

# 200 Degrees On Faculties Held Bogus

By IVER PETERSON

About 200 faculty members at colleges and universities throughout the state hold bogus degrees from unaccredited institutions, the State Department of Education said yesterday.

T. Edward Hollander, deputy commissioner for higher and professional education, told a session of the Joint Legislative Committee on Higher Education that the figure represented about one-half of 1 per cent of the 38,000 college teachers in the state.

"Even this small number, however, is a cause for concern," he told the committee, which is investigating the activities of unaccredited out-of-state schools and the roles of their "graduates" within the state who represent themselves as having advanced degrees in their work as teachers and mental therapists.

Dr. Hollander said that Chancellor Ewald B. Nyquist yesterday sent a letter to all colleges and universities in New York calling on them to recognize only degrees awarded by accredited institutions when screening job applications, and to avoid forming extension study arrangements with unaccredited schools.

"I want to publicize this fact," Dr. Hollander said, "so that persons in the state recognize that the holding of a degree awarded by an unaccredited institution is a reflection not only on the character of the person who presents such a degree, but also on the institution that appoints him."

## Survey Seize Withheld

Dr. Hollander's figure is based on a survey of some of the state's public and private college faculty rosters. Though he would not disclose the number of schools involved in the survey, he said they represent a cross-section. He said a number of bogus degree holders were found in the State and City Universities, but that a relatively larger number worked for small two-year colleges.

Milton Jonas, chairman of the committee, said he would introduce legislation later this year to control advertising by unaccredited "degree mills."

The bill will be similar to one now in force to protect prospective buyers of out-of-state land. It would make it a felony for any out-of-state institution to advertise in New York without first paying for an on-the-spot investigation of its academic standing by an official of the State Department of Education.

Extradition would be sought for violators and they would face a trial in New York under his proposed law, said Mr. Jonas, a Republican from North Merrick, L. I.

Mr. Jonas also said his committee would endorse "in principle" a bill seeking to put stiff restraints on the use of titles relating to the mental health field and treatment of mental disorders.

A bill sponsored by a Westchester County Republican Assemblyman Peter R. Biondo, would enlarge the state's control over the use of such titles as "psychoanalyst," "psychotherapist" and "group counselor."

Dr. Jonas said he first became interested in the question of bogus degrees and their uses in New York when articles in The New York Times during the summer disclosed that a number of mental health practitioners in the city held degrees from such unaccredited institutions as Philathea College — now called a seminary — in Ontario.