

and specialists in geology, geography, and meteorology are listed by the Committee. Further details may be obtained by writing to the Conference Board of Associated Research Councils, Committee on International Exchange of Persons, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington 25, D. C. [For a more detailed description of the Fulbright Program, see Dwight Grays's Report from Washington, page 12, this issue.]

UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS MEET

EMERGENCY ISSUES DISCUSSED

The American Association of University Professors, during its thirty-seventh annual meeting at Cleveland in March, endorsed compulsory military service during the emergency, but at the same time called for a definite time limit on such a program and for provisions insuring "the education, prior to military service, of an adequate number of the best qualified students in all areas of higher education"—not only in scientific and technical fields, but in the humanities and the social sciences as well.

A resolution was also adopted by the Association urging that necessary emergency economies in colleges and universities should not result in the reductions of faculty personnel except in clearly unavoidable instances, and then should be confined to faculty members who have not acquired tenure status. Teachers called into the armed forces or defense work during the emergency, the Association added, should receive leaves of absence.

Another resolution reaffirmed the Association's opposition last year to special loyalty oaths and investigations for teachers or students, adding, "we join in the meeting's opposition to any doctrine whereby membership of a college or university in any lawful political party or other organization could become in itself a proper ground of dismissal". The Association also put itself on record as opposing "the adoption at this time of special accelerated programs of instruction for purposes of the national emergency, as distinguished from the normal year-round program which permits students to finish their studies in less than four years if they wish".

AEC GROUP REPORTS

INDUSTRIAL DATA NOT BEING WITHHELD

About a year and a half ago, an advisory committee made up of representatives of technical and engineering societies and the business press was formed to discover how much secret technical information still in the files of the Atomic Energy Commission might be of value to American industry. The first formal report of this committee's working group has now been submitted to the AEC and states categorically that a search of classified patent files and a study of the technology of electromagnetic separation have revealed in both instances a satisfactory declassification of information. "In no case," the report says, "have we uncovered any 'huge amount' of secret information of value to industry, although some specific cases of valuable information are noted in our reports."

The working group's survey turned up little classified technological information that seemed of prime interest to the fields of mechanical and electrical engineering, according to the report, but "much that may be noteworthy" in the chemical and engineering and metallurgy fields. In concluding its report the group suggested that an engineer might profitably be added to the AEC's present list of senior responsible reviewers.

E. E. Thum, editor of *Metal Progress* and representative of the American Society of Metals, acted as chairman of the group. Other members were: Keith Henney, consulting editor, *Nucleonics* and *Electronics*, and representative of the Institute of Radio Engineers; S. A. Tucker, editorial director, American Society of Mechanical Engineers; and F. J. Van Antwerpen, editor, *Chemical Engineering Progress*, and representative of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

NEW LABORATORIES

YALE'S GEOCHRONOMETRIC RESEARCH CENTER

According to information from Yale, the basement of one of the University's buildings in New Haven is in the process of being converted into a well shielded laboratory where radiocarbon dating techniques will be studied by a group of Yale scientists and historians. Pioneered by physicist W. F. Libby of the University of Chicago's Institute for Nuclear Studies, the carbon-14 time identification method has been employed in dating organic materials of historical interest which may be as much as fifteen thousand years old, and the Yale project will be concerned primarily with verifying and refining the technique. A major part of the program will involve experiments designed to check results against well-established archaeological data. The method itself depends upon the fact that carbon-14, which is normally absorbed by living plants and animals, has a half-life of over fifty-five hundred years. In order to date organic matter (such as bone, wood, textiles, paper, or plant remains buried in geological deposits), samples are converted chemically into pure carbon, which is then shielded from outside radioactive sources so that the carbon-14 disintegration rate may be measured with the aid of a geiger counter. Calculation of the amount of radiocarbon which has decayed gives a reasonably accurate estimate of the age of the sample.

The new research center is to be known as the "Geochronometric" Laboratory and is to be administered by a seven-man advisory board headed by Richard F. Flint, professor of geology at Yale. The laboratory director is Edward S. Deevey, Jr., assistant professor of biology, and the other board members are W. C. Bennet of the anthropology department, G. Evelyn Hutchinson of the zoology department, H. L. Kraybill of the physics department, G. A. Kubler of the art history department, and H. C. Thomas of the chemistry department.

THE JAMES FORRESTAL RESEARCH CENTER

A new center for advanced research and training in the fields of aeronautical engineering, chemical kinetics, jet propulsion, and related sciences has been established at Princeton University as a memorial to James Forrestal, first secretary of defense and an alumnus and charter trustee of the University. Known as the James Forrestal Research Center, it will adjoin the University on property formerly occupied by the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. Daniel C. Sayre, chairman of the department of aeronautical engineering at Princeton, will be director and executive secretary of an administrative committee consisting of Kenneth H. Condit, dean of the school of engineering, who will act as chairman; George A. Brakeley, vice-president and treasurer of the University; Hugh S. Taylor, dean of the graduate school and former chairman of the department of chemistry, and Raymond J. Woodrow, executive officer and secretary of the University's committee on project research