liam F. Loomis of the Loomis Laboratory will also have an appointment as professor of biochemistry. Assistant professors are Mary Ellen Jones of the Biochemical Research Laboratories at Massachusetts General Hospital, Lawrence Levine of the New York State Department of Laboratories, Lawrence Grossman of the National Institutes of Health, and William P. Jencks of the department of chemistry at Harvard University.

The department will offer a program of studies leading to the Ph.D. degree. An advanced training program for investigators with a Ph.D. or an M.D. degree is also planned. Research activities of the department will be carried out in a number of different areas, including intermediary metabolism in normal and tumor tissue, enzymology, immunochemistry, biochemical and immunogenetics, biochemical basis of chemotherapy, protein chemistry, plant and virus metabolism, radiobiology, problems in growth and differentiation, photobiology, microbial metabolism, and organic biochemistry. The department will begin its program on 1 July.

Hughes Department for Radiation Study

A new department of nuclear electronics has been announced by the Hughes Aircraft Company, Los Angeles, Calif. The department, headed by John W. Clark, will work with systems designers and manufacturers of components to measure radiation effects on materials and circuitry and to improve their performance under nuclear radiation conditions. The new group will specialize in radiation physics; dosimetry, particularly for high nuclear radiation rates; development of reliable techniques for radiation experiments, and design of radiation testing facilities.

AEC Radiation Protection Rule

The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has amended its regulation on standards for protection of workers and the public against radiation to provide that those who are licensed shall promptly notify the commission of potentially serious accidents involving licensed material. They must now immediately notify the nearest AEC operations office of any incident involving licensed material which may have resulted in appreciable release of radioactive material or excessive exposure of individuals to radiation. This will enable the commission to assure that appropriate steps are taken to minimize the consequences of the incident, to determine its cause, and to initiate corrective action. Holders of licenses are required, also, to make a detailed report in writing, within 30 days, of all such incidents, regardless of their nature or extent, resulting in radiation exposures or concentrations of radioactive materials above permissible limits.

Spectrochimica Acta

Pergamon Press, Ltd., has announced that a reorganization of the scope of *Spectrochimica Acta* has been undertaken so as to take into account the changing emphasis in spectroscopy in recent years. The journal, which used to be mainly directed to problems of atomic emission spectroscopy and spectrographic analysis, will now reflect the impact upon chemistry, whether organic or physical, of molecular spectroscopy; problems of atomic emission spectroscopy will continue to be fully treated.

In the future, the journal will be published in four-issue volumes, containing the same number of pages as hitherto published in the six-issue volumes, and it is hoped that the journal will appear monthly. This increased rate of publication will make possible rapid publication of papers and also of short research notes, up-to-date reports on spectroscopic meetings, and general information of interest to spectroscopists. It is hoped that full-length papers can be published within 90 days of their acceptance and short communications within a maximum of 60 days.

Teacher Shortage in West Germany

The German Research Association, Bonn, has reported in its most recent survey that the shortage of science teachers in West German technical schools is "catastrophic." The report seems to indicate that some of the factors producing critical shortages in the United States are also operative in West Germany. These factors include an inadequate number of technical schools for the growing population, small teaching staffs, and poorly equipped technical schools.

The report says that there is a 60 percent shortage of engineers and assistants in the technical schools. The shortage of technical and workshop personnel in the school system has risen to 96 percent.

Further, the physical condition of the school buildings in many cases is very poor. Almost 50 percent of the schools specializing in chemistry were constructed before 1918. Between 20 and 30 percent of these institutions are described as "dilapidated." More than two-thirds of the schools are too small.

The income of science teachers compared with that of their graduates poses the same problem as in the United States. The shortage of technical personnel in engineering and chemical industries has also assumed a pattern similar to that in the United States. The Sunday editions of leading newspapers contain as many as eight and ten pages of classified advertisements for electronic, mechanical, construction, chemical, and steel engineers. Foreign concerns, including American organizations, have also been advertising for trained personnel to be employed in their German or overseas plants.

Public Relations and the Laboratory

Leland Haworth, director of Brookhaven National Laboratory, recently warned a group of Latin-American scientists that the public relations aspect of any atomic program is of primary importance. To demonstrate his point, he described the succession of events that followed the accident that took place at Brookhaven last month, when several laboratory staff members were injured, none fatally, in a chemical explosion.

Within minutes after the news of the explosion had been made public by bulletins and radio broadcasts, the laboratory switchboard was swamped. A Detroit editor had asked how much of Long Island had been destroyed; the *Times of London* wanted all details; one report said that there had been 1000 fatalities; the Oak Ridge National Laboratory wanted to known how it could help; and Haworth's daughter in California phoned that evening to see how he had come through the disaster.

Haworth deplored any unscheduled explosion, even in a test laboratory, but he emphasized that every nuclear research center should have well-organized public relations and press information sections fully prepared to deal with such emergencies. He went on to comment as follows about news and radio people: "They do things differently from scientists, who hold accuracy first and speed second. In some quarters, matters of public information are reversed. The Wednesday [explosion] event is a case in point. When word was passed out, there was a news chain reaction that went to many parts of the world."

N.Y.U.–Bell Laboratories Program

A graduate study center will be established by New York University at the Bell Telephone Laboratories this fall. At the center certain Bell Laboratories employees will be able to earn advanced engineering degrees by attending classes during regular business hours while receiving full-time pay.

A committee of Bell scientists worked