MATHEMATICIANS AND THE NEW SELECTIVE SERVICE REGULATIONS

On January 10, 1944, Selective Service Headquarters released amended Local Board Memoranda 115 and 115B, which become effective on February 1, and also an amended Activity and Occupational Bulletin No. 33-6, which becomes effective on February 15. These vitally concern all chairmen of departments of mathematics for they deal with the occupational classification of both teachers and undergraduate students. This communication contains a summary of the provisions of these directives.

Mathematicians are still included in the List of Critical Occupations. It is specifically stated that the titles included in Part II (Professional and Scientific Occupations) of the List of Critical Occupations "shall be considered as also including persons engaged in full-time teaching of these professions. A person may be considered as engaged in full-time teaching if he devotes not less than 15 hours per week in contact with students in actual classroom or laboratory instruction." The problem of securing the proper classification of a teacher of mathematics differs in accordance with the age group into which he falls.

I. Deferment of Mathematicians in 18-21 Age Group

All requests for new or additional occupational deferments for registrants in this age group who are teachers of mathematics must be made on Director of Selective Service Form 42-A Special. An original and two copies of this form must be presented by the employer to the State Director in whose state is located the registrant's principal place of employment.

Effective February 1, no registrant in this group, at the time he is classified, may be considered as a "necessary man" entitled to be placed in Class II-A or Class II-B unless:

- (a) the State Director of Selective Service has endorsed his Form 42-A Special with a statement that, based on the information furnished therein, he recommends that the local board except the registrant from the general restrictions against occupational deferment of registrants aged 18 through 21.
- (b) he is classified as (1) belonging to the Personnel of the Merchant Marine or Army Transportation Corps or (2) as a student who qualifies under AOB 33-6.