

University will carry out a cooperative industry-university project at a newly established NYU Solar Research Laboratory in Princeton, which is intended to provide a base for teaching, research, and the dissemination of knowledge in the field of solar energy. Curtiss-Wright will provide a building to house the NYU scientific staff and will contribute to the support of research projects. Both programs will be under the direction of Maria Telkes, who has been in charge of solar energy research at NYU since 1953. Dr. Telkes, a physical chemist and internationally recognized authority on the applications of solar radiation, will have the status of a research professor of the University. For 14 years prior to joining NYU, she was associated with the Solar Energy Conversion Project at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**Harvard University** will offer a program leading to a PhD degree in biophysics beginning with the 1959 fall semester. The program will be available through Harvard's Division of Medical Sciences of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine. Although it is expected to be of primary interest to students in the fields of physics, chemistry, and biology, the program will also be open to holders of the MD degree.

**The Texas Company** has announced completion of an industrial radiation research laboratory located at Texaco's Research Center in Beacon, N. Y. The new laboratory began operation with receipt of a 29 100-curie shipment of radioactive cobalt-60 acquired from Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. after having undergone irradiation for nearly three years in Canada's Chalk River nuclear reactor. In addition to the cobalt-60 source, the new laboratory houses a 6 to 10-Mev linear accelerator and a 3-Mev Van de Graaff generator, both of which will be employed in radiation studies of petroleum and its derivatives.

**Aeronutronic Systems, Inc.**, a subsidiary of Ford Motor Company, has begun construction of a computer development building on the company's site in Newport Beach, Calif. When the building is complete next August it will be equipped for research, development, and manufacture of special purpose computers and electronic systems for military and commercial application.

**Republic Aviation Corporation** has announced a \$35 million program of research and development in the field of astronautics. \$14 million has been allocated for a research and development center at the company's main plant in Farmingdale, N. Y. The center will house three process laboratories and research laboratories in space environment, reentry simulation and aerodynamics, materials development, electronics development, guidance and control systems and development, and advanced fluid systems development. Ground for the new center will be broken this month and completion is expected in about a year.

**A gaseous oxygen** and combined environmental test laboratory to serve aviation and missile manufacturers has been opened by the Whittaker Controls Division of Telecomputing Corporation, Chatsworth, Calif. The laboratory is equipped and instrumented for environmental-functional testing of gaseous oxygen flow components in situations involving such variables as acceleration, vibration, ambient temperature, and humidity. It is also designed to test electronic, mechanical, pneumatic, and hydraulic devices under extreme environmental conditions. The new \$400 000 cryogenics facility is the first stage of the firm's proposed 10-acre, multimillion-dollar test center.

## Grants and Awards

**The University of Chicago's** Department of Statistics is offering grants for postdoctoral study to persons whose primary field is one of the physical, biological, or social sciences to which statistics can be applied. The awards range from \$3600 to \$5000 on the basis of an eleven-month residence. The closing date for application for the 1959-60 academic year is February 16. Further information may be obtained from the Department of Statistics, Eckhart Hall, University of Chicago, Chicago 37, Ill.

**The West Coast Electronic Manufacturers Association** has awarded \$15 000 in scientific and engineering scholarship grants to seventeen colleges and universities in six western states. The yearly grants are allocated directly to the schools with selection of grantees made by the recipient institutions.

## Publications

**A Foreign Technical Information Center** has been placed in operation in the Office of Technical Services of the US Department of Commerce to provide American science and industry with access to Soviet technical information. The services of the Center include publication of abstracts in English of all articles appearing in 141 Soviet technical journals, translations of important sections of the Russian abstract Journal *Referativnyy Zhurnal*, and a semimonthly review of various areas of Soviet science compiled by the Central Intelligence Agency. Abstracts of each issue of the 141 journals may be purchased from the US Department of Commerce, Office of Technical Services, Washington 25, D. C., on a subscription or single issue basis. The various sections of *Referativnyy Zhurnal* will be sold initially as single issues, although subscription sales may be offered later.

Services of the OTS will also be increased by a Congressional appropriation of \$510 000 for the operation of the foreign technical information program in the 1959 fiscal year. Functions of the program are to collect, catalog, print, and sell abstracts and complete translations of foreign technical documents collected by OTS.

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### Soviet Physics—Technical Physics

A translation of the "Journal of Technical Physics" of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. The translation began with the 1956 issues. Twelve issues per year, approximately 3,000 Russian pages. Annually \$75.00 domestic, \$79.00 foreign. Libraries\* \$35.00 domestic, \$39.00 foreign. Back numbers, all issues \$8.00.

### Soviet Physics—Acoustics

A translation of the "Journal of Acoustics" of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. The translation began with the 1955 issues. Four issues per year, approximately 400 Russian pages. Annually \$12.00 domestic, \$14.00 foreign. (No library discounts.) Back numbers, all issues \$4.00.

### Soviet Physics—"Doklady"

A translation of all of the "Physics Sections" of the Proceedings of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. The translation began with the 1956 issues. Six issues per year, approximately 1,500 Russian pages. Annually \$35.00 domestic, \$39.00 foreign. Libraries\* \$15.00 domestic, \$18.00 foreign. Back numbers for Volumes 1 and 2, \$5.00 per issue; Volume 3 and subsequent, \$7.00 per issue.

### Soviet Physics—JETP

A translation of the "Journal of Experimental and Theoretical Physics" of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. The translation began with the 1955 issue. Twelve issues per year, approximately 4,000 Russian pages. Annually \$75.00 domestic, \$79.00 foreign. Libraries\* \$35.00 domestic, \$39.00 foreign. Back numbers, all issues, \$8.00.

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A translation of the journal "Crystallography" of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. The translation began with the 1957 issues. Six issues per year, approximately 1,000 Russian pages. Annually \$25.00 domestic, \$27.00 foreign. Libraries\* \$10.00 domestic, \$12.00 foreign. Back numbers, all issues \$5.00.

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\* For libraries of non-profit academic institutions.

The expanded program of the American Institute of Physics comprises translation of six leading Soviet physics journals, as listed above. These translations, by competent, qualified scientists, provide all research laboratories and libraries with accurate and up-to-date information of the results of research in the U.S.S.R.

### AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS

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The Royal Institution of Great Britain has announced that its *Proceedings*, formerly published on an annual basis, will henceforth appear three times a year. The *Proceedings* contain the Royal Institution's "Evening Discourses", each of which is a popular summary of some branch of research or learning given by an authority in the field. Beginning in 1959, the non-member subscription rate will be 21s. per year. Subscription orders should be sent to The Royal Institution, 21 Albemarle St., London, W.1, England.

Milton Abramowitz, head of the Computation Laboratory of the Applied Mathematics Division at the National Bureau of Standards, died of a heart attack on July 5. His age was 43. Born in Brooklyn, N. Y., Dr. Abramowitz received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Brooklyn College and his PhD from New York University in 1948.

Starting in 1938 as an original member of the technical planning staff of the New York Mathematical Tables Project, the scientific program of which was under NBS direction, he became chief of the Bureau's Computation Laboratory in 1954. In addition to supervising the Laboratory's computation facilities, he directed the preparation of mathematical tables and performed research in numerical analysis and mathematical physics.

He is known for his significant contribution to the planning and preparation of the well-known volumes of basic mathematical tables published in the Mathematical Tables Series of the original New York group and in the Applied Mathematics Series of the Bureau, and most recently for his editorship of a *Handbook of Mathematical Functions*, which the Bureau is preparing under the sponsorship of the National Science Foundation. Dr. Abramowitz also served as an occasional reviewer of books for *Physics Today*.

Ernest O. Lawrence, director of the University of California Radiation Laboratory at Berkeley, died on August 27th in Palo Alto, Calif., after having undergone an emergency operation there. Dr. Lawrence, who was 57 at the time of his death, had been in Geneva, Switzerland, during the previous month as one of the three United States members of the Western delegation at the meeting of Western and Soviet bloc scientists to discuss the technical aspects of nuclear test detection methods. During those talks he became ill and returned to California.

Born in Canton, S. D., he graduated from the University of South Dakota in 1922 and received his PhD from Yale University in 1925. He was a research fellow at Yale until 1927, when he was appointed assistant professor of physics. He went to the Berkeley campus of the University of California in the following year as an associate professor and in 1930, at the age of 29, was promoted to the rank of full professor of physics. It was during that period that the notion of