

Science Studies Get Help

► FOR THE NEXT two or three years, the Research Corporation, a foundation for the advancement of science, has allotted a million dollars a year to strengthen science departments in liberal arts colleges and support academic research in colleges and universities. This doubles the rate of expenditure of the past year, President J. William Hinkley has announced, and will represent about half of the foundation's budget for all grant purposes.

The Research Corporation was founded on the income from the electrical precipitation patents of the late Dr. F. G. Cottrell. Since the introduction of its liberal arts colleges program in 1950, the foundation has made over 90 grants totaling \$2.7 million to colleges and universities in 30 states.

The program is aimed at adding new strength in science at centers of liberal education, primarily through expansion of faculty and purchase of research equipment.

The program aiding liberal arts colleges was instituted because of the conviction that these colleges are the principal generators of candidates for advanced degrees in science.

"Increased funds for salaries and more sophisticated equipment, along with greater research orientation, have

made the colleges more competitive in recruiting and holding high-caliber faculty," President Hinkley said.

"Student and teacher involvement in meaningful research has increased. Enrollment in science courses is up, with more of the graduates going on for advanced degrees. In many of the colleges the surge and ferment in the sciences are also having stimulative effects on the other academic departments."

This year the Research Corporation is giving a total of \$863,795 for the strengthening of science in liberal arts and other colleges.

• *Science News*, 89:458 June 11, 1966

GENERAL SCIENCE

Civil Rights Conference Stresses Practical Steps

► MORE THAN 2,000 leading citizens from throughout the nation met in Washington to hear Government recommendations designed to lead Negroes through the doors of opportunity.

The emphasis at the two-day White House Conference, titled "To Fulfill These Rights," was on practical, immediate steps that can be taken by private groups on local levels in the areas of jobs, education, housing and the administration of justice.

In employment, the 30-member Council drafted last February by President Johnson to draw up an action program recommended that urban areas establish Metropolitan Jobs Councils. Each council would be responsible for surveying the local situation vis-a-vis Negroes, for urging business, labor and government in the area to expand job openings, and for conducting a public education program to combat prejudice, among other things.

Roughly the same type of job council or task force should be set up in rural areas, the Council told the conference.

In education, the Federal Government should make all money grants contingent on "workable" programs to reduce racial concentration in schools. Thus each community, in order to receive Federal money, would have to present a plan committed to integration and complete with details on teacher assignment, bussing and enrichment programs. The main focus is to eliminate de facto segregation.

In housing, the Council recommended a Federal anti-discrimination law "as broad as the Constitution permits." It also proposed the establishment of privately-operated service centers to assist nonwhites in finding homes, process complaints of discrimination and encourage white neighborhoods to accept a better mix.

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Questions

What unusual change has been noted in a star? p. 459.

Why do metal plates surgically implanted in the human body sometimes corrode? p. 466.

How do proposed runway cables halt landing planes? p. 467.

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