

received federal funds during the fiscal year 1951-52.

It is significant, in this connection, to find a tabulated illustration of one phase of the difficulties facing liberal arts colleges. Comparison of the federal funds received by educational institutions (as differentiated from other nonprofit institutions) shows that liberal arts colleges, constituting in number 78 percent of all educational institutions having present or potential research capacity, received only 3 percent of the funds distributed in 1951-52. Universities, on the other hand, received 77 percent of the funds even though they represent less than 13 percent of the institutions listed. Professional-technical schools, constituting 9 percent of the total institutions, received 20 percent of the funds. Based on enrollment in the fall of 1951, the average university had a student population of 9000, compared with 1000 for the liberal arts college and 2000 for the professional-technical school. Total enrollments were 798,300 for universities, 621,200 for liberal arts colleges, and 124,000 for professional-technical schools. The report, however, takes note of the argument that universities received the greatest portion of the funds because they are on the whole larger and better equipped to do research and because the conduct of research is closely associated with graduate study and the universities have far more facilities for graduate study than have the other institutions.

The predominant part played by universities in the program of government-sponsored scientific research and development is further emphasized by the fact that only two universities out of 88 did not receive Federal funds during 1951-52. Of the 538 colleges having present or potential research capacity, only 95 received funds, and of the 61 professional-technical schools, 41 received funds. 91 percent of the funds went to 50 of the two-hundred-odd educational institutions receiving federal support. 39 of these 50 institutions are universities, 10 are professional-technical schools, and one is a liberal arts college. The latter appears only because of a research center which it operates for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. When support for research centers operated for the Government by nonprofit educational institutions is excluded, the ranking 50 institutions received 83 percent of the funds distributed in 1951-52.

"In recent years," the report concludes, "there has been a growing tendency toward a formalization of research activities in educational institutions. Federally sponsored research work has probably accelerated this trend. The research centers are the most obvious examples. But aside from work done in the centers, there is apparent an increasing tendency to separate research sponsored by the Government and others from the normal instructional activities of the institutions. As this trend grows, the value of sponsored research for educational purposes is lessened. Based on the data available from this study, it appears that about half of the funds now going to educational institutions contribute little to the primary objectives of these institutions. There is also a growing movement toward

formalization in the activities paid for by the remainder of the funds which in time may reduce their value for educational purposes."

Copies of the report (published under the title, *Federal Funds for Scientific Research and Development at Nonprofit Institutions, 1950-51 and 1951-52*) may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at a cost of 30 cents each.

## International Relations Centers

### Program Announced by NAS-NRC

A series of centers designed to assist foreign scientific visitors in establishing contacts in this country with people in their fields and, in general, in making their stay here as effective as possible has been proposed by the Office of International Relations of the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council. Under study for the past year by the Cooperative Research Foundation (CORE), the program was to be activated August 31, 1953 with the opening of the first regional center at the Morrison Planetarium, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Other such centers will be located in similar areas of concentrated scientific endeavor, and are to act as coordinating agencies for international scientific activities in their vicinities.

## Foreign Scientists

### Changes Urged in Visa Procedure

Participation of foreign scientists and scholars in meetings and conferences in the United States would be facilitated under the terms of two resolutions introduced by Representative Charles S. Gubser of California on July 27. These resolutions acknowledge that "the contribution of such aliens to the advancement of scientific and scholarly knowledge by their participation in such meetings, conferences, temporary employment, and other transactions in the United States is essential to the national defense and the furtherance of the industrial, technological, and cultural leadership of the United States," and provide for prompt decisions on nonimmigrant visas for foreign scholars with a review board including scientists and scholars in its membership being available in the event of unfavorable decisions by the consul. The temporary admission of aliens otherwise specifically excluded by some sections of the McCarran Act would be made possible by the resolutions, which were referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

## NBS Loses Four Divisions

### Ordnance Work Transferred to Defense

The National Bureau of Standards was scheduled to undergo major surgery on the first of this month when four of its ordnance research and development activities were to be removed from the Bureau and transferred to