

RESEARCH

Stanford has a new president—just in time for the fall semester which began last week. Replacing chemist Kenneth S. Pitzer who resigned June 25 after two years as president is Dr. Richard W. Lyman, a 46-year-old historian and vice president and provost of the university prior to his appointment as president. Dr. Lyman was selected after an intensive nationwide search by a special committee of the board of trustees. Stanford faculty, students, and alumni were asked to suggest the kind of person they would like to run the university—more than 1000 replies were received. Dr. Pitzer, meanwhile, will be giving the Mathers lectures in chemistry at Indiana University, Bloomington, during the fall quarter (see his guest editorial this issue, page 5).

The demand for technical manpower hit a new low in July, according to Deutsch, Shea & Evans, Inc., New York City. It was the fourth consecutive month in which new demand lows have been reached, and DS&E predicts no substantial change in the immediate future. On the other hand, June engineering graduates may have had more trouble finding jobs than at any time since 1960, but fewer than 4% had no job offer, according to the Engineers Joint Council.

The job market for next June's graduates may well be as tight as the one just past, according to Dr. Ralph Keller, director of placement for Stanford University. He reveals that 47 major firms have canceled recruitment interviews at Stanford for the 1970-71 academic year; also, he says, 22 "regulars" didn't even ask for appointments. It remains to be seen whether the trend will continue or will reverse to reflect a rising economy, Dr. Keller says.

University of California has opened an international center for biological control. Main goal of the center is to train people on an international basis in pest control using natural methods. Training will be on a doctoral and technical level, says Dr. Carl Huffaker, of University of California, Berkeley, and director of the center. Dr. Paul DeBach of University of California, Riverside, is associate director. Other goals of the center include establishing research programs in foreign countries, a storage and retrieval center for information on biological control of pests, and a taxonomy center for studies on natural enemies of pests.

A nuclear reactor for studying the effects of neutrons on living tissues is now in operation at Argonne National Laboratory after an 18-month overhaul to reduce levels of background radiation. The reactor, designed to emit large quantities of neutrons uncontaminated by γ -rays or other radiation, will be used to obtain more precise information on effects of radiation delivered at low intensities over long periods.

Pollution in the Antarctic region will be investigated by two three-man teams of scientists from University of Rhode Island and University of California, Berkeley, as part of National Science Foundation's U.S. Antarctic Research Program for 1970-71. The Rhode Island group will analyze atmospheric samples for lead, copper, iron, aluminum, and other metals. The Berkeley team will gather data on the distribution of DDT and other chlorinated hydrocarbons to several ocean areas and will study the reproductive success of Wilson's petrel, a sea bird known to be accumulating large quantities of chlorinated hydrocarbons in its system.