

The General Services Administration will participate in planning and will supervise construction. Transfer of operations to the new location is expected to be completed in about five years.

Education

Awards for study in statistics by persons whose primary field is not statistics but one of the physical, biological, or social sciences to which statistics can be applied are offered by the Committee on Statistics of the University of Chicago. The awards range from \$3600 to \$5000 on the basis of an eleven-month residence. The closing date for application for the academic year 1957-58 is February 15, 1957. Further information may be obtained from the Committee on Statistics, Eckhart Hall, University of Chicago, Chicago 37, Ill.

Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, beginning September 25, will offer a course for the 1956-57 academic year entitled "The Special and General Theory of Relativity" to be conducted by Professor Peter G. Bergmann. Designed to give graduate students and other qualified participants an introduction to the theory of relativity, the course will cover research in relativity and its applications over the past fifty years, including recent work presented at the international semicentennial conference on relativity, held in Berne in 1955. Prerequisites are classical mechanics and classical electrodynamics. Further information may be obtained from the Secretary, Department of Physics, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, 99 Livingston Street, Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

The seventh Fellowship Award of Sigma Delta Epsilon, graduate women's scientific fraternity, is to be awarded early next March. Applications for the 1957-58 fellowship should be submitted before February 1, 1957. Women with the PhD degree or its equivalent, carrying on research in the physical, mathematical, or biological sciences, who need financial assistance and give evidence of high ability and promise are eligible. Application blanks may be obtained from Dr. Dorothy Quiggle, Petroleum Refining Laboratory, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa.

Physics Teaching Apparatus

A study of apparatus used in the teaching of physics will be conducted during the academic year 1956-57 for the American Association of Physics Teachers by its Committee on Apparatus for Educational Institutions. A gift of \$10 000 from the W. M. Welch Manufacturing Company to the AAPT has made the study possible. The study was prompted by the feeling of many physics teachers that new and improved teaching equipment is needed in lecture rooms and laboratories to meet the increased enrollments and the changing emphases in physics courses. Those engaged in this project will work in cooperation with about a hundred representative physics departments in colleges and uni-

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versities and a few secondary schools. They will attempt to determine the needs of these departments for teaching equipment by questionnaire techniques and by personal visits. Definite needs and ideas for new apparatus will be reported freely to the apparatus industry. Where plans for new apparatus seem commercially interesting, royalty arrangements will be made by the interested company with the inventor. The new apparatus being sought is that which (1) illustrates recent developments in physics, (2) illustrates classical physics by the use of improved techniques, (3) can be used in physics demonstrations to large lecture classes, or (4) aids the administration of laboratory classes in physics.

The study of apparatus will be directed by W. C. Kelly of the University of Pittsburgh Department of Physics. Members of the Committee on Apparatus are: Chairman, Sanborn C. Brown (Massachusetts Institute of Technology); Vernet Eaton (Wesleyan University); Gerald Holton (Harvard University); and Dr. Kelly. Suggestions from physicists for the improvement of teaching apparatus will be welcomed, and their cooperation in the study is requested.

Research and Development

Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh, Pa., has established a new department of radiation research and has purchased a 3-million-volt Van de Graaff particle accelerator as its initial radiation source. Robert H. Schuler, formerly of Brookhaven National Laboratory, has been selected to head the new department, which will study the nature and applications of ionizing radiation.

The Atomic Energy Commission has approved two loans for natural uranium metal, totalling 11 000 pounds, plus neutron sources, to be used in connection with expanding instruction in nuclear engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the City College of New York. Each school will be loaned 5500 pounds of the metal in the form of eight-inch rods inclosed in aluminum, which will be used in subcritical assemblies in which nuclear fission can be produced but which do not sustain a chain reaction. No unusual or expensive safety controls will be necessary and the metal may be used for laboratory exercises in nuclear engineering training. This brings to five the number of loans of this type to nonprofit educational institutions. Previous recipients are New York University, University of Florida, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

The newest research laboratories of National Carbon Company, a division of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation, will be dedicated on September 18 at Parma, Ohio. Heading the new laboratories is Robert G. Breckenridge, formerly chief of the solid-state physics section at the National Bureau of Standards and head of the physics branch, Office of Naval Research, Washington, D. C. The new laboratory facilities, designed primarily for basic research in chemical and solid-state physics, are already in operation, with research being conducted on ways to improve existing