THE TENURE CLOCK might be allowed to run for eight years instead of seven, President McGill has suggested in an initial response to the Senate's spring proposals to help and hold junior faculty. “On the basis of our canvassing of the deans, we believe that an adjustment of the system toward an eight-year limit on service as an assistant professor would have widespread support among the schools of the University,” he wrote to the Senate Executive Committee last month. A formal modification of the present tenure code by the trustees would be required. The Senate's idea of counting an instructor's four years of service as two on the tenure clock would be a “dubious practice,” he said. And the proposal for special three-year term associate professorships offers “major difficulties,” said McGill. Such professors would have “implied second class status,” he said, and the arrangement would expose the University to “frequent and expensive litigation in cases of claimed presumptive tenure.”

McGill said the administration has adopted the policy of early retirement for tenured faculty suggested in the April 23 Senate resolution. Deans have been encouraged to identify prospective candidates for retirement who would then consult with officers of the central administration to negotiate their retirement “on terms acceptable to them but not at excessive cost to the University,” he said.

THREE NOBEL WINNERS this year bring to 34 the number of laureates among Columbia faculty, former faculty and alumni. Milton Friedman, the economics prize winner, earned his Columbia Ph.D. in 1946, after serving as associate director of the statistical research group, part of the University's war research division, from 1943 to 1945; he returned in 1964-65 as visiting Wesley Clair Mitchell research professor of economics. Baruch Blumberg, who shared the prize in medicine, earned his M.D. at P&S in 1951 and is now a member of the University Seminar on “Genetics and the Evolution of Man.” Samuel Chao Chung Ting, co-winner in physics, was a Columbia instructor in 1964-65 and assistant professor from 1965 to 1967. The University currently lists four Nobel laureates on its faculty: physics professors James Rainwater and Tsung-Dao Lee and emeritus professors I.I. Rabi and Andre Cournand.

SOUND PRAISE: It appears that engineering and architecture professor Cyril Harris has achieved another acoustical triumph. First reviews last week of the new sound of rebuilt Avery Fisher Hall called it “detailed,” “clear,” “alive” and “infinitely superior” to the old. In a telegram, President McGill told Harris that students and faculty joined “the delighted concert-goers of New York in proud bravos!” Hailed as “the leading acoustician in the country, if not the world,” Harris has built up a record of similar successes with the acoustical design of the Metropolitan Opera here, the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and halls in St. Louis and Minneapolis.

INAUGURAL AT BARNARD: Jacquelyn Anderson Mattfeld’s installation as president of Barnard College Friday afternoon, November 5, will draw students and college presidents to a special morning program on educational options for women. Two open panel discussions will be held in Barnard Hall; participants will include presidents Jill Conway of Smith, Alice Emerson of Wheaton and Matina Horner of Radcliffe, and student affairs dean Adele Simmons of Princeton. Professor Elaine Pagels of Barnard will moderate.
The inaugural ceremony will begin at 3 P.M. in Riverside Church; Dr. Mattfeld will speak, a reception will follow in Barnard Hall. Information on invitations is available from Ruth Loud, Ext. 2047.

**IN HOMAGE TO** Jacques Barzun, 31 leading literati, artists and scholars have contributed to a festschrift, “From Parnassus: Essays in Honor of Jacques Barzun,” which Harper and Row will publish November 10. Among the contributors are English novelist C.P. Snow, author and philosopher Mortimer Adler, critic John Simon, social psychologist Kenneth Clark, playwright and former Columbia professor Eric Bentley, composer-educator Richard Franko Goldman, Columbia professors Carolyn Heilbrun (English), Henry Graff (history), Steven Marcus (English) and Fritz Stern (history), Columbia deans emeriti Courtney Brown (Business) and William Owens (Summer Session), and longtime Barzun assistant Virginia Xanthos.

The book includes an unfinished memoir by Barzun’s friend and colleague, the late Lionel Trilling, who was working on the piece at the time of his death last November. Starting in 1934, the two had jointly taught the famous “Colloquium on Important Books,” a landmark in general education.

Barzun spent 52 years at Columbia, as student, professor and administrator. The University “could never have been so stimulating and agreeable a place without him.” Brown writes in the festschrift.

Sixty-nine next month, Barzun is University Professor emeritus and a literary advisor at Scribner’s. He is working on several books, among them a major history of thought and culture at the turn of the century.

**MAJOR GRANTS** for research and training in engineering and medicine were received by the University recently:

- A U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration grant of $839,000 will fund expansion of the plasma physics laboratory in Mudd, where research on controlled thermonuclear energy production is led by professors Robert Gross and C.K. Chu. The new laboratory will house Torus II, a more powerful version of the Torus I, a device now used to study the behavior of plasma (hot ionized gas) in magnetic fields. Torus II will permit new experiments that require heating plasma to 2 million degrees Celsius.

- The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has given a second three-year grant of $450,000 to support post-doctoral teaching and research by young faculty members in basic medical sciences.

**NEW SCIENCE COLLOQUIA:** The Faculty of Pure Science is sponsoring a new series of lecture-meetings to present recent scientific advances to its members and to provide them with a regular opportunity for intellectual exchange.

The first three meetings, all on Tuesdays at 4:30 in Lehmann Auditorium, Altschul Hall, Barnard:


The colloquia, assisted by a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, will be held an average of once a month during the school year.

**RADIOACTIVE SEDIMENTS** have turned up in New York harbor in a study of the Hudson River by geology professor James Simpson of Lamont-Doherty and graduate student Curt Olsen. While “not currently... a biological hazard to humans,” the scientists report in Science (October 8), radioactive deposits off the tip of Manhattan are up to 10 times higher than those in coves near the Indian Point nuclear power plant 43 miles up river. Until now, Dr. Simpson said, “no one has had a clear idea of where planned low-level radioactive releases actually go once discharged into the Hudson. Now, if a significant accidental discharge of waste does occur, scientists will be able to keep track of the contamination.”
**LIONEL TRILLING SEMINARS:** Jacques Barzun will speak on "The Life and Death of Modernism" at the first of three Columbia seminars honoring his late colleague and friend Tuesday, November 9, at 8 P.M. in Rooms A and B of the Law School. Discussants will be Hillis Miller, English scholar at Yale, and Robert Rosenblum of the N.Y.U. fine arts department. The seminars, free and open to the public, have been established by a committee headed by English professor Steven Marcus. Later seminars are scheduled for February and April.

**CARP OUSTED:** The Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles (CARP) has been ousted from Earl Hall Center by the student governing board for "deceit" in "fronting" for the Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church. A six-month study of the group by the board found "a pattern of concealment" in CARP's recruitment and fund-raising activities. The board's bylaws prohibit "fronts."

**NEWSMAKERS:** Lowell Bellin, who resigned as New York City Health Commissioner October 6, will return to Columbia as professor of public health January 1. He has been on leave since 1974. Bellin served as first deputy commissioner from 1969 to 1974 and as executive director of Medicaid for the City Health Department from 1967 to 1975.

- Law School dean Michael Sovern was recruited by the City and the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association October 15 to help resolve the current contract dispute. Sovern was instrumental in bringing 1971 and 1974 transit disputes to a resolution and has been arbitrator in other police, fire and welfare disputes.

**REMINDEERS:** The third lecture in the Bicentennial Series, "Race and Class in a Welfare State," will be given by Swedish economist Gunnar Myrdal Thursday, October 28, at 8 P.M. in Low rotunda.

- Departmental representatives for the 1976-77 Columbia Community Chest Campaign will meet in the faculty room in Low.
$100,000, including a previously unpublished letter written by George Washington, original plates for Matisse illustrations of "Ulysses" and 127 Rockwell Kent drawings for "Leaves of Grass."

Selections from these and other anniversary gifts will be exhibited in Low rotunda November 5 through 12, and in the third-floor display cases of Butler Library December 1 through February 24.

James Clifford, the William Peterfield Trent professor emeritus of English at Columbia and a Johnsonian scholar, will talk at the dinner about "Collectors and Scholars Working Together." Further information about the event is available from Kenneth Lohf, Ext. 2231.

THURSDAY SEMINARS: Upcoming weekly meetings in the humanities, open to all, are held in 1501 SIA from 12:15 to 1:45 with lunch available:

- Oct. 28: "Liberalism and Liberal Education in India." Rajni Kothari, Wallach professor of world order studies, and Ainslee Embree, associate dean of SIA.
- Nov. 11: "Japanese Liberalism and Japanese Education." Speaker to be announced.

JOURNALISM AWARDS: The Maria Moors Cabot Prizes to journalists for "the advancement of international friendship and understanding in the Americas" were awarded October 26 at the 38th annual Cabot convocation in Low rotunda. President McGill presented gold medals to Bernard Diederich, Mexico City bureau chief for Time-Life News Service, and Jorge Remonda-Ruibal, director of La Voz del Interior, Cordoba, Argentina. Citations went to Robert U. Brown, publisher and editor of Editor & Publisher, and German Ornes, editor and publisher of El Caribe, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

THE NATIONAL COMMITMENT to research universities has "grown thin," and there has been "a national disaffection" with the study of international affairs in the post-Vietnam era, President McGill told a national forum of the College Entrance Examination Board October 24 in New York. "We are going to have to look to the federal government for coherent and effective support for the major research libraries of the country," he said. A preoccupation with internal problems has caused a dangerous "neo-isolationism" that requires "a recasting of our approach to international study," he said. These changes, together with a "reinvigoration of our scientific establishment and of our graduate schools," will be needed "to assure the continued preeminence of not only American higher education but America itself," he declared.