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Prentice. He feels that there were valid scientific reasons for cancelling the neutron generator and the observatory, and the scale of proposed Canadian participation in NAL is about equal to other Canadian efforts. It matches, for instance, the cost of Tri-University Meson Facility, a meson-producing accelerator being built for nuclear physics by a group of universities in western Canada; the same scale could be applied to support for other branches of physics as well. "We would foresee a group of universities wanting to do something similar in solid-state physics," says Dr. Prentice.

FEDERAL SUPPORT

Implementing the NSB proposals

Following a pattern established during World War II, the bulk of Government money for science is allocated to individual researchers to carry out specific projects—a system that has meant that certain institutions are indirectly heavily endowed while others get very little.

This was the problem addressed by the National Science Board when, in a report last month (SN: 3/8, p. 231), it proposed reallocation of Federal research money to better support graduate degree-granting institutions themselves.

To minimize the limitations of the project grant system and to implement the NSB recommendations, Senator Fred Harris (D-Okla.) and others have introduced a bill to establish a National Institutional Grants Program to substantially increase, by \$400 million, support of scientific research and education from the community college to the university level.

The money, which each year after 1970 would equal 20 percent of total Federal funds for academic science, would go directly to the institutions, rather than to individuals within them, and could be used by the schools to support programs of their own choosing. The distribution would be administered by the National Science Foundation. The bill has been referred to the Senate's Committee on Labor and Public Welfare which is likely to schedule hearings within the next few months.

In the House, Representative George P. Miller (D-Calif.) has introduced legislation also aimed at marshalling support for university science (SN: 3/8, p. 231). His proposal is to distribute funds by a complicated formula incorporating proportions of graduate and undergraduate students, designed to feed less wealthy institutions, in more states.

The Harris proposal may sidestep objections to the Miller bill. ◇

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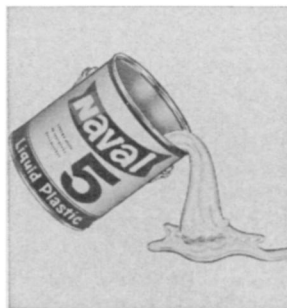
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