

REPORT OF CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT 1937-1938

The registration in courses in the Chemistry Department during the first semester was the largest which the Department has ever had. It has strained the available facilities and makes it obvious that restriction of one kind or another is essential. The increase came primarily in the junior, senior and graduate courses as the graduate students numbered 250, an increase of nearly 25 per cent over last year's graduate enrollment. It is probable that the undergraduate restriction will be more effective this coming year and that the new graduate restriction, if approved, will cause a decrease of about 20 per cent in the present number of graduate students.

The five new instructors have all done exceedingly well and have made possible satisfactory instruction which otherwise would have been very difficult with the increased load.

The teaching and research need no special comment. Approximately the same number of publications have appeared as in past years. The students receiving the Ph.D degree for the calendar year, 1938, will be about 40, the same as last year.

The Department was granted two new post Ph.D fellows by the Rohm and Haas Company and several new graduate fellowships were supported by the various industries. I consider these grants as indication that the chemical organizations look with favor upon the training offered students and upon the

quality of the research work of the staff. A grant of \$75,000 has been received by Dr. W. C. Rose from the Rockefeller Foundation to give added support to his researches for the next five years.

Honors have come to many members of the Chemistry Department this past year in recognition of their accomplishments and standing in their respective fields. Of these should be mentioned particularly the election of Professors Marvel and Rodebush to memberships in the National Academy of Sciences. The Department has now five representatives in the Academy, a larger number, I am sure than any other department in any Science in the country. In chemistry, Harvard has four representatives, including President Conant; California, three; Columbia, two; California Institute, two; Minnesota, two; Massachusetts Institute of Technology, two; and one each in Brown, Cornell, Chicago, Yale, and Princeton. This last February I was elected as honorary fellow in the British Chemical Society.

It should be incorporated in this report that the teaching and operative staff members are an industrious, ambitious group and only by their constant cooperation has it been possible to maintain the standards and productive output in such a large and diversified department.