

represents the National Joint Computer Committee of the U.S. and was U.S. consultant to UNESCO for the Paris conference. Also named to the provisional committee were A. A. Dorodnitsyn of the U.S.S.R. and A. van Wijngaarden of the Netherlands, vice chairmen, and J. A. Mussard of UNESCO, secretary.

The countries whose national computer societies have ratified the statutes include Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. In addition, Belgium, Israel, and Japan are forming national computer societies to qualify for membership.

The National Joint Computer Committee, the U.S. member of the federation, is made up of representatives of the Institute of Radio Engineers, the Association for Computing Machinery, and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

It is expected that the first meeting of the IFIPS council, later this year, will result in plans for a second International Conference on Information Processing and for a technical exhibit, in 1963.

Implications of the Use of Space To Be Studied by Brookings

An exploratory study on the social, economic, and political implications of the use of space for peaceful and scientific purposes will be undertaken by the Brookings Institution for the National Aeronautics and Space Agency. The project, which will take a year to complete, will attempt to identify areas worthy of research, to recommend specific studies and methods of conducting them, to suggest priorities in carrying out the research, and to indicate the potential utility of the findings.

The assistance of distinguished natural scientists and social scientists will be enlisted in assessing the important social implications of space activities. The study is a step toward one of the objectives set forth in NASA's enabling legislation: "The establishment of long-term studies of the potential benefits to be gained from, the opportunities for, and the problems involved in, the utilization of aeronautical and space activities for peaceful and scientific purposes."

The project will be conducted under the general guidance of James M. Mitchell, director of the Brookings Conference Program on Public Affairs and

former associate director of the National Science Foundation. Donald N. Michael, who has had broad experience in government and industry—most recently as senior research associate with Dunlap and Associates, Inc., and previously as a scientific warfare adviser for the Weapons Systems Evaluation Group, Joint Chiefs of Staff—has joined the Brookings staff to direct the study.

Decline in Undergraduate Enrollment in Engineering Colleges

Undergraduate enrollment in the nation's 234 engineering colleges and universities declined 5.4 percent last fall in the face of an all-time high in general college enrollment, according to a report prepared in the office of U.S. Commissioner of Education Lawrence G. Derthick. The number of full-time and part-time undergraduates in engineering schools last fall was 243,000 as compared with 257,000 in the fall of 1958. General college enrollment rose from 3,259,000 in the fall of 1958 to 3,402,000 in 1959—an increase of over 4 percent.

The most significant feature of the decline in undergraduate enrollment in the engineering schools is that freshmen enrollments declined for the second consecutive year. The total number of freshmen in engineering courses in the fall of 1959 was 68,000, as compared with 70,000 in the fall of 1958. This is a reduction of 3 percent. The 1958 11-percent decline in full-time freshmen engineering enrollments is largely reflected, according to the report, in a 10-percent drop in sophomore enrollments last fall. The reduction in the number of full-time engineering sophomores is from about 53,000 to about 48,000.

Full-time junior enrollments in engineering classes last fall declined 7 percent (from about 47,000 to less than 44,000), and senior full-time enrollments, about 2 percent (from over 48,000 to approximately 47,000). The 36,000 part-time engineering students are included in the total undergraduate figure cited, but not in the figures for each undergraduate level. Part-time students are not ordinarily identifiable by class level.

The number of graduate students in engineering schools in the fall of 1959 was something over 35,000 as compared with a little less than 33,000 in the fall of 1958.

Science Teachers To Meet

School science programs—from kindergarten through the 12th grade—will be the main concern of approximately 2000 teachers when they meet in Kansas City, 29 March–2 April, for the eighth annual convention of the National Science Teachers Association. The program includes two Nobel Prize winners, Linus C. Pauling and Walter H. Brattain. Association president Donald G. Decker, who is dean of Colorado State College at Greeley, will set the stage for discussions throughout the convention at the opening general session, when he will outline the problems and issues involved in teaching science today.

Current science topics will be explored in an extensive "Frontiers of Science" series of discussion sessions. Addresses by college and research scientists will focus attention on recent developments in the major fields of science. Included in the "Frontiers" program, in addition to Pauling and Brattain, will be such outstanding speakers as George B. Kistiakowsky, science adviser to President Eisenhower, and John R. Heller, director of the U.S. National Cancer Institute.

For the first time, conferences for science supervisors, consultants, and coordinators will be given NSTA sectional status when they are convened on the mornings of 29 and 30 March. The evening general session on 31 March will feature the announcement of winners in the STAR '60 awards program for science teachers. Winners are selected on the basis of entries demonstrating effective science-teaching methods. An award of \$1000 and 55 others totalling \$12,500 will be presented. Approximately 100 commercial exhibits of science-teaching materials, the largest number at any NSTA convention, will be displayed in the Kansas City Municipal Auditorium, where all the general convention sessions will be held. Banquet and luncheon sessions and other related meetings will be held in the two convention headquarters hotels, the Muehlebach and the Phillips.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Laboratory constructions. The National Science Foundation has announced that the next closing date for the receipt of proposals for support of renovation or construction of labora-