

## NEWS IN BRIEF

● **WEAPONS RESEARCH:** The Cornell University faculty voted 164 to 133 last week to retain the university's ownership of the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory (CAL) in Buffalo, N.Y. Proponents of ending the 20-year relationship had argued, among other things, that CAL's dependence on classified research for the military was inconsistent with the university's policy of banning such research from the Ithaca campus. Members of the faculty who endorsed the CAL-Cornell tie stressed that ownership of an applied research facility offers certain educational benefits to the university, particularly to the engineering departments, and that defense research is an appropriate public service for the university.

● **SPECIAL LIBRARIAN'S SALARIES:** A membership survey by the Special Libraries Association (SLA) found that the average annual salary of the special librarian is \$9673. The membership includes librarians serving industrial and commercial firms, research and nonprofit organizations, and specific subject areas in government agencies and in colleges and universities. The survey, the first of its kind to be conducted by the SLA, also showed that the South Atlantic Region (from Delaware to Florida), has the highest average salary—\$11,009. By type of library, the professional serving a subject department library (such as English or chemistry) of a university receives the best average salary, \$9733. Reprints of the survey are available from the SLA headquarters, 31 East 10 St., New York 10003, for \$2.25.

● **MARINE SCIENCE COMMISSION:** Samuel A. Lawrence, an assistant division chief at the Bureau of the Budget, has been named the executive director of the Commission on Marine Science, Engineering and Resources. The Commission was appointed by President Johnson in January to develop a national marine science program for recommendation to the President and Congress. Seven panels have been established from the Commission's membership to evaluate and plan its activities. The panels and their chairmen are: Basic Science and Research, Robert M. White; Marine Engineering and Technology, John H. Perry, Jr.; Marine Resources, James A.

Crutchfield; Environmental Problems, John A. Knauss; Industrial and Private Investment, Richard A. Geyer; International Aspects of Marine Affairs, Carl A. Auerbach; and Education and Training, Julius A. Stratton.

### ● NIH SPELLS OUT ITS RESEARCH

**RECORD:** Friends of NIH have often said that it has a good story to tell the public, but doesn't tell it well. Whatever the motivation, NIH has now published a booklet that describes some of its more striking research achievements. The booklet, "Research Highlights, National Institutes of Health, 1966," is actually part of the voluminous budget presentation that NIH annually submits to Congress. Until 5 years ago, NIH prepared the research information in mimeograph form and distributed it upon request. When this was discontinued, NIH found that the public demand continued. So, this year the review of research has reappeared in a compact paperback format. Copies are available from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., for 35 cents.

### ● COMPUTERIZED DISSERTATION

**INDEX:** University Microfilms Library Services, Ann Arbor, Michigan, will inaugurate in July a computerized index system for titles and subjects of most doctoral dissertations written in this country since 1938. The computer can compile in seconds a list of dissertations written on a given topic. The microfilm library contains 126,000 dissertations from 190 U.S. and Canadian universities. Some 18,000 are added annually and it is estimated that this figure represents 90 percent of all those written. At present, if a researcher wants a thesis from the files, he must supply University Microfilms with an exact title. Starting in July, all he will need to do is indicate his subject area and the computer will find all the relevant dissertations. The researcher will receive a list of these within a few days of his inquiry. He may then order copies of the dissertations he wants. To obtain such references without the use of a computer, a researcher would have to search through 28 volumes of *Dissertation Abstracts*. The computer index system will be called **DATRIX**. University Microfilms is an activity of the Xerox Corporation.

have required a move in place of residence.

If Harvard is a less attractive teaching institution than it was in past decades, professors at Harvard can provide a number of explanations for this diminished allure. First, and perhaps foremost, is the fact that there are more distinguished universities in the country than there were a few decades ago. The senior scholar wanted by Harvard is usually well established and much appreciated at his own institution. In accepting a Harvard position, the professor may become just another distinguished scholar in his department. "This is not a place which breeds heroes," Stanley Hoffmann comments. "People work in their own little corner here."

Salary is another factor which influences some decisions. Harvard may not be able to offer more than the salary which a senior scholar is receiving elsewhere. Leading professors at some schools are given salaries well in excess of the average faculty compensation at their institutions. As opposed to this kind of "star system," Harvard has always favored a "balance system" in which salaries do not range widely within a given rank and seniority. The top possible salary is \$28,000 annually, but there are few men at Harvard who are earning more than \$25,000.

Another factor which diminishes the attraction of Harvard is a teaching load which is considered "heavy" by top professors at several other universities. Harvard has the temerity to ask its professors to teach undergraduates, which offends some scholars, and to help cope with the large graduate student population, which now numbers about 3000 in the academic disciplines. Dean Ford, however, does not foresee any drastic change in the Harvard teaching load: "Unless one just wants to give up teaching, I just can't see how we can make it any lighter." Professors also cannot leave their teaching as often as those at a number of universities; the Harvard faculty member must spend 3 of every 4 years in residence.

### Need for Science Buildings

Some professors, especially scientists, complain about inadequate physical facilities. The university has recognized this need in the science area and embarked this year on a \$49 million science fund-raising drive. However, even if the drive is successful, the facilities will not be available in the near future. Some scientists also com-