

the Bureau of State Services. In February of this year, the Surgeon General also established the National Advisory Committee on Radiation, mentioned earlier, to advise him and the newly established division.

Radiological Health Budget

The Division of Radiological Health, with Francis J. Weber as chief, began operating last July. For fiscal 1958, the budget was \$390,000; for 1959, it is \$608,000. The staff has been expanded to 76 persons.

A principal activity of the division is the training of personnel in the technical aspects of radiation in relation to health. In 1958 the Service offered short topical courses to 351 personnel from states and communities. Nine of these courses are being conducted this year.

To date, 43 stations have been set up for the measurement of radioactivity in the air, 45 stations for testing water, and 10 for sampling milk. Samples are analyzed once a month, and the methods used have been sent to state health departments.

On 16 March Flemming held a news conference to discuss radiation problems. As background for the Public Health Service's present interest in the field, he reminded his audience that it was the PHS that several years ago advocated the abolition of x-ray machines for fitting shoes and that last year proposed the substitution of skin tests for mass x-ray surveys as the first step in detecting tuberculosis.

He then went on to describe Department of Health, Education, and Welfare plans for 1960 for the Public Health Service. The department's budget for 1960 calls for slightly more than a doubling of the capabilities of the PHS in the field of radiation. The request is for an appropriation of \$1,439,100, an increase of \$805,000 and the largest single increase within the Service. This is in addition to the some \$2 million being devoted to the study of radiation by the National Institutes of Health through grants-in-aid and in its own laboratories. The expanded PHS effort would be made in three categories—research, technical assistance to states and communities, and training of personnel. The research proposed would include studies of two types of population groups—individuals exposed to radiation in industry and individuals exposed in the course of medical diagnosis and therapy. In addition, the research would seek to simplify and standardize tests used to measure radiation levels.

On 3 April, just a few days after the release of the report of the National Advisory Committee on Radiation, the White House announced that the President had asked that a special study of

the administration of the radiation control program be conducted by the Bureau of the Budget. Among the problems the study will consider is whether the principal responsibility for protecting the public against the effects of radiation should remain with the Atomic Energy Commission or be transferred to the Public Health Service. Participants in the survey include the leading officials of the two agencies chiefly concerned—John A. McCone of AEC and Arthur S. Flemming of HEW. A report of the Budget Bureau's investigation is expected soon, for on 5 May the Congress' Joint Committee on Atomic Energy will open hearings on the issue.

Soviet Pay Scale Revision

Scientists in the U.S.S.R. were told recently that the mere possession of a doctor's degree was no longer a guarantee of a lifetime of luxury in the nation's top salary brackets. Drastic changes in the system of wages and payments to scientists, providing for payment based on quality of work rather than on academic degrees, are being drafted.

The measure promises to close the large gap between the salaries of academicians and others who teach and do research, on the one hand, and scientists and engineers who are directly connected with production on the other. A secondary result, it is hoped, will be elimination of the log jam of applications for advanced degrees that has kept scores of scientists bogged down in the process of training candidates for degrees. The proposed wage changes were announced briefly in *Literaturnaya Gazeta* by the deputy chairman of the State Committee on Labor and Wages.

Academic Freedom Committee Attacks Defense Education Act

The Academic Freedom Committee of the American Civil Liberties Union last month criticized the 1958 National Defense Education Act as threatening the traditional freedom of colleges and universities with control by the Federal Government. The committee's statement was signed by its chairman, Louis M. Hacker, professor of economics at Columbia University and former dean of its School of General Studies, and by ACLU executive director Patrick Murphy Malin. The statement pointed out that "Civil liberties are chiefly endangered by the law, not in its most-publicized loyalty-oath provisions (to which we are opposed, as we always have been to such provisions), but in the broad wording of provisions which confer power on the Commissioner."

As examples of undue power accorded to the commissioner, the statement cited sections of the act authorizing him to: (i) determine which accrediting agencies or associations are reliable authority as to the quality of training offered at the various institutions of higher education; (ii) award fellowships only upon his finding that the program will substantially increase facilities for training teachers; and (iii) determine whether or not each fellow is "maintaining satisfactory proficiency."

The Hacker-Malin statement described the widely criticized loyalty oath required by the act as "one of those superficially attractive catch-all attempts, popular early in this decade but now increasingly outlawed or discarded," which actually "have a most harmful effect, especially in education, where freedom of thought and association should be most protected and encouraged."

Listing of Psychologists

In the forthcoming (tenth) edition of *American Men of Science* there will be four volumes covering individuals of note in the biological and physical sciences and a fifth covering those in the social and behavioral sciences; hence, the problem has arisen as to where psychologists should properly be listed. For example, the biography of a psychologist working in the field of biology might appropriately be included in the volumes on the biological sciences even though the subject of the biography is a social or educational psychologist. In such a case, a brief cross reference to the biography in question would be included in the volume on the social and behavioral sciences.

It has been suggested by the American Psychological Association that psychologists who have a preference should advise the editor as to the category—biological and physical sciences or social and behavioral sciences—in which they wish their full biographical listing to appear. Letters on this subject should be sent immediately to *American Men of Science*, Arizona State University, 820 College Avenue, Tempe, Arizona. All information for the A-E volume for the biological and physical sciences should be in the hands of the editor before 1 June.

Coal-Tar Color Ban

The Food and Drug Administration announced recently that it was preparing to order the removal from the market of 17 coal-tar colors, which are used principally in lipstick. It will issue an order to this effect when the legal re-