cent from last year and 18 percent from 1967. More than six in 10 — up 9 percent from last year — say an important reason to go to college is "to make more money."

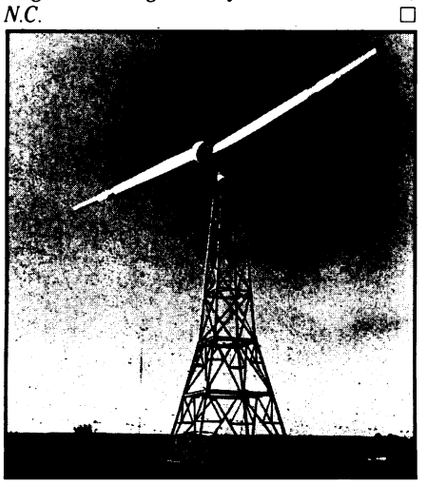
• Energy, environmental pollution and consumer protection continue to be the major national issues for most students. Eight of 10 feel the government should be doing more to discourage energy consumption and control pollution, while seven of 10 say too little is being done about faulty goods and services.

In a separate study of data compiled over the last decade, Astin reports that the quality of education after a student enters college may have declined along with the high school preparation that got him or her to that point. The study indicates that educational outcomes are superior at smaller, private schools for men or women, but not at coed institutions. Yet, since the mid 1950s, he notes, most of the growth in college enrollment has been in public institutions and big, coed colleges; the number of single-sex schools has declined sharply.

In addition, two-year community colleges — many with open admissions programs — have proliferated, says the researcher, but produce a low percentage of degrees. Consequently, he adds, such schools turn out to be more expensive in the long run than other colleges. □

Wind Currents

This is a big year for wind power. Dedication of the first federally funded commercial wind generator in the United States —January 28 in Clayton, N.M.—begins two years of tests on the performance and economics of large wind systems tied to conventional electric-power plants and utility-distribution lines. The rotor, which spans 125 feet, generates up to 200 kilowatts of electricity, enough for about 60 homes. It starts automatically at wind speeds above eight miles per hour and shuts off when winds exceed 40 mph; when operating, 40 revolutions per minute is maintained automatically. Similar wind machines are to be installed at Block Island, R.I., and Culebra Island, Puerto Rico. Also scheduled for installation this year is a larger, two-megawatt system near Boone, N.C. □



Rhesus embargo threatens research

Monkeys imported from India have been the mainstay of vaccine safety testing and biomedical research. Now alternatives may suddenly have to be found. Last month India announced that, effective April 1, 1978, it will not permit export of rhesus monkeys.

Reasons for that decision are not known. There is speculation that the ban was prompted by reports of American violation of an agreement governing the use of the imported monkeys. Because many Hindus, including Prime Minister Morarji Desai, oppose the killing of animals, exporting monkeys for scientific research has always posed religious and political problems in India.

The International Primate Protection League, based in Berkeley, Calif., recently called to the attention of the Indian press American radiation tests relating to the neutron bomb and using rhesus monkeys. The 1955 agreement between India and the United States stipulates that monkeys will not be used in atomic blast experiments. An Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute spokesman says institute scientists use about 50 rhesus monkeys annually in weapons-related experiments.

It is not clear who is responsible for the discrepancy. Some of the issues are whether the agreement prohibits experiments not using actual atomic blasts, but only radiation designed to mimic a blast, and whether the restrictions apply to monkeys not imported directly, but bought from other laboratories. Military officials claim to have had no knowledge of the agreement, and members of the Interagency Primate Steering Committee (which is responsible for the national supply of rhesus monkeys) say they had no knowledge of the military experiments.

Whatever the reasons for the ban, it would have difficult consequences medically and scientifically. Rhesus monkeys are good stand-ins for humans and years of research have amassed valuable baseline data. Mandatory testing of vaccines uses about half of the almost 12,000 rhesus monkeys imported annually by the United States.

Alternative sources of monkeys seem unsatisfactory, either in the long-run or short-run. Bangladesh might immediately provide animals, but the rhesus population there is smaller than in India. Some ecologists warn that extensive export of Bangladesh monkeys could wipe out the rhesus population there in a few years, while with careful management the Indian rhesus population could survive an annual harvest of 60,000.

The better long-term option is to breed and raise monkeys domestically for laboratory use. Several breeding colonies are already in limited operation, spurred on both by fear of depleting natural sources and by desire for healthier and more uniform, even if more expensive, experimental animals. However, available facilities fall far short of meeting the present need. If no more captured monkeys are added to present breeding programs, and if the programs supply monkeys for vaccine testing, the current demand will not be met for 20 years, estimates Joseph Held, chairman of the steering committee. □

NIH

Research monkey shortage looms.

Geneticist for top post at Rockefeller

While finding a president can be a trying academic exercise, Rockefeller University has succeeded in procuring a new top administrator — and a Nobel laureate at that. In July, geneticist Joshua Lederberg is scheduled to assume presidency of the research and training institution. He will leave his position as chairman of the genetics department at Stanford School of Medicine. Lederberg succeeds Frederick Seitz, a solid state and nuclear physicist, who reached mandatory retirement age more than a year ago.

The university's search committee notes that Lederberg's diversified career in biology and medicine relates closely to Rockefeller's emphasis on biomedicine with related behavioral, physical and mathematical sciences. Lederberg has served on national and international boards concerned with medical research, mental and environmental health and scientific information. He participated in negotiation of the biological weapons disarmament treaty and in the Mars missions. Lederberg received the Nobel Prize in 1958, when he was 33, for his work on bacterial genetics. He was the first to demonstrate sexual recombination of genes among bacteria and also transfer of bacterial genes by viruses. Lederberg developed several techniques widely used by molecular biologists today. □