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school level which is a much more difficult art than college teaching is. But to determine one's qualification for teaching by the numbers of education credits one has accumulated is a false standard that should be changed. If the serious shortage of science teachers is to be relieved, ways must be found to make teaching not only attractive but possible for qualified people. I am not optimistic. Certainly the changes will not come from suggestions made outside of the education profession. In spite of millions spent on science curricula, the administrative hurdles remain to thwart teacher recruitment. Anyone now in industry who might be attracted to this call for missionaries had better look carefully before he makes the leap.

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### Geography Favors R & D Awards

Papier's remarks (Letters, 9 Feb.) concerning the allotment of federal funds for research and development and the neglect of the East-North-Central states are not a fair appraisal. He notes that his area produces 23.7 percent of the Ph.D.'s awarded in science and engineering and has 19.7 percent of the population and pays 25.6 percent of the federal taxes. Yet it received only 6.4 percent of the federal research and development funds. These funds, however, cannot be awarded on the basis of population, wealth, taxes, or even centers of learning.

The AEC could hardly put its New Mexico and Nevada test sites in the Chicago-Cleveland-Detroit area. I doubt that the test facility for tied-down rockets was located in a rather unsettled area of southwestern Mississippi (where it probably benefits Louisiana more than any other area) merely for love of Mississippians or because of their political influence. In fact, it was selected because the region was relatively unsettled and yet had water courses of considerable size, this combination being rather rare in the United States today. By the same token, the base for rocket take offs was not put in Florida for any particular reason other than the weather and the fact that there is a wide space of open ocean between southern Florida and Africa. With regard to the aeronautical industries and their test facilities, the weather is a mat-

ter of consideration. Therefore, these industries move to the West and Southwest. Additionally, wide open spaces are desirable for obvious reasons, and there are very few of them next to big cities and labor pools except in the Southwest and West.

There are many types of brain drains in the United States if moving from one state to another is to be considered in that category. Mississippi spends a higher percentage of its tax dollar on its public school system than any state in the nation but it still spends less per child enrolled than any other state. As a result, trained teachers leave here in droves every year and when the Mississippi Education Association meets at its annual convention, some of the more populous states set up "recruiting suites" in the same hotel. When I was a boy in the 20's most people in the South who wanted an advanced education went North and few of them returned. Today when I travel out-of-state it is common to run into somebody in high position who hails from Mississippi. We may feel that such things are unfair, but I always remember that the South was taught the hard way that this is one country, come what may. In any case, federal research and development funds cannot be distributed on regional, educational, or population bases without grave inefficiency.

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### Are Tobacco Taxes Tyrannical?

Turnipseed has misconstrued the effects of the federal government policies with respect to tobacco (Letters, 23 Feb.). These policies are indeed inane, but the net effect of them is to reduce consumption of tobacco rather than increase it. The agricultural program itself consists mainly of restricting the amount of land upon which tobacco can be raised with the objective (an objective which has been realized) of reducing the total amount of tobacco raised, and hence increasing the price obtained by the farmer. In my opinion this is a foolish policy, but it does not involve much use of "my tax money to support tobacco farmers." In fact, the price of tobacco to the smoker is further raised by very heavy taxes. Assuming that Turnipseed is (like myself) a nonsmoker, it is fairly certain that the benefits he gets from the use