

## A&M Lauded For Cyclotron Achievements

Texas A&M's boldness in building a cyclotron sets an example for other universities seeking excellence in science and graduate education, noted Glenn T. Seaborg, Atomic Energy Commission chairman.

"Here on the Texas plains you have assembled in a very short time a scientific staff and facility that can make Texas A&M a major center of learning in one of the most sophisticated and intriguing frontiers of science and advanced study," he added in ceremonies dedicating the new \$6 million cyclotron.

Dr. Seaborg took the occasion to announce a grant of \$250,000 from the AEC for procurement of a magnetic spectograph to be used with the cyclotron. The new device will enable highly precise determinations of the properties of nuclear particles produced by the big machine.

JOINING in the dedication ceremonies was Dr. Willard F. Libby, 1960 Nobel Prize winner in chemistry.

More than 100 scientists, government officials and educators attended the ceremonies in the Cyclotron Institute on A&M's campus.

The group was welcomed by L. F. Peterson, president of the Board of Directors of The Texas A&M University System; A&M President Earl Rudder and Dr. Andrew D. Suttle Jr., vice president for research and director of the Cyclotron Institute.

Dr. Seaborg predicted "a vigorous and imaginative research and graduate program with this facility can expand the intellectual resources of the Southwest, give indirect support to future technological development in Texas, and make an important contribution to the nation.

"THROUGH YOUR daring, imagination and determination, you have accomplished what many have thought, with reason, was impossible," he claimed.

Dr. Libby, director of the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics at the University of California at Los Angeles, spoke on "The Contribution of Nuclear Science to Chemistry." Dr. Libby is the discoverer of the process of determining age of organic materials by measuring Carbon-14.

Dr. Livingston, associate director of the National Accelerator Laboratory near Chicago, gave a historical lecture on "Ernest Lawrence and the Cyclotron." He was associated with the late Dr. Lawrence during development of the first cyclotron in 1931.

ALSO participating in the dedication was W. T. Doherty, vice president of the Board of Trustees of the Robert A. Welch Foundation which advanced \$1 million toward the cost of the A&M cyclotron. The AEC supplied \$3 million and the State of Texas \$2 million in funding the research device.

Texas A&M's cyclotron is considered to be one of the most versatile of the third-generation machines which have evolved from the original device built by Lawrence and Livingston.

With a magnet weighing 300 tons and a particle acceleration chamber 88 inches in diameter, the machine can whirl the tiny nuclei of atoms to a number of different speeds.

IT CAN accelerate protons—a basic part of the core of an atom—to any energy from six to 60 million electron volts and can push alpha particles to 130 million electron volts. While there are accelerators which achieve energies in the billions of electron volts, the A&M machine is designed for the medium energy range where a great number of questions about the structure of nuclei remain unanswered.

The cyclotron will be used in physical, biological, chemical and medical research.

The machine is the latest of a series of major nuclear research installations at the university. Others include a swimming pool type nuclear reactor soon to be powered up to a million watts in energy, a training reactor, a cobalt source which may be the most powerful for its size on any campus, and an expensive laboratory dealing with activation analysis.

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