Services offered by the firm include: work on chemical processes, planned maintenance programs, drafting and design, consulting services, and project engineering. Special emphasis will be on chemical processes involving methyl amines, carbamate fungicides, dimethylformamide, synthetic detergents, titanium dioxide, pentaerythritol, ethylene oxide, aluminum oxides, and other processes of current importance.

The new company will be affiliated with the consulting engineering firm of Brown & Blauvelt.

Jackson D. Leonard, third principal in the new firm, formerly headed J. D. Leonard & Associates, consulting chemical engineers. Prior to the establishment of his own firm, Mr. Leonard was associated with General Chemical, Du Pont, and Merck.

Research

Rutgers Dedicates Microbiology Institute

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY formally opened its new institute of microbiology on the New Brunswick, N. J., campus June 7 and played host to a gathering of scientists discussing the achievements and prospects in the field of microbiology.

The new institute, which cost $3.5 million, is a tribute to Selman A. Waksman, codiscoverer of streptomycin, and was built with the royalties from streptomycin. The new institute, four stories high, will be devoted to research in the fundamentals of microbiology. Although not divided into departments, research will center around the following aspects: general microbiology, microbial physiology, antibiotics of microorganisms, vitamins and enzymes, ecology of microorganisms, and applied microbiology.

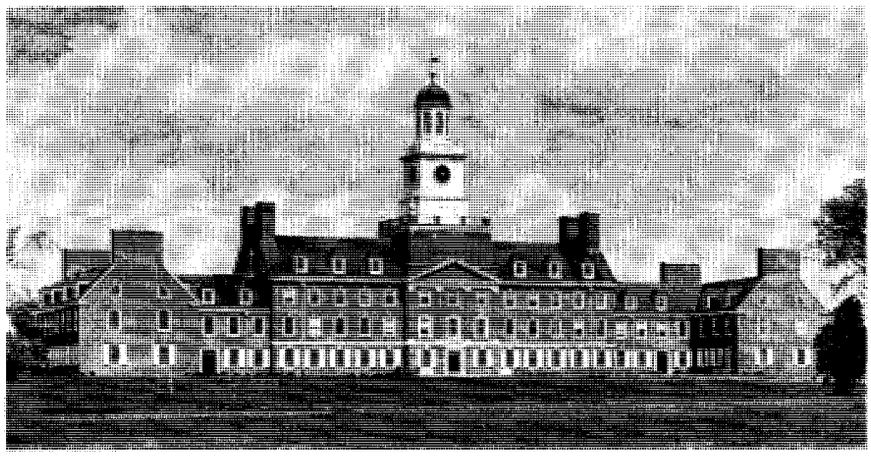
The staff of the institute will include the director, Dr. Waksman, and bacteriologists, mycologists, virologists, physiologists, biochemists, and organic chemists. In addition, the institute will provide facilities for 20 to 30 graduate students, five to 10 postdoctoral fellows, 10 to 25 visiting investigators from this country and abroad, and several honorary investigators.

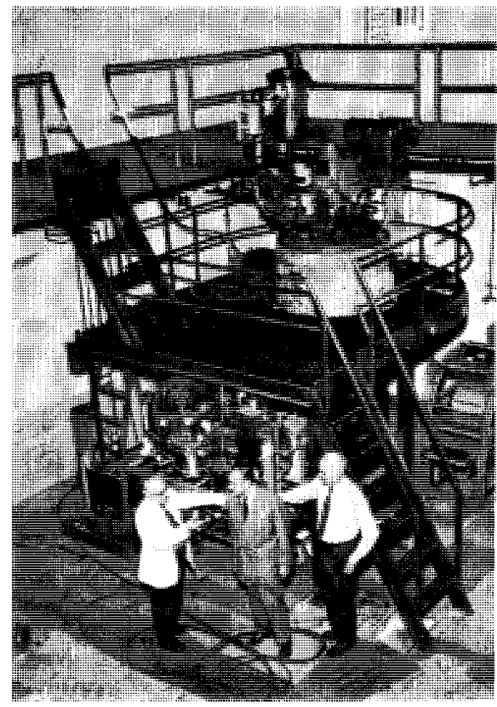
Facilities include laboratories divided into units 10 feet wide with removable metal partitions so that the laboratories can be enlarged in units of 10 feet. There are also teaching rooms, a large lecture hall, teaching laboratories, a microbiological museum, library and reading room. Approximately half of one wing is devoted to a pilot plant housing a number of fermentors from 5 liters to 300 gallons.

The Rutgers Research and Endowment Foundation, a nonprofit corporation, appropriated the money for the new institute. Of the approximately $5 million in royalties on streptomycin patents, 82.5% are assigned to the foundation, 5% goes to the foundation for microbiology, 5% to Dr. Waksman, and 7.5% to associates and former students of Dr. Waksman who helped in the search for streptomycin. Investigators at the institute are expected to assign patents resulting from work there to the research and endowment foundation.

Dr. Waksman, who isolated streptomycin in 1943, was born in Russia in 1888 and came to this country in 1910 and entered Rutgers in 1911. After taking his B.S. in 1915, Dr. Waksman stayed on at Rutgers to take his master's degree and his U. S. citizenship the following year. In 1918, he took a Ph.D. in biochemistry at the University of California, and returned to Rutgers as a microbiologist at the experiment station and lecturer at the University. His early work was on the role of microorganisms in the soil, but in 1939 his work was sharply altered and he began studying the microorganisms which would have therapeutic value.

The $3.5 million Rutgers Institute of Microbiology dedicated recently





Selman A. Waksman (left), director of the institute, shows a visitor, O. Hubner of Copenhagen, around the pilot plant room. Adolph Zimmerli, honorary professor of microbiological engineering, is in charge of the mass production experiments to be carried on in this part of the institute

Animal Fats in PVC Resins

Glycerol derivatives as plasticizers for polyvinyl chloride may have a future, reported H. B. Knight and coworkers of Eastern Regional Research Laboratory. Epoxidized monoglycerine diacetates have been used successfully with PVC, the ACS Division of Paint, Plastics and Printing Ink Chemistry learned at the Kansas City national meeting.

Incompatibility of animal fat derivatives with PVC and other resins has largely limited them to use as lubricants and plasticizer extenders. Introduction of three membered epoxy rings, however, greatly improves the compatibility of long chain compounds with resins. The principle has been put to use in epoxidized oils, which have been on the market for several years.

Compounds tested at Eastern Regional can be derived from tallow, lard, soybean oil, cottonseed oil—cheap, plentiful sources. Lower iodine number of fats makes them a better starting point than oils, since less peroxide is needed in epoxidation.

Government

Hale Amendent Becomes Law

The Hale amendment to the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, which is expected to simplify procedures in establishing food standards, was signed by President Eisenhower on April 15.

In commenting on the Hale amendment, Parke N. Banta, General Counsel of the Department of HEW, said "It will eliminate the time that had been wasted on noncontroversial issues under former requirement of the law. Under them every provision of a food standard had to be based on evidence recorded at formal hearings. Under the new amendment any interested party has 30 days to file objections to any provisions of the proposed standard and request a public hearing, which will be confined to the controversial issues. All concerned will have full opportunity for a fair hearing, but no one will have the needless expense of proving facts and supporting proposals about which everyone is in full agreement. The right to judicial review now provided by the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act is retained."

Pink Bollworm Quarantine Area Extended to Arkansas

The USDA has added Arkansas to the states quarantined because of pink bollworm. Under the quarantine, the movement of lint, linters, cottonseed, and other cotton products from eight lightly infested Arkansas counties will be regulated. In addition the quarantine area has been extended to include all of Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma quarantine was extended because of the identification of bollworm larvae north of the presently regulated area.

People

Hugh Stiles to Direct Animal Nutrition Research

Hugh R. Stiles has left Commercial Solvents Corp. where he was technical director of the animal nutrition division to become director of nutrition for National Oats Co.'s feed division. His headquarters will be in East St. Louis, Ill. He will collaborate with James Corbin, manager of the nutrition department and experimental farm, on research and development in poultry and live stock feeds.

Deaths

Frank Joseph Rudert, director of research for Red Star Yeast and Products Co., died May 11 while attending a meeting of the Nutrition Foundation in White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., at the age of 37. Dr. Rudert, who was chairman of the Milwaukee section of the ACS, had been with Red Star since 1947. Previous to that he had been head of the antibiotics research laboratory for William S. Merrell Co. and, from 1941–45, a bacteriologist for Commercial Solvents.