Delafield Hospital (City of New York Department of Hospitals); C. L. Dunham, Division of Biology and Medicine, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission; H. Bentley Glass, Department of Biology, Johns Hopkins University; H. M. Parker, Hanford Laboratories, General Electric Company; Clinton Powell, Division of Special Health Services, U.S. Public Health Service; Robert S. Stone, Medical Center, University of California; Shields Warren, Cancer Research Institute, New England Deaconess Hospital.

Training in Steroid Biochemistry

Applications are now being accepted for the second course in the Training Program for Steroid Biochemistry, a program that is conducted through the cooperative effort of the Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology, the department of chemistry of Clark University, and the department of biochemistry of the University of Utah. The program is sponsored by the National Cancer Institute to provide specialized training for people interested in steroid investigation. Two groups of candidates will be selected and will receive stipends during the period of training.

Postdoctoral candidates having an M.D. or Ph.D. degree will receive $5000 for 1 year starting 1 Oct. 1957. The training will consist of laboratory sessions and lectures covering theoretical and practical aspects of steroid research, and an opportunity to engage in a research problem under an established investigator.

Candidates having a B.S., M.S., or equivalent degree will receive $1500 for a 6-month training period, 1 Oct. 1957 through Mar. 1958. The predoctoral program is intended to provide competency in the analysis of steroid compounds for research and clinical laboratories.

The closing date for applications is *15 Aug.* Requests for applications should be made to Dr. Kristen Eik-Nes, Department of Biochemistry, College of Medicine, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, or to Dr. Frank Ungar, Department of Chemistry, Clark University, Worcester, Mass.

Reynolds Memorial Fund

The faculty of the department of biology at the University of Virginia has started a memorial fund in the name of the late Bruce D. Reynolds. Interest on all money collected will be applied to an annual fellowship for each season of the Mountain Lake Biological Station. Reynolds was instrumental in founding the station in 1930, and he resigned as its director last fall. Checks should be made out to the Bruce D. Reynolds Memorial Fund and mailed to the secretary of the fund, Biology Building, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.

$5000 Hoblitzelle Award in Agriculture

The Hoblitzelle national award in the agricultural sciences, consisting of $5000 and a gold medal to the person who has made the most important scientific contribution to American agriculture for the preceding 4-year period, will be presented in May 1958. The contribution meriting this award must have been published in the period from 1 Jan. 1953 through 31 Dec. 1956. There is no intention of excluding research that may have been initiated earlier, but the results must have been published in those 4 years. Popular articles, mimeographed progress reports, and digests are not generally considered as complying with the standards of the award.

All nominations will be channelled through regional committees. There will be a committee in each state to cover the continental United States, and one each for Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. In performing its function, each committee is requested to give equal consideration to all scientists, irrespective of creed, color, nationality, age, branch of science, or affiliation with scientific or scholastic organization.

Nominations may be made by the regional committees or by individuals, groups, or agencies. The nominator must furnish the regional committee with five copies each of the following items: the publication or publications on which the nomination is based; a written evaluation of the nominee's contribution and its national significance to agriculture; a short biographical sketch of the nominee; and such other information as he may feel is necessary to support the nomination. In making nominations it

should be kept in mind that the award is given as recognition of specific research and not in recognition of a man's career in science. The research must have potential national significance to agriculture.

Each committee will receive nominations, evaluate them, and forward three selections to Fred M. Shaw, Secretary, Hoblitzelle Awards, Texas Research Foundation, Renner, Tex. Nominations must be received by the Texas Research Foundation *not later than 1 Nov. 1957.* Further information may be obtained from Shaw.

The Hoblitzelle Foundation, the donor of this award, was established by Karl Hoblitzelle in 1942 "exclusively for charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes. . . ." Hoblitzelle, a resident of Dallas, is a businessman, financier, and philanthropist.

NSF Research Data

The National Science Foundation has initiated a new series of brief reports under the general heading *Reviews of Data on Research and Development.* The first report is a 4-page leaflet dealing with "Expenditures for Research and Development in the United States, 1953." In a graphically illustrated text, the release shows that the Federal Government contributed 52 percent, and industry 44 percent, of the $5370 million available for research and development in that year. Industry, on the other hand, carried out 72 percent of the actual work, whereas the Government assumed responsibility for only 18 percent. Colleges and universities provided financial support for only 3 percent of the total, yet they performed 9 percent of the research and development done.

The National Science Foundation is using this new medium to provide advance summaries of work in progress. Soon to appear are reports on "Expenditures for Research in Medical Schools, 1953–54," and "Expenditures for Research in Colleges and Universities, 1953–54."

New Oceanography and Ornithology Laboratories for Yale

Yale University will begin construction this summer of a $650,000, two-story wing of the Peabody Museum that will house the Bingham Oceanographic Laboratory and the Ornithology Laboratory. The laboratories are scheduled for occupancy in January 1959.

The new structure has been made possible by generous donations from Wendell W. Anderson, Allan Shelden 3d, William W. Shelden, and Thomas Shevlin. In addition, the ornithology part of the building, established by a substantial bequest from the late William Robertson Coe, is the culmination of many years of planning to enhance research and collections in ornithology. The late Harry Payne Bingham, who started the Bingham laboratory many years ago with extensive gifts of his own collections and funds to support and build them, also left a sizable sum to Yale for the eventual construction of the wing.

34,000-Year-Old Skeleton

The Smithsonian Institution has announced that an adult human skeleton has been found 14½ feet below the surface in the top Mousterian layer of the Shanidar Cave, in northern Iraq. Ralph S. Solecki, Smithsonian collaborator and archeologist-leader of the Smithsonian-sponsored expedition to Iraq, reports that no exact age can be given for the skeleton, but the layer in which it was found is known to be over 34,000 years old.

Solecki first visited the Shanidar Cave in 1951. So promising were his initial excavations that he arranged to return for ten weeks in the summer of 1953. It was during the second expedition that Solecki found a child's skeleton at a depth of 26 feet from the surface. A recent study of the teeth of the Shanidar child indicates that it belongs to a new form of Mousterian or Upper Pleistocene man. Since the newly discovered adult comes from a higher level in the cave, it may represent a still different type of man.

Solar Energy Center

A Solar Energy Center will be built at Tierra del Sol, Calif., a townsite owned by J. Y. Leveque, sponsor of the new project. Leveque, a San Diego and Los Angeles management consultant specializing in the aircraft and oil industries, undertook the new venture with the backing of eastern businessmen. Construction will begin shortly. The center will be privately financed, and will aim at obtaining research and development contracts from Government agencies and industrial firms.

Tierra del Sol, on the Tecate Divide 65 miles east of San Diego, is 3800 feet above sea level. The site is close to much higher and much lower altitudes where experiments can be conducted under a wide variety of climatic conditions. The smog- and fog-free site receives sunshine almost every day of the year and has easy access to good highway and rail facilities.

The purpose of the center will be to develop practical uses for solar energy. A solar furnace, capable of reaching temperatures in excess of 6000°F, will eventually be built for the project. It will be used for testing and heat-treating.

In addition to the construction of suitable laboratory facilities, everything possible will be done to keep Tierra del Sol in character with the Solar Energy Center. A model home will be built that uses solar energy for heating and hot water, and street lights will be equipped with solar batteries. A solar pump, to be imported from Italy, will be installed on a well that is about to be drilled.

An exhibit of various solar-energy applications, collected from all over the world, will be open to the public. In addition, scientists from various countries will be invited to visit the center.

One of the first projects to be undertaken will be research in the application of solar energy as a means of sea-water conversion. Sea water will be shipped by rail from San Diego for this purpose.

Films for Junior High Schools

To stimulate the interest of teenagers in science as a possible career field, the McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, has released a junior science film series. The series, a program of 39 films, each about 13 minutes in length, has been planned with the junior-high-school curriculum in mind. While maintaining a sound educational approach, these films are geared to lead the students to appreciate the advantages offered by careers in science.

Using equipment and materials readily available, each film deals with a basic scientific principle and relates it to ordinary life. For example, through the medium of film, a toy locomotive demonstrates Newton's third law of action and reaction; children playing on a seesaw are transformed into a lever diagram; and a cowboy's lariat illustrates centrifugal force.

News Briefs

The schedule is now available for the laboratory refresher training courses that are to be offered by the U.S. Public Health Service Communicable Disease Center during the period 9 Sept. 1957–28 Mar. 1958. Information and application blanks may be secured from the Laboratory Branch, Communicable Disease Center, U.S. Public Health Service, P.O. Box 185, Chamblee, Ga.

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The Air Research and Development Command has established a new Development Field Office in the San Francisco Bay area to provide a close link between