

## Developments in Oceanography

Judging from manuscripts which we have on file, the communication "Education and Training for Oceanographers," which was published in SCIENCE June 23, 1950, was written prior to January, 1949. Since that time there have been extensive developments in oceanography at the A. and M. College of Texas, where a Department of Oceanography has been established in the School of Arts and Sciences. These developments may be of interest to your readers.

Instead of our courses in oceanography being offered as "part of various curricula," they actually make up a graduate curriculum in oceanography, which leads to the Master of Science degree in that field. It is expected that this program will be augmented so as to permit work at the doctoral level in the near future.

We are now engaged in several oceanographic research projects—one a systematic investigation of the oceanography and meteorology of the Gulf of Mexico sponsored by the Office of Naval Research; another a project in biological oceanography conducted at the laboratory of the Texas A. and M. Research Foundation at Grand Isle, Louisiana, and sponsored by a group of the major oil companies operating on the Gulf Coast; another a cooperative program with the Fisheries Biology Section of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducted from the oceanographic vessel, the *Alaska*; and a fourth, the work done under the Dow Research Fellowship in Chemical Oceanography. Other work is pending.

The initial academic staff includes, in addition to the writer, who is professor of physical oceanography and marine meteorology, W. Armstrong Price, professor of geological oceanography, John G. Mackin, professor of biological oceanography, and Donald W. Hood, assistant professor of chemical oceanography. Another staff member is to be added in physical oceanography and marine meteorology in February, 1951.

The A. and M. graduate program in oceanography is strengthened by close association with the Departments of Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Physics, Mathematics, Geography, and the School of Engineering. Research is conducted through the Texas A. and M. Research Foundation, which is legally and financially independent of the college but is dedicated to its welfare and has available to it the staff and facilities of the college.

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