of Polymer Chemistry (June 1–5 and June 8–12); Polarography and Related Techniques (June 1–5); and Industrial Application of X-Ray Diffraction (June 1–12). Further details are available from Mrs. Doris Cattell, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, 333 Jay Street, Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

Cornell University's annual Summer Laboratory Course in Techniques and Applications of the Electron Microscope will be given this year from June 15 to July 3. The course is planned to meet the needs of senior research workers in the field of electron microscopy and will include lectures by authorities in the various fields of application. Designed to offer participants an intensive survey of basic theory, it will also deal with the interpretation of results and the application of electron microscopy to research problems. To insure ample laboratory facilities for those taking the course, registration will be limited to a small group. Request for information and application forms should be addressed to Prof. Benjamin M. Siegel, Rockefeller Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Brandeis University has announced that it will hold its second Summer Institute in Theoretical Physics from June 22 to July 31. The courses include: Topics in Field Theory, Topics in High-Energy Phenomena, Theory of Multiparticle Systems, and Topics in Nuclear Theory, as well as postdoctoral seminars in two fields still to be determined. Predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships and grants-in-aid are available. Inquiries should be addressed to the Summer School Office, Kalman, Brandeis University, Waltham 54, Mass.

International Units

The directors of the standards laboratories of Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Australia, and the United States have agreed to adopt an international yard equal to 0.9144 meter and an international pound equal to 0.453 592 37 kilogram for all nonmetric calibrations carried out in the five laboratories after July 1, 1959. The international inch, derived from the international yard, is exactly equal to 25.4 millimeters and is two parts per million shorter than the inch presently used by the US National Bureau of Standards. The US pound currently in use is about one and one-half parts in ten million larger than the new international pound.

To avoid possible confusion during the transition period, National Bureau of Standards calibrations of length or mass expressed in English units will embody a statement indicating clearly the unit which has been used if the choice introduces a significant difference in the calibration values.

Laboratories

Two new research groups have been established at the Boulder (Colorado) Laboratories of the National Bureau of Standards. The recently created Radio Communication and Systems Division, headed by R. C. Kirby, formerly assistant chief of the Bureau's Radio Physics Division, will be chiefly concerned with research in radio communication and navigation techniques and with the application of radio propagation studies in the designing and improving of radio systems. The second new group at Boulder, the Lower Atmospheric Physics Section, is headed by Moody C. Thompson, Jr., a former member of the Bureau's Mechanics Division staff. The section will conduct basic studies necessary to the development of improved radio guidance systems for ballistic missiles and space vehicles.

The University of Denver will begin construction early next year of a $5 million research center designed to integrate teaching and basic research in the physical and engineering sciences with the applied research functions of the University's Research Institute, which is currently conducting a $2.5 million program in sponsored research for industry and the government. The complex of buildings will provide approximately 200 000 square feet of space for laboratories, classrooms, offices, and facilities for meetings and seminars. It will be named the Boettcher Center for Science, Engineering, and Research in recognition of support given the project by the Boettcher Foundation, which has granted $1.25 million to the University to finance the initial stages of the proposed development.

Manhattan College in New York City has announced plans for constructing a new $5 million engineering center in the Riverdale area of the Bronx, which has been the site of the College for more than thirty years. Nearly one thousand undergraduates in engineering now attend the College, and an approximate doubling of that enrollment is anticipated within the next decade. The six-story engineering center will contain facilities for nuclear studies and will house the Departments of Physics and Chemistry as well as the Departments of Chemical, Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering.

Martin S. Maier, head of the Physics Section of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.'s US Asbestos Division in Manheim, Pa., died on December 23rd at the age of forty-eight. Born in Eagleport, Ohio, Dr. Maier received his AB from Muskingum College, his MS from Purdue University, and his PhD in physics (1940) from the Ohio State University. He was professor of physics at Sterling College from 1933 to 1939; research physicist at Battelle Memorial Institute from 1940 to 1944; and a senior physicist on the proximity fuse project at Eastman Kodak Co. from 1944 to 1949, at which time he was named to head the Physics Section at the Manheim plant.

A nuclear physicist, Dr. Maier was engaged at the time of his death in a study of radiation effects on asbestos and asbestos products. He was a member of the American Physical Society.