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Regents Vote to Establish Tree-Ring Research Center

Protection of its priority in the field of tree ring research was effected yesterday by the University of Arizona when the board of regents voted to establish permanently a laboratory for research into tree rings and looked forward to a time when the institution in Arizona will become a world-center for this work. The board named three faculty members to staff the laboratory, which already has a \$60,000 valuation in equipment and tree ring specimens.

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In connection with the tree ring laboratory, President Alfred Atkinson recommended that the regents authorize its establishment for research "for the purpose of caring for the collections, equipment, property and activities connected with the tree ring work which has been carried on during the past 80 years and for the further purpose of recognizing the priority of the University of Arizona in pioneering this most "Important field of study."

The laboratory personnel will include Dr. A.E. Douglass, founder and creator of the Douglass tree ring dating method, director, Dr. E.W. Haury, head of the department of anthropology, representing anthropology, dating, and instruction interest and Dr. Edwin F. Carpenter, head of the department of astronomy, solar and climatic studies and cycle work.

"Substantial advantages almost certainly will come from the establishment of a laboratory of tree ring research" Dr. Atkinson told the board. "It will be a center in which the 10,000 experiments which are the foundation material of tree ring work, may be organized properly and cared for. Much of this material has been collected by the Carnegie Foundation at Washington and the National Geographic society, and it is important that the university establish a recognized center for its care."

It was shown during the board meeting that the valuation of this tree ring material is \$60,000 this including specimens collected by Dr. Douglass, laboratory and other scientific equipment. The Carnegie Institution at Washington has provided about a third of the money that has been used in developing the work a, aiding in the purchase of photographic equipment, the cyclograph and filing cases.

The establishment of the laboratory will not occasion any extra cost at this time, the board said, except some small incidental expenses that can be taken out of unbudgeted funds already held by the university.