unusual, although the trend now is toward a larger proportion of students. Hampshire will expect every faculty member to do his teaching duty, and the equivalent of three courses is to be the normal teaching load. Since students will usually take three courses in the regular term, the Hampshire course is expected to be somewhat more demanding for faculty and students. Older students will be involved as teaching assistants in some courses, and educational technology will be utilized wherever feasible. Heavy stress has been placed on students proving themselves able to pursue independent study, and it is really on the ability of students to work independently that the concept of controlling the size of the faculty without sacrificing educational quality depends.

Other departures from conventional college practice are intended to achieve economies plus other aims. No expensive varsity intercollegiate sports program will be mounted, although Hampshire will play team games against other schools. During October soccer games were scheduled against Amherst freshmen and Goddard College, the latter game pitting co-ed teams against each other. Sports in the main, however, will follow the Outward Bound formula developed in Germany and Great Britain, which stresses outdoor activities such as hiking, rock climbing, and kayaking and is intended to build self-confidence and physical hardihood. Plans are for Hampshire to serve as the site of a summer language program which will serve all five institutions in the consortium and provide economic, year-round use of the college plant. A new science building now under construction at Hampshire is to be given an open plan and movable equipment, which will encourage interdisciplinary work and optimum use of equipment. Student housing is also being given as much flexibility as possible.

Increased flexibility in the academic structure is also a chief aim. The conventional departmental organization has been abolished and disciplines grouped in three "schools," the School of Natural Science and Mathematics, the School of Social Science, and the School of Humanities, and a program in language and communication. The traditional machinery through which a student satisfies requirements in a major field of study and accumulates the requisite number of credits for graduation has also been scrapped. Hampshire students will progress through three divisions, being graduated when they have satisfied examinations in all three divisions. Students in Division I, "Basic Studies," will be acquainted with disciplines of all the schools and acquire the skills for pursuing independent study. In Division II, "School Studies," the student will concentrate on one or more disciplines according to a plan he develops in consultation with his adviser and faculty. In Division III, "Advanced Studies," the student will be expected to spend about half his time on a major project and also involve himself in "integrative" seminars. Most students are expected to spend 1 year in Division I, 2 years in Division II, and 1 year in Division III, but it will be possible for a student to take more or less than 4 years to complete requirements.

Franklin Patterson

Grading at Hampshire is to be on a distinction-pass-fail basis with options open to those who fail to do more work and try again. Examinations at Hampshire are expected to range far beyond the old blue-book mode. Students, in fact, will help to design their own exams, which could take the form of a report on a field project, a computer program, or a novel.

The Hampshire faculty and administrators stress the point that the college plan is no recipe for academic self-indulgence. Robert C. Birney, dean of the School of Social Science, a political scientist who came to Hampshire from Amherst, says "We've gotten away from course hours, credits, and grades and now there's no way to fudge anything in the system." Students are examined in their strongest suit and this, he says, "sets up terrific pressure. We are getting through to them that nobody else is planning their education for them, that this is really the opportunity everyone has been promising them. As the awareness sinks in, there will be a feeling of loneliness."

After less than 3 months of actual experience at Hampshire with only 250 first-year students, it is much too early to say how closely the edifice will resemble the blueprint. Most important, perhaps, at this point is the creation of attitudes and of atmosphere. The visitor gets the impression that administra-

Scientists Protest Security Bill

A group of scientists last week presented a petition, signed by 750 of their colleagues, to Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D–Mass.) protesting the Defense Facilities and Internal Security Bill which passed the House on 29 January and is now before the Senate Judiciary Committee (*Science*, 27 February 1970).

The bill, one of the rare legislative products of the House Internal Security Committee (formerly the House Un-American Activities Committee), classifies as a defense facility any place where classified military projects are carried out—including factories, laboratories, educational institutions, dams, and canals. All employees of such facilities would be subject to tight security regulations, with strict penalties for a broadly defined range of subversive activities. Opponents of the bill, including the American Civil Liberties Union, have questioned its constitutionality.

There seems little chance that the bill will be reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee before the close of the current session. But the originators of the petition decided to present the protest anyway because the bill might be reintroduced in the next session.

Kennedy, a member of the Judiciary Committee, accepted the petition, thanked the scientists for their concern, and pledged he would do everything possible to block passage of the bill.—R.J.B.