1926. From 1925 to the time of his retirement in 1956 he was chairman of the department of zoology, and he was biologist in charge of shellfish investigation at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station from 1916 to 1950. In addition he served as chairman of the New Jersey State Water Policy and Supply Council from 1945 until his death. After his retirement he was named Julius Nelson Professor of Zoology in the Rutgers Graduate School, a chair founded in memory of his father, who began oyster research in New Jersey for Rutgers in 1888.

In 1934 Thurlow Nelson was honored as Rutgers' Distinguished Scholar and Gifted Teacher. Five years later the university awarded him an honorary degree of doctor of science and in 1958, the Rutgers Alumni Federation Award.

In *American Men of Science* Nelson's specialties are listed as biology of the oyster, estuarine ecology, marine biology, and limnology. His research in these areas resulted in more than 125 papers on the anatomy, physiology, and ecology of the oyster and associated organisms; on parasitology; and on water supply.

Thurlow C. Nelson

Nelson held membership in many scientific societies. He served as president of the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography in 1953, as president of the National Shellfisheries Association from 1931 to 1933, as vice president of the American Society of Zoologists in 1948, and as vice president of the American Microscopical Society in 1941.

Viewed in perspective, this long list of accomplishments is an impressive one. Equally impressive were Nelson's contributions as a teacher over a span of some 45 years. His keen mind, warm personality, sincere and forceful speech, genuine interest in people, and deep enthusiasm for biology attracted many students to him. As an active church leader with deep religious convictions, Nelson often wrote and spoke on the common ground of religion and science. He died in the midst of the elements which provided so much of the stimulus for his productive life.

MELBOURNE R. CARRIKER
Department of Zoology and
Institute of Fisheries Research,
University of North Carolina

Science in the News

Castro and Kennedy

From Havana: During the past weeks the two men in this hemisphere who clearly command the attention of the world moved to consolidate their positions in preparation for the political struggles they will have to face in the year ahead. Kennedy's artful selection of his cabinet and Castro's preparation for the liquidation of remaining organized opposition to his regime offer an interesting contrast between the politics of democracy and the politics of totalitarianism. The precision with which both followed the precendents of earlier men in their respective positions suggests that there is indeed a science of politics. Kennedy moved to pacify his opponents, and even to win some of them over; Castro, since the politics of extremism, to which he seems wholly committed, allows little chance of pacifying his opposition and no chance of winning it over, moved to lay a basis for future claims that his actions are forced upon him by his utterly unreasonable foes.

Castro's situation requires that he try to destroy his present opposition now, while he still commands the strong support of the mass of the Cuban people. He began with nearly unanimous support, and as he has moved further and further left, he has so far been able to deal effectively with each wave of defections, one by one; a necessary policy since if he allowed his enemies to accumulate they would eventually overwhelm him.

Castro's position thus far has been unassailable, partly because of the genuine reforms he has brought to Cuba, partly because the austerity and restrictions that forced industrialization will require are still in the future, partly because of the force of his personality. But when the genuine reforms come to be taken for granted, when disenchantment sets in as the people realize that things are not going to be quite the way they thought Fidel was saying they would be, the regime will necessarily begin to lose some part of its mass support. Against that day, Castro moved last week to throttle the two remaining centers of organized opposition to whom defections among the masses could rally.

Last week Castro moved to destroy the last important anticommunist figure in organized labor in Cuba, Fraginals, the president of the electrical workers' union, who had recently led his men in the first open anticommunist demonstration in Cuba in a year. The union had held a demonstration in front of the presidential palace, chanting "Cuba, si! Russia, no!"

Soon afterward the newspaper began to be full of stories of the "traitors" in the electrical workers' union, of sabotage and bombings by certain members

of the union, of how the electrical workers would rid themselves of these traitors, and finally of a mass meeting of the electrical workers sponsored by the communist-dominated central trade union council which would expel the traitors. Castro himself delivered the principal address at the mass meeting. "Do you know the fundamental aim for which the working class must fight in a modern state? For the conquest of political power!" "The government of Cuba" he said, "is now in the hands of the oppressed and the exploited. . . . The revolutionary government . . . and the Cuban people are now the same thing." The only implication to be drawn from Castro's speech was that he intended to stamp out any dissent from what the revolution was doing and was going to do in the name of the "oppressed and exploited," and, since only one point of view was to be permitted, and the communist point of view was permitted, that Castro, although not a party member himself, must feel that his point of view is identical with that of the communists.

There is a saying in Cuba that "Fidel is the soul of the Revolution, but Che is the brains." Two weeks ago Che Gueverra, the head of the state bank who is in charge of over-all direction of the Cuban economy, told a Moscow audience that the recent official Communist declaration citing Cuba as an example of what the other underdeveloped nations of the world ought to do was correct, "although we are not yet united in a single political party." Once again the implication was clear: if the aim is to have a single party, and if the Communist party in Cuba is being permitted to strengthen its position, then it follows that the leaders of the revolution must expect an eventual consolidation of the Communist party with the official revolutionary organization, the 26th of July Movement.

Beyond ridding himself of his present open opposition, what Castro appears to be doing is to lay a basis now, when his supporters are in no mood to question anything he says, for a purge of the "soft" members of his own government. For although the revolution is frankly socialist, what appears to be a very substantial minority, perhaps a majority, of his more sophisticated supporters are likely to find themselves disappointed in the year ahead. They expect two things from the government which they are not likely to get: a reconciliation with the United States and a willingness to slow the pace of the revolution rather than to have to resort to severe repression to bring about industrialization. The most interesting parts of Castro's speech at the meeting which expelled the leaders of the electrical workers union were entirely unnecessary so far as the general public is considered.

A small survey of people in the streets during the days after the meeting showed that the public had readily accepted the newspaper stories that the union leaders had been spies or traitors or saboteurs. But by making it quite clear to a reasonably alert listener to his speech both that he saw no difference in his point of view and that of the communists and that, in the name of the revolution, no dissent from this point of view would be permitted, Castro left little basis for those who so readily accepted the Fraginals incident to complain when the time came to apply the same principles to members of his own 26th of July Movement.

In fact, very few of these people are alert. Up to this point an excellent case can be made that revolution has done so much good for Cuba, without having to resort to a real reign of terror, that whatever criticisms can be made are unimportant in comparison with what has been accomplished. Castro's noncommunist supporters are in no mood to be critical, to interpolate what Castro is saying now to try to understand what he means to do in the future.

If the mood to be critical comes upon them they feel that there is really nothing at all they can do. For to be openly critical would be to be a counter-revolutionary, and they do not as yet feel strongly enough about their criticisms to become counter-revolutionaries. They try, quite successfully, not to think about it. Meanwhile, Castro moves about destroying those who are already counter-revolutionary and who might be their allies when their own time comes.

Two days after the Fraginals incident Castro spoke about the Catholic Church, the only scource of public opposition left in Cuba, and about the judiciary, the only part of the Cuban government which is not entirely in his hands. He said that the entire power of the state must be at the service of the people, and that something would have to be done about judges who obstruct the course of the revolution. He said the revolution would not interfere with the church if the church did not interfere with politics. "To be anticommunist is counter-revolutionary," he said. "To be anti-Catholic or anti-Protestant, or to be anything which tends to divide the people is counter-revolutionary." Thus the revolution, he is saying, will bother no one so long as he does not bother the government. "There is only one road for the revolution," he said, "and that is to move forward." After the people have had time to digest a purge of the judiciary and the arrest, which is surely not far off, of those church leaders who insist on criticizing the government from the pulpit, the only place from which the government can be criticized in Castro's Cuba, then Castro will be free to move forward.

Kennedy's Cabinet

While this was going on, Kennedy, who also talks of moving forward, prepared for *his* advance. His method has been to choose a cabinet which so far as possible disarms his opposition without in any important way compromising his purpose. During the campaign he was accused of wanting to spend so much that he would ruin the value of the dollar. So he has chosen an eminently respectable Republican banker as Secretary of the Treasury, but a Republican banker who has in no way been identified with Eisenhower's fiscal policies, and whose broader understanding of what is going on in the world is indicated by his distinguished service as Under-Secretary of State. In the State Department Chester Bowles was given only the number two spot, almost certainly because it would add to the difficulty of pushing a controversial program through Congress to have it presented by a man who, as the principal author of the Los Angeles platform, is so closely identified with a controversial domestic program.

So also the third great job, Defense, went to a man who would tend to disarm the opposition, in this case the opposition to a real reorganization of the Defense Department which has been talked about by everyone for years and about which nobody has been able to do anything. Who better to convince Congress of the way a large organization ought to be run than the vigorous, thoroughly competent president of a giant corporation, assuming, as there is reason to do, that McNamara is nearly as different from Charles Wilson as Kennedy is from Eisenhower.

Kennedy's gentle maneuverings are rather tame compared to Castro's grand sweep—H.M.