

March 29, 1943

To J. E. Riehle :

The exigencies of war have caused a sharp increase in the demands for men by the Armed Forces, and although the Radiation Laboratory because of the urgency and importance of its work has been in a rather favored position with the Draft Boards, nevertheless, the number of men drafted from the Laboratory has increased in recent months and can be expected to increase even more sharply in the immediate future. Since our staff is comprised largely of young men eligible for induction, there is real danger that, if the previous rather haphazard procedure for selection by over 500 Draft Boards were to continue, the work of the Laboratory might be seriously impeded.

In anticipation of just such a situation and so that vital war industries and projects may be protected as much as possible, the War Manpower Commission has instituted a new procedure whereby the selection of men for the draft from such institutions is systematized. Under this procedure the company or project concerned files a "replacement schedule" with its State Selective Service Headquarters for approval. The Radiation Laboratory's "replacement schedule" was accepted and approved on March 23, 1943.

The "replacement schedule" is simply a list of every man in the Laboratory on January 31, 1943, who was then between the ages of $17\frac{1}{2}$ and 38 and without children. On the schedule each man is listed to be released to the Selective Service either in 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 months, or in from 6 to 12 months, or in over 12 months.

You have been listed to be released in over 12 months. Until that time and as long as you remain in the Laboratory you will not be taken by Selective Service. If you are listed to go in from 6 to 12 months, you will be assigned to a definite month, on the next replacement schedule, in the interval October, 1943 through March, 1944. Men who are listed as "over 12 months" are those whom we hope to be able to retain for the duration. At least they will not be taken by Selective Service before April, 1944.

The Army and Navy are urgently in need of men trained along our lines and both have expressed an interest in seeing that "skilled workers" or technicians taken in the draft from this Laboratory are allocated to work similar to that which they have been doing previously. If you are in one of these categories and wish to be considered for such allocation we shall be glad to confer with you at the appropriate time as to the help we can give you in furthering your preferences. And, of course, should it happen that you are rejected because of physical disabilities we shall be glad to reemploy you in the Radiation Laboratory.

Dr. Beattie in Room 24-106 will be glad to discuss with you any questions or problems you may have in this connection.

F. W. Loomis
Associate Director