

size, effect of independent study by students, faculty salaries, standardized accounting practices, tuition, scholarships and loans, sources of funds, and investment policies.

Among the possible joint operations ACM may undertake are standardization of admission procedures and scholarship qualifications, pooling of library resources, joint offices for recruiting students, sharing of faculty members, expansion of cooperative arrangements for purchasing, research, faculty recruitment, and fund raising. The ten colleges may also explore the usefulness of a joint press, a summer school held on a different campus each year, a uniform calendar or a three-term-per-year plan, and interchange of lectures, concerts, and other extracurricular activities.

Los Alamos Accident

The Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory has completed its investigation of the circumstances surrounding the radiation accident which occurred at the laboratory on 30 December 1958, which resulted in the fatal injury of one employee. A technical report describing in detail the circumstances of the accident has been prepared and is available (50¢ per copy) at the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D.C. This report describes the events leading to the accident, the situation at the time of the critical burst, the removal and analysis of the solution that caused the burst, and the steps being taken to prevent a recurrence. Medical and pathological data resulting from studies now being carried on by the laboratory's health division will probably be ready for publication by midsummer.

An investigation review committee has found that the accident was directly attributable to errors on the part of the operator during a series of transfers of plutonium and organic solutions between containers in a chemical plutonium recovery process. The committee also found that the procedures for this process were such that safety of operation depended substantially on the ability and judgment of individual operators, but that the incident might have been prevented had the organizational arrangement required closer supervision to insure that normal procedures were followed.

Woodrow Wilson Fellows

The Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, Princeton, N.J., has announced the names of 1200 American and Canadian students as Woodrow

Wilson fellows. The foundation recruits promising students who intend to be teachers and supports them for their first year of graduate study. The project is backed by a \$25-million grant from the Ford Foundation.

It has been predicted that between 30,000 and 40,000 new full-time college teachers will be needed to train the wave of students seeking college educations in the 1960's. The current annual output of Ph.D.'s averages 9000, of which only half go into college teaching.

This year's Wilson fellows were chosen from 7000 candidates from more than 700 undergraduate colleges. New Wilson fellows will begin graduate work next fall at 80 different universities. Each fellow receives a living allowance of \$1500, plus the full cost of tuition and fees. Married students receive additional stipends.

In this year's group of winners there are 875 men and 325 women. Of these, 38 percent are planning to take courses in the humanities, 34 percent, in the social sciences, and 28 percent, in the natural sciences and mathematics.

Nuclear Information Center

An information center has been opened by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority at 11 Charles II St., London, S.W. 1, that provides a central location where published unclassified material may be consulted with no security restrictions. Advice on sources of information is also given. A collection of unclassified reports, indexes, and abstracts of atomic energy literature, and publications on the work of the AEA, are all on file.

Adjoining the center is an 8000-print photographic library. Prints may be bought from stock or ordered to suit particular requirements. Slides in color and black-and-white may be borrowed.

British Association for Medical Education

The Association for the Study of Medical Education in Great Britain, organized late in 1957 to serve as a forum for persons interested in the problems of medical education and as a clearing-house for information in the field, will be assisted during its initial, developmental years by a grant of £10,000 (about \$28,500) from the Rockefeller Foundation to The Royal College of Physicians, London. The major purposes of the association are to exchange information on medical education in Great Britain; organize meetings on relevant topics; maintain a bureau where information can be received, stored, and

made available to those interested; and encourage, promote, or conduct research into matters concerned with medical education. Almost all the licensing bodies and medical schools of Great Britain, as well as individual medical educators and practitioners, are members of the new association.

Research Associateship Program

A program of research associateships, offering stipends of \$8000 and more a year and opportunities for work in the sciences bearing on space exploration, has been announced by the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

The associateships, which will involve both theoretical and experimental research at NASA's Beltsville, Maryland, Space Projects Center, are being offered to two groups—those who are at the immediate postdoctoral level and those who are well-established investigators in disciplines germane to space exploration. Associateships for the first group, designated "regular," will carry the stipend of \$8000 a year, the normal period of tenure; those for the second group, the "senior" associateships, will carry stipends adjusted to match the individual's salary.

Applicants for the regular associateships must produce evidence of training equivalent to that represented by the doctorates of philosophy or science or must have completed the requirements for one of these degrees at the time of entering upon the position. In addition to the documents normally required for such an application, a plan of research to be conducted at the NASA laboratory must be submitted. Selection of the senior associates will be based on letters of recommendation and evidences of previous scientific accomplishments and scholarly activity. The applicants will be evaluated and passed on by a board appointed by the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council; in all cases they will be expected to have demonstrated superior ability for creative research.

Successful applicants in this program will work at the NASA Space Projects Center in either the space sciences division, under J. W. Townsend, or the theoretical division, under Robert Jastrow. In Townsend's division, which does experimental work, suitable areas for research would be fields and particles, planetary atmospheres, astronomy, solar physics, and meteorology. The moon and planets, astrophysics, and plasma physics will be the concerns of the associates working in the theoretical division. It is expected that later appointees will take

part in additional activities in NASA.

Applications should be received by 30 April 1959. Requests for applications and further information should be addressed to Fellowship Office, National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington 25, D.C.

News Briefs

The Geneva conference for a ban on nuclear weapons tests went into recess on 19 March. Before adjourning, the conferees—representatives from England, the United States, and Russia—adopted three articles of a draft treaty. This brings to seven the number of articles accepted during the 72 meetings of the current period of negotiation. The three new points are that the proposed treaty should be of indefinite duration, that it should be registered with the United Nations, and that the control system should be reviewed after 2 years. The conference, which was recessed at the request of England and the United States, will reconvene on Monday, 13 April.

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The United States has authorized the transfer to the United Kingdom of a complete nuclear propulsion plant for installation in the United Kingdom's submarine *Dreadnought*. The reactor is similar to those being installed in the latest U.S. Navy submarines of the *Skipjack* class. Spare parts, the reactor core, technical and manufacturing assistance, and classified information, including restricted data related to the plant, will also be supplied. A main objective of the transfer is to provide the United Kingdom with assistance and knowledge to enable that government to speed the building of similar nuclear propulsion units for use in submarines of the Royal Navy.

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A radar photographic system that, by using four aircraft, could produce a reconnaissance map of an area as big as the United States is being developed for Britain's bomber force.

The project, which holds out promise of great civil as well as military rewards, was recently disclosed to the House of Commons in the Air Ministry's request for £491,000,000 (\$1,374,800,000) in the 1959-1960 budget. In addition to its role of military reconnaissance for the Royal Air Force, the radar system could also be a valuable tool, it is believed, in any aerial inspection system arising out of a general disarmament agreement.

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More than 9000 archeological sites—locations of Indian and frontier settlements—have been found in the past 12 years in areas scheduled to be flooded or otherwise obliterated in the present res-

ervoir-building program, the Committee for the Preservation of Archeological Remains reports.

The sites are scattered over 310 reservoir areas in 42 states and constitute remains of camps, villages, burial mounds and other cemeteries, trails, quarries, and caves used by Indians; and trading posts, forts, pioneer cabins, and settlements of white frontiersmen.

Many of the 9000 sites obviously do not merit excavation, says the report. Those that do, if the work is carried out, "would provide a record of man's achievements in North America over a period ranging from 10,000 to less than 100 years ago."

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The effectiveness of water treatment in the removal of radioactive waste materials is the subject of "Report of the Joint Program of Studies on the Decontamination of Radioactive Waters," a document jointly prepared by the health physics division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Robert A. Taft Sanitary Engineering Center of the U.S. Public Health Service, and just issued by the Public Health Service. Official requests for copies will be honored by the Public Health Service and Atomic Energy Commission. The report is also available from the Office of Technical Services, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D.C., at \$1.00 per copy (publication number ORNL-2557).

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The Kaiser Foundation has announced the establishment of the Kaiser Foundation Research Institute (a division of the Kaiser Foundation Hospitals) with executive offices at 1924 Broadway, Oakland, Calif. The new institute incorporates, under the direction of Ellsworth C. Dougherty, the former Laboratory of Comparative Physiology and Morphology of the Kaiser Foundation, renamed the Laboratory of Comparative Biology. A second section of the institute, the newly established Laboratory of Medical Entomology, is under the direction of Ben F. Feingold. Both laboratories have headquarters at the Kaiser Foundation Medical Center, S. 14th St. and Cutting Blvd., Richmond, Calif.

Scientists in the News

GEORGE WALD, professor of biology at Harvard University, has received the 51st Rumford Premium of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, for "perceptive studies through which he has illuminated the biochemical basis of vision." The premium, consisting of a \$5000 award and a gold and silver medal, was presented at a meeting of the academy in Brookline, Mass., on 11 March.

CLIFFORD GROBSTEIN, professor of biology at Stanford University, is the recipient of the Albert Brachet Prize of the Belgian Royal Academy. The prize, which consists of 20,000 Belgian francs (\$500), is given every 3 years for the most outstanding work in experimental embryology during that period. Grobstein is the first American among the eight scientists who have won the award during its 24-year history.

WILLARD F. LIBBY, scientist member of the Atomic Energy Commission and professor of chemistry at the University of California, Los Angeles, has been named the recipient of the 1959 Albert Einstein Medal and award, consisting of \$5000. The award is given by the Lewis and Rosa Strauss Memorial Fund, which was established in 1951 by Lewis L. Strauss, former AEC chairman, in memory of his parents.

M. D. ARMSTRONG, officer in charge, Road Research Scottish Laboratory, Glasgow, Scotland, has been invited to give 30 lectures at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., from 1 April to 15 June.

JAMES C. LAMB, sanitary engineer with American Cyanamid Company, N.J., has been appointed associate professor of sanitary engineering at the University of North Carolina School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, N.C.

JOHN G. N. BRAITHWAITE, formerly with the electronics division of the Canadian Westinghouse Company, has joined Baird-Atomic, Inc., Cambridge, Mass., as senior infrared scientist.

EDGAR ZWILLING, associate professor of animal genetics at the University of Connecticut, has been appointed professor of biology at Brandeis University, effective 1 July.

The following scientists were among the winners of Rockefeller Public Service Awards:

DEAN R. CHAPMAN, aeronautical research scientist, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Calif.

CHARLES L. CHRIST, physicist and laboratory director, Geochemistry and Petrology Branch, U.S. Geological Survey.

MARVIN A. SCHNEIDERMAN, section head, Cancer Chemotherapy National Service Center, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health.

W. DAYTON MACLAY, director of U.S. Department of Agriculture's Northern Utilization Research and Development Division, Peoria, Ill., has been