



STUDENTS' LABORATORY 'GADGETS'—These awe-inspiring devices are among Bureau of Standards equipment young scientists are using in part-time study. At left is the world's largest high-voltage X-ray installation, with Dr. L. S. Taylor, head of

the X-ray section, standing at its base. At right, with Dr. Grote Reber at one of the controls, is a giant radio telescope at Sterling, Va., used in the study of radio noise due to solar activity.

—Bureau of Standards Photos.

Bureau of Standards 'Stockpiles' Scientists in Study-Work Plan

By Charles J. Yarbrough

The National Bureau of Standards, which can always use a good scientist, is stockpiling its own.

Vacation-time employment, a work-study program for college undergraduates and graduate fellowships have brought 180 young physical scientists to the bureau for training since June, 1948.

Of these, 30 are now full-time employes. Another 50 of the undergraduates are due back for more training next summer, and 16 are in the work-study program.

As principal Government agency for fundamental research in physics, mathematics, chemistry and engineering, the bureau constantly has a variety of projects under way—from measuring the magnetic moment of the proton to development of new types of materials for prefabricated houses.

Student Chooses Specialty.

The very diversity of the work allows the student to choose work in his field of interest, broaden his experience through contact with related lines of work and get paid while doing it.

The integrated work-study program, beginning at the college sophomore level, permits a student to alternate periods of full-time study with actual work experience. Simultaneously, the plan enables the bureau to select the

at least two years of an engineering or science course are appointed as student aides—at \$208 per month. Those who have finished their junior year get \$227 per month.

Since inception of the program last year, appointments generally have been for a three-month period during summer vacations. If additional work experience is needed, other than that which can be acquired in one or two summers, the last two or three years of the college course may be spent in alternate periods of work and study.

16 Under Plan.

Under this plan, the Bureau now has 16 students, working in two-man teams under a system of 13 weeks on the job and 13 weeks back in school.

No participant in the graduate or undergraduate program is obligated to remain with the Bureau on completion of his course. Of the 100 appointed for continuation of the course at the close of their junior year, 84 indicated a desire to return to the Bureau as staff members.

Under the graduate fellowship plan, the student enters Bureau service without an examination, providing the work done is to be used in fulfilling the thesis requirement for an advanced degree. For this work, he receives \$2,974 a year.