

for institutional grants now proposed in so many quarters.

Under the National Science Board plan, the federal government would provide six types of grants:

- institutional sustaining grants, on a noncompetitive basis, under formulas based on quality and current expenditures
- departmental sustaining grants, for student stipends, research needs of young investigators and continuing expenditures
- development grants, for the formation, expansion or improvement of graduate institutions or programs
- graduate facilities grants, to help provide general and specialized facilities and libraries
- graduate fellowships, for graduate and postdoctoral students
- research project grants, for research expenses not covered by other types of grant programs.

The board called authorization for the institutional and departmental grants an essential first step. It "strongly urged" initial appropriations not later than fiscal year 1972.

The American Council on Educa-

tion called for institutional grants on the grounds they would give quality institutions a base from which to strive for greater quality, enable other institutions to strive for the quality denied them by inadequate resources and slow the trend to higher student fees.

A bill to start the flow of institutional grants in the coming fiscal year was introduced in the House 3 Jan. by George P. Miller, D-Cal., chairman of the Committee on Science and Astronautics. HR 35 authorizes \$400 million in fiscal 1970 and amounts in subsequent years equal to 20% of all federal science grants to colleges and universities.

Under HR 35, one third of the money would go to universities as a percentage of all their federal science grants in the previous year. One third would be divided among states in proportion to the number of undergraduates in the state's colleges. The final third would go to universities in proportion to the number of advanced degrees awarded.

The National Science Foundation would administer the grants with the advice of a newly created council, representing the various associations of colleges and universities.

AIP, Societies Seek Ways to Cut Publishing Costs

Procedures that will help standardize and speed journal publication are going into effect now as a result of decisions made at a winter meeting of the American Institute of Physics Publications Board and the Committee of Society Secretaries and Treasurers. Experimentation is continuing as well, and more changes are on the way.

In March H. William Koch, director, reported the steps AIP is taking to carry out the mandate of the January meeting. The new policies affect nearly every area of publication.

In computing the publication charge per page, AIP calculates the costs to be paid by page charges spread over all pages published. It has asked member societies to supply data on publication costs handled directly by the societies so that calculations can be made on the same basis for all journals. AIP has offered the benefit of its own experience to the societies before they change rates, procedures or policies.

To reduce the cost of setting type (now averaging \$32 per page), AIP is continuing experiments with computer-based photocomposition as well

as typewriter composition, which is more economical, and awaits decisions by other societies on whether they will follow the American Physical Society in using authors' own typewritten abstracts for printing meeting programs.

Although AIP's editorial cost of processing copy is a third to a half less per page than that for other scientific societies, David B. Biesel, manager of the AIP editorial section, presented a study showing further savings were possible. Standardizing the location and format of footnotes alone could mean substantial savings in printer's costs.

A six-man committee is working out a standard style for submission to the Publications Board. Hugh C. Wolfe, AIP publications director, Kenneth Carroll and Biesel represent AIP; J. W. Stout, Simon Pasternack and David L. MacAdam represent the board. In general references will be collected at the end of a paper while footnotes will be printed at the bottom of the columns in which their indicators appear.

Finally Wolfe is preparing a detailed proposal for AIP to produce and distribute 16-mm microfilm copies of



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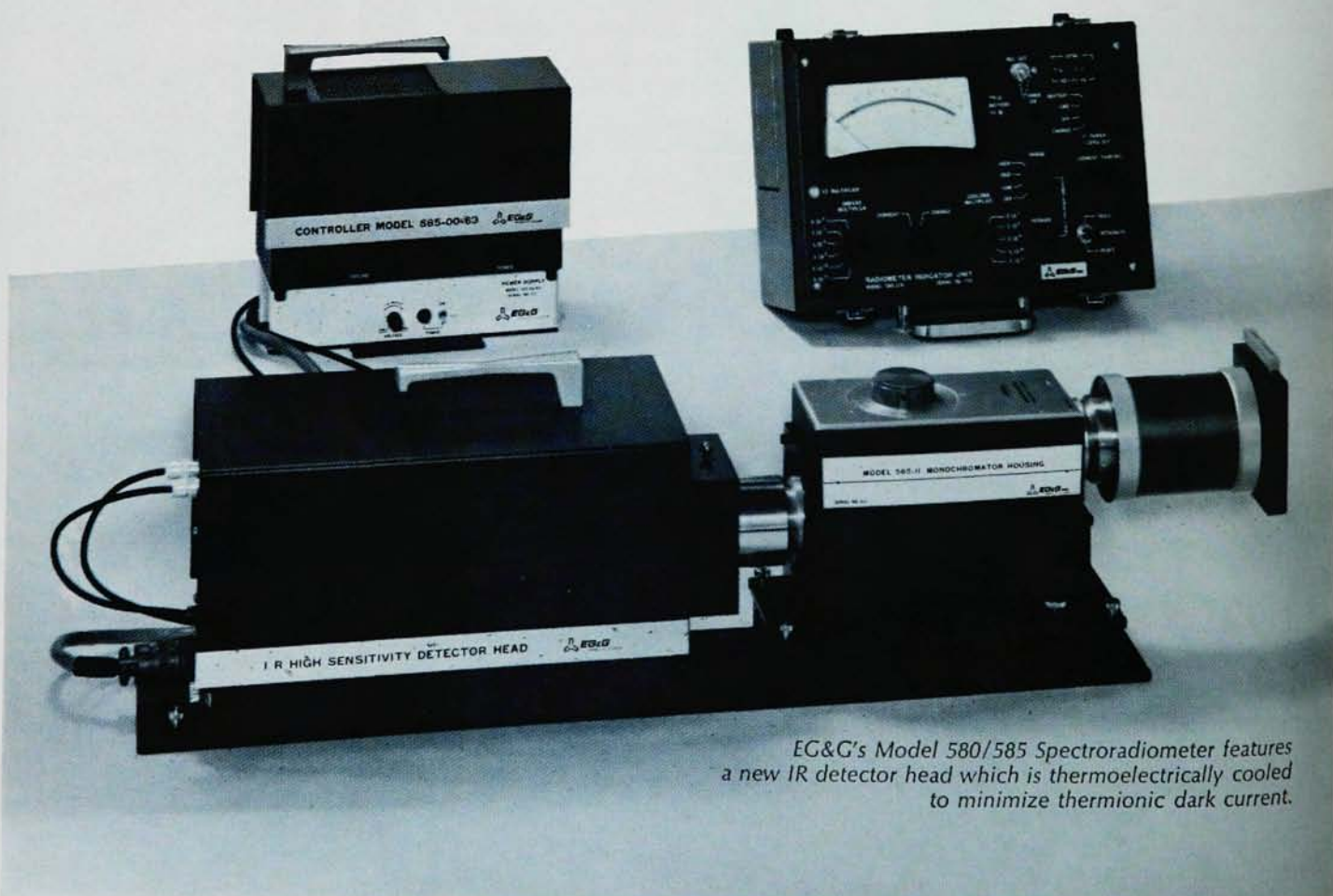
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all AIP and member-society journals. At the January meeting the publications board and society secretaries and treasurers agreed with the suggestion that the price should be about the same as the existing nonmember subscription price except for *The Physical Review* and the *Journal of Chemi-*

Physical Review Letters Cuts Page Budget 10%

The publishing crunch has caught up with *Physical Review Letters*: Text pages in 1969 will be held to 3000, a 10% drop from 1968 and a 20% drop from what normal growth implied for this year.

In an editorial in the 24 March issue the editors, Samuel A. Goudsmit and George L. Trigg, estimate that the rejection rate will climb from 46.5 to 61.5%, or 1600 out of the 2600 papers they expect to be submitted during the year. They emphasize that rejection does not neces-

cal Physics, where it would be somewhat higher. Purchasers would be permitted to make hard copies for users but would not be allowed to duplicate the microfilm or to resell the hard copy.

The detailed proposal will go to the AIP Executive Committee for AIP-owned journals and to society secretaries for their journals.

sarily reflect upon the quality of the work. In their words:

"It usually means merely that the contribution lacks timeliness or surprise, or is of interest to only a small number of colleagues in a rather static area of research—or even that it is so important that it is essential for all the elaborate details to be presented at the outset."

Goudsmit and Trigg note that in the past they have generally published "borderline" papers—those on which referees' opinions differed. "We can

IN BRIEF

A macromolecular research center has been established at the University of Michigan. Emphasis is on chemical and physical study of synthetic macromolecules. Charles G. Overberger is director.

Harvey Mudd College is offering new concentrations in technological and scientific studies designed to produce "scientifically-oriented generalists." J. P. Frankel, dean of faculty, feels broadly educated non-specialists are critically needed in industry, government, finance and communications media.

New York University is starting a special program for students who majored in engineering, mathematics or chemistry as undergraduates but who wish to pursue graduate physics study. The intensive one-year course covers the upper-division undergraduate sequence.

The *Journal of Quality Technology* has begun publication under the aegis of the American Society for Quality Control. Details are available from the society at 161 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee 53203.

Let's Talk About the Atom, 12 informal interviews on long-playing records produced at Argonne National Laboratory, is being distributed to radio stations in the US and abroad.

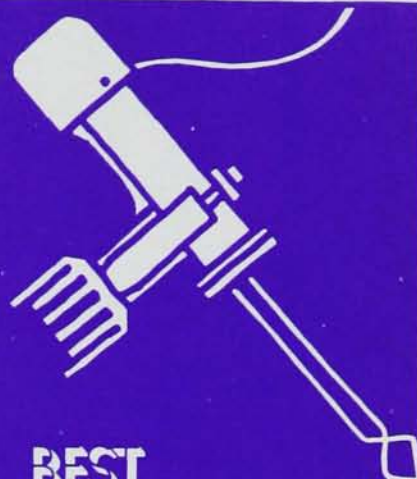
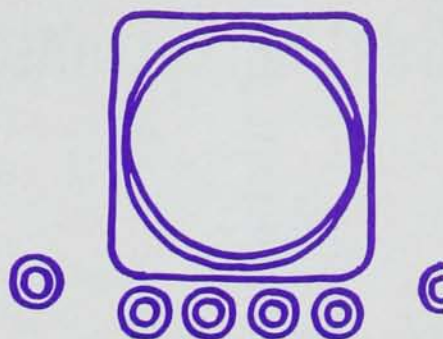
Scientific Information Notes, formerly issued by the National Science Foundation, is now available from Science Associates/International, Inc, 23 East 26th St., New York N. Y. 10010.

A Science and Public Policy Studies Group has been informally established by some 50 universities. The group will organize special symposia, act as a clearing house, facilitate exchange of ideas and develop priorities for research in science and public policy. A secretariat has been established at MIT for an experimental two-year period.

A new Board on Science and Technology for International Development has been created by the National Academy of Sciences. It incorporates the former Latin America and Africa Science Boards.

Twelve nations have signed an agreement establishing the European Molecular Biology Conference. This means government funds for the European Molecular Biology Organization, previously dependent on gifts from private organizations.

Case Western Reserve and the State University of New York at Stony Brook have joined Universities Research Association, the consortium that operates the National Accelerator Laboratory.



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