

## NOTES

### Opportunities for Financing of Research in the Pacific Under the Fulbright Act

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS will become available in 1948 that could be used for financing scientific research in Australia, New Zealand, the Dutch East Indies, French Oceania, and other Pacific and Asiatic countries under the terms of the Fulbright Act passed by the 79th Congress. These funds derive from income to the United States government through the disposal of surplus property to the nations involved. Grants to qualified applicants are to be made by a Board of Foreign Scholarships which, it is expected, will be in operation in Washington, D. C., by January, 1948.

The legislation covering this program is found in Public Law 584, 79th Congress, approved August 1, 1946, which amends the Surplus Property Act of 1944 to designate the Department of State as the disposal agency for surplus property outside the continental United States, its territories and possessions. Pertinent passages from this Act follow:

"In carrying out the provisions of this section, the Secretary of State is hereby authorized to enter into an executive agreement or agreements with any foreign government for the use of currencies, or credits for currencies, of such government acquired as a result of such surplus property disposals, for the purpose of providing, by the formation of foundations or otherwise, for (A) financing studies, research, instruction, and other educational activities of or for American citizens in schools and institutions of higher learning located in such foreign country, or of the citizens of such foreign country in American schools and institutions of higher learning located outside the continental United States, Hawaii, Alaska (including the Aleutian Islands), Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, including payment for transportation, tuition, maintenance, and other expenses incident to scholastic activities; or (B) furnishing transportation for citizens of such foreign country who desire to attend American schools and institutions of higher learning in the continental United States, Hawaii, Alaska (including the Aleutian Islands), Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, and whose attendance will not deprive citizens of the United States of an opportunity to attend such schools and institutions: *Provided, however,* That no such agreement or agreements shall provide for the use of an aggregate amount of the currencies, or credits for currencies, of any

one country in excess of \$20,000,000 or for the expenditure of the currencies, or credits for currencies, of any one foreign country in excess of \$1,000,000 annually at the official rate of exchange for such currencies, unless otherwise authorized by Congress, nor shall any such agreement relate to any subject other than the use and expenditure of such currencies or credits for currencies for the purposes herein set forth: *Provided further,* That for the purpose of selecting students and educational institutions qualified to participate in this program, and to supervise the exchange program authorized herein, the President of the United States is hereby authorized to appoint a Board of Foreign Scholarships, consisting of ten members, who shall serve without compensation, composed of representatives of cultural, educational, student and war veterans groups, and including representatives of the United States Office of Education, the United States Veterans' Administration, State educational institutions, and privately endowed educational institutions: *And Provided further,* That in the selection of American citizens for study in foreign countries under this paragraph preference shall be given to applicants who shall have served in the military or naval forces of the United States during World War I or World War II, and due consideration shall be given to applicants from all geographical areas of the United States."

Amounts available under the Act in Pacific countries, according to a State Department release of July 17, are as follows, for a 20-year period: Australia, \$5,000,000; France, \$5,000,000; Netherlands Indies, \$7,000,000; New Zealand, \$2,300,000; Siam, \$4,000,000; United Kingdom, \$20,000,000; Burma, \$3,000,000; Philippines, \$2,000,000; and China, \$20,000,000.

Members of the Board, announced by the White House in July, are: General Omar Bradley, Veterans Administration; John W. Studebaker, U. S. Commissioner of Education; Francis Spaulding, New York Commissioner of Education; Helen C. White, University of Wisconsin; Lawrence Dugan, Institute of International Education; Ernest Lawrence, University of California; Sarah Blanding, Vassar College; Walter Johnson, University of Chicago; Charles Johnson, Fiske University;

and Martin P. McGuire, Catholic University of America.

Interesting comments upon the opportunities under the Act appear in a personal letter written to Senator Fulbright on March 10, 1947, by Harold J. Coolidge, executive secretary of the Pacific Science Board, National Research Council. His remarks follow:

"The more I study your bill, the more I become convinced that Public Law 584 of the 79th Congress can open a new chapter in the field of international scientific relations.

"As you know, we are faced in this country with large numbers of young scientists, many of whom are keen to undertake fundamental research which can best be carried out in a foreign country. To such students the possibility of working on ecological problems in New Guinea or zoogeography where Wallace did his field work represents nothing more than a naturalist's dream, far from any hope of realization. In many fields of science, fundamental research came to a standstill during the war, for obvious reasons.

"I feel that there are two important kinds of help required to enable the qualified student to engage in field research. First, the assurance of a friendly reception and extension of certain facilities by the government of the foreign country concerned. This is a matter that can usually be arranged with the assistance of the State Department, and should not present great difficulties for Americans in most countries in the post-war world. Secondly, the highly difficult problem of finding funds to finance travel and field or laboratory research in the foreign country where the research is to be undertaken.

"The Fulbright Bill makes it possible through the Board of Foreign Scholarships, with the assistance of the State Department, to solve this serious problem in a way that should not only greatly benefit the student, as well as the foreign country involved, but should likewise assure the possibility of great strides in the advancement of fundamen-

tal scientific knowledge and the training of competent men, particularly in the fields of the natural and related social sciences.

"You may remember my discussing with you fellowship needs in the Pacific Area. The Pacific Science Conference which met in Washington last June recommended that 'the continuing organization [Pacific Science Board] arrange for research fellowships at varying financial grades for competent graduate students, and for grants-in-aid to established scholars, including local inhabitants, in the several fields of science involved, as a part of the mechanics of staffing research.' . . .

"Instead of the implementation of this recommendation being a distant vision, it now looks as if it might be made a firm reality through proposed operations under the provisions of your Bill. It is to be sincerely hoped that the money for use of fellowships under this Bill will not be diverted to bricks and mortar, or, as sometimes rumored, to the meeting of government expenses in foreign countries not directly related to the basic purposes of the splendid and far-reaching program which you had in mind.

"It is also hoped that the money being spent by industrial firms on applied science, particularly scientific technology, will not reduce the opportunity that awaits many hundreds of other American scientists in foreign fields, and that can only be opened to them by those who administer the funds made available for 'studies, research, and other educational purposes' under the Fulbright Bill.

"I sincerely hope that provisions will be made to ensure the participation of well-known scientists on your Board of Foreign Scholarships.

"Once more I wish to congratulate you on the importance to international science and education of Public Law 584."

Senator Fulbright, in acknowledging this letter on March 13, said, in part: "I am in accord with your views about the possibilities of the bill which I introduced."

## Editor's Comments

COMMENT FROM READERS has been aroused by the section from Utinomi's bibliography on Micronesia printed in the July issue. Favorable remarks have been made concerning the value of these items to scientists now becoming interested in these new American island possessions in the Pacific. Readers have likewise raised the question, "How was it possible to print both Japanese and European languages side by side in the journal?" . . . Frankly, the task of reproducing all these characters on the printed page was an exacting typographic problem, which could not have been solved

without the energetic aid of the printers. The services of two composing shops were needed, one to set up the Japanese and Chinese ideographs, and one to set up the translations and other passages in roman characters. A reproduction proof of all the ideographs was taken. Then, as the roman matter was set up, the English compositor had to leave proper space for each of the several hundred oriental passages to be inserted. Page proofs of the roman passages were made, and the ideographs were then pasted, one after another, in the vacant spaces. Finally, full-page line cuts

of each of the eighteen pages of mixed matter were photographed and etched, and printed by letterpress along with the rest of the issue. Verily, a tedious and time-consuming process! . . . A request has been made from Washington that the January paper by Macdonald, Shepard, and Cox entitled "The Tsunami of April 1, 1946, in the Hawaiian Islands" be reprinted in the Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution. This illustrated "tidal wave" study has aroused wide interest, and the results are obviously of national importance. . . . Most of the PACIFIC SCIENCE papers appearing in 1946 are still available in separate reprint form, and individual copies of any previous article may be obtained free of charge by writing to the Office of Publications and Publicity, University of Hawaii, Honolulu 10, Hawaii. . . . As PACIFIC SCIENCE completes herewith its first year of publication, subscriptions are being

received from many parts of the world, along with comments indicating that the journal is fulfilling a special need by publishing research papers dealing with the biological and physical sciences in the Pacific Area. Charter subscribers should now renew the journal for the year 1948. . . . Dr. A. Grove Day, under whose direction as Editor-in-Chief PACIFIC SCIENCE was designed, inaugurated, and published for the past year, will return to his own teaching and research at the University of Hawaii after the current issue is printed. . . . The new editorial staff of the journal will consist of the following men: Dr. Leonard D. Tuthill of the Department of Zoology and Entomology, as Editor-in-Chief; Dr. O. A. Bushnell of the Department of Bacteriology, as Assistant Editor; and Thomas Nickerson, University Publications Editor, as Managing Editor.