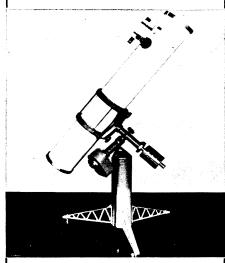
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vaccines cover these two types, but not yet type B, which was believed to be the cause of an epidemic at Ford Ord, Calif., in 1964.

"We cannot actually say that our vaccine prevents meningitis," Dr. Artenstein says. "The vaccine is safe, it does produce antibodies and reduces the transmission from person to person. More work needs to be done before it can be approved by the Army Investigational Drug Review Board."

**Meningitis** in the U.S. develops most often where people live in crowded quarters.

Dr. Emil C. Gotschlich, who headed the research team before he became an assistant professor at Rockefeller University in New York City, describes the vaccine as a purified portion of the bacterium that causes the disease. It consists of polysaccharide antigens which cause the body to develop its own defense against meningitis.

DRAFT

### Lottery again

"Draft the youngest first" is advice that has been given to the Government by many—including drill sergeants who find younger bodies more malleable than men in their middle twenties. But present draft practice takes the oldest, sometimes men as old as 26.

Now President Nixon proposes a reversal of the field. He is asking Congress to change the law so that selection by lot will start with 19-year-olds.

Local boards would take men in the order of their birthdays as determined by one lottery. A second lottery would determine the order of drafting for those born on the same day.

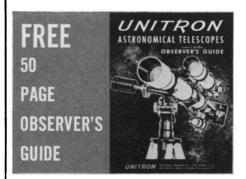
What the President and many others seem to have missed, says Betty M. Vetter of the Scientific Manpower Commission, is that no matter how you establish a prime selection group, so long as you take the oldest first, you already have a totally random system, and all the scrambling is not necessary.

Switching prime eligibility to the youngest age group would, however, aid graduate students. "Almost anything that would take away the concentration on graduate students, brought about by the combination of taking away their deferments and continuing to make the oldest men the most eligible, would be of benefit to them," says Mrs. Vetter.

But passing the bill through Congress will take time—and a lottery draft bill failed two years ago. Without emergency administrative action in the meanwhile, says Mrs. Vetter, "there is no way to avoid taking out of graduate study an inordinate number from three classes."







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