

boycott of the space committee was, of course, unaccompanied by any explanation and goes into the bulging file of mysterious Soviet policy changes; as usual, however, there is an abundance of plausible speculations. These include the theory that Soviet space scientists feel handicapped by enforced isolation from their Western counterparts and have prevailed upon their political leaders to open the way to some measure of cooperation; that the Soviet Union is now seeking to counteract the revulsion it elicited by breaking the nuclear test moratorium and defying U.N. pleas to call off its test series, especially the preannounced 50-megaton blast; that American reconnaissance satellites are reaching the stage of refinement where they are seriously eroding Soviet secrecy, and therefore the Soviets will soon have nothing to lose in letting the West in on some of their space activities; and finally, that in view of the overwhelming sentiment at the U.N. for reviving the committee, there was nothing to be lost in an appearance of cooperation. Whatever the reason, support of the resolution committed neither the Soviet Union nor the United States to anything they may regard as incompatible with their national interests. The U.N., it should be recalled, has repeatedly gone on record against nuclear testing.

Under U.N. procedure, the resolution goes from the 103-member political committee which adopted it to the General Assembly, where its approval is virtually assured. Once approved, it stands as a U.N. goal to be implemented under the space committee's guidance.

The protracted bargaining that preceded adoption of the resolution centered largely on a number of lesser powers which are still a good way from the space age. In reviving the committee, both the U.S. and the Soviet Union agreed that it should be enlarged from 24 to 28 members to reflect the growth of U.N. membership. Which nations to add then became the hard issue. The Soviets selected Ghana and Outer Mongolia, and the United States selected Sierra Leone and Chad. After the deal had been closed, however, Ghana expressed pleasure at the thoughtfulness of the Soviet Union, but said that it had no interest whatsoever in serving on the committee. The Soviets then named Morocco, which accepted.

South Africa, which has long cooperated with the United States in satellite tracking operations, protested that it was

offended by the failure of the United States to put it up for membership. The United States privately replied it was offended by South Africa's racial policies.—D.S.G.

### Is Soviet Society Classless? Classroom Poll Casts Doubt

What role does social class play in the assignment of educational opportunities in the Soviet Union's supposedly classless society?

The stock answer from Soviet officials is that it plays no role. Most Western observers, while not deprecating the Soviet Union's educational achievements, consider this answer to be something less than the whole truth. A bit of support for this doubt is to be found in an incident related by Congressman John Brademas (D.-Ind.), who recently returned from a brief visit to the Soviet Union. Brademas, a 34-year-old Rhodes Scholar, is a member of the House Education and Labor Committee. He made the trip to study several Soviet educational institutions.

In an article he wrote for the South Bend *Tribune*, Brademas described his visit to an experimental language school in Leningrad:

"The pupils in the English school we visited were obviously intelligent and eager to learn and I was curious as to how they were selected for admission. I asked the principal if the parents of most had enjoyed the advantages of higher education.

"'Oh no!' she replied, 'most of the students' parents are workers—construction workers, workers on the subway, all kinds of workers.'

"An hour later, while asking and answering questions in the 10th grade class, I requested the teacher to allow me to poll her pupils. When she said yes, I asked them each to write in English on a piece of paper their names, the occupations of both their parents and what career they hoped to follow.

"Of twenty-two pupils, only one said 'My father is a worker.' The parents of three others appeared to be highly skilled workers or technicians—a dispatcher at an airport, a master in one of the largest plants of Leningrad and a designer.

"The other eighteen children came from families where fathers, and in a majority of cases, mothers, followed professions."—D.S.G.

## Announcements

A project for the establishment of a French **National Center for the Study of Space**, coordinating civil and military activities, has been approved by the French Council of Ministers. The objectives of the center, which will succeed the Committee on Space Research set up in January 1959, will be to plan and supervise a space program, and to represent France in international space activities. Among the projects proposed for the next 5 years are a joint British-French program for construction of the Blue Streak missile, and a joint program with the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration for the launching of satellites, particularly those designed to study the ionosphere. The center, like the committee, will report directly to the Prime Minister.

The results of long-term studies on **industrial hearing loss** have been released by the U.S. Public Health Service. The report (PHS publication No. 850) contains information obtained from hearing tests given 2000 employees of the Federal Prison Industries, and correlates these tests with factory noise measurements. (PHS, Washington 25, D.C.)

An **International Conference on Dermatoglyphics** (the study of fingerprints, palms, and soles) has been founded to standardize methods and promote activity and research in the field. The conference, headed by Harold Cummins of Tulane Medical School, invites inquiries from interested workers. (H. Cummins, Tulane Univ., 1430 Tulane Ave., New Orleans 12, La.)

The Department of the Interior has initiated a nationwide training and research program in **sport fishery**, with the establishment of a Cooperative Fishery Unit at Utah State University. Under the new program, state agencies will provide and maintain technical gear and equipment; arrange limited funds for graduate studies; provide assistantships, fellowships, or research grants in fisheries or for graduate theses projects on fishery management techniques, fish-pesticide relationships, aquatic ecology, and fish population dynamics; and, with federal agencies, will give seasonal employment to fishery students wherever possible. (Fish and Wildlife Service, USDI, Washington 25, D.C.)

Translated 1961 issues of the following **Soviet instrumentation and automatic control journals** are available through the Instrument Society of America under a grant from the National Science Foundation:

*Automation and Remote Control*, published monthly by the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences; covers automatic control theories and techniques.

*Measurement Techniques*, published monthly by the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers.

*Instruments and Experimental Techniques*, published bimonthly by the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences; covers function, construction, application, and operation of instruments in various fields.

*Industrial Laboratory*, published monthly by the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers; covers instrumentation for analytical chemistry, and physical and mechanical methods of material research and testing. (Foreign Translations Department, ISA, Penn Sheraton Hotel, 530 William Penn Pl., Pittsburgh 19)

The Canadian government is establishing a **Marine Sciences Branch** to combine hydrographic surveys with research in oceanography, marine geology, and the geophysical sciences of the seas. Headquarters of the new branch, scheduled to open in April 1962, will be at Ottawa. Atlantic coast hydrographic and oceanographic activity will be centered in the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, scheduled for completion in mid-1962. A similar center is planned for the Pacific coast in about 3 years. The new branch will be serviced by a fleet of survey-research ships, provided under a long-range shipbuilding program.

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has published an **analysis of legally blind children**, their degree of remaining vision and mode of reading. The study, conducted on the 14,125 children registered with the American Printing House for the Blind in January 1960, revealed that less than 25 percent are totally blind, more than 60 percent have sufficient vision for their instructional programs, and approximately 58 percent use braille and 38 percent print (the remaining 4 percent use both) as their primary mode of reading. (Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C. \$0.25)

The National Bureau of Standards has established a **National Conference of Standards Laboratories** to improve the uniformity and precision of calibration and measurements in the physical sciences, engineering and technology, and to aid in the organization and operation of standards laboratories. The first in the NCSL planned series of conferences has been scheduled for August 1962 in Boulder, Colorado. (National Conference of Standards Laboratories, National Bureau of Standards, Washington 25, D.C.)

### Courses

A graduate program in **planning and policy sciences**, leading to the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees, is available at Case Institute of Technology. The program, designed to employ the technical and social sciences in dealing with public policy problems, is divided into two areas: metropolitan development, which includes city planning, regional and urban economics and politics, transportation, and urban sociology; and water resources, which includes sanitary and hydraulic engineering, geology, governmental organization and administration, and regional planning and economics. Fellowships and assistantships are available to qualified students. Deadline: *1 March 1962*. (James A. Norton, CIT, Cleveland 6, Ohio)

A course on **photogrammetry and photo-interpretation** will be held at the University of Illinois from 30 January to 2 February 1962. (Supervisor, Engineering Extension, Room 116d Illini Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana)

### Meeting Notes

A post-graduate symposium on **infertility** will be held in New York from 8 to 10 February 1962. The symposium is jointly sponsored by the New York University Medical Center and the American Society for the Study of Sterility. Tuition: \$75. (N.Y.U. Post-graduate Medical School, 550 First Ave., New York 16)

A U.N. conference on the **application of science and technology for less-developed countries** will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 16 to 31 August 1962. Deadline for receipt of abstracts: *1 February 1962*. (Edward

C. Fei, Science Conference Staff, Agency for International Development, Department of State, Washington 25, D.C.)

### Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Applications are being accepted for the \$1500 Hofheimer prize of the American Psychiatric Association, awarded annually for a manuscript on **psychiatric or mental health research** which has been published within the last 3 years. Applicants must be citizens of the United States or Canada, and under 40 years of age. Research groups whose median age does not exceed 40 years are also eligible. Deadline for submission of entries (8 copies): *2 March 1962*. (Peter H. Knapp, Hofheimer Prize Board, Boston University, 80 E. Concord St., Boston 18)

Applications are being accepted for predoctoral traineeships in **radiation biology**, which permit recipients to devote full time to graduate training. The awards, sponsored by Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the University of Tennessee, carry \$2200 stipends plus tuition and dependency allowances. (J. G. Carlson, Institute of Radiation Biology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville)

Applications are being accepted for the 1962-63 graduate fellowships in **applied mathematics and analysis** offered by the Army's Mathematics Research Center at the University of Wisconsin. Recipients, who must have a bachelor's degree in mathematics, physics, or engineering, are expected to devote full time to study leading to a master's degree in the field. Basic stipends (\$2250 for fellows without a master's degree, \$2500 for those with the degree) will be increased by \$500 for dependents. Deadline: *1 February 1962*. (R. E. Langer, Mathematics Research Center, U.S. Army, University of Wisconsin, Madison 6)

### Scientists in the News

Recipients of the \$1000 Nutrition Research awards of the Nutrition Foundation:

**George W. Beadle**, chancellor of the University of Chicago and 1958 Nobel laureate in medicine and physiology.

**Conrad A. Elvehjem**, president of the University of Wisconsin.

**William C. Rose**, emeritus professor

of biochemistry at the University of Illinois.

**Fredrick J. Stare**, chairman of the nutrition department at the Harvard School of Public Health.

**Vincent du Vigneaud**, chairman of the department of biochemistry at Cornell Medical College, and 1955 Nobel laureate in chemistry.

Recipients of the recently established \$5000 Bronfman prizes for public health achievement:

**Marcolino G. Candau**, director-general of the World Health Organization in Geneva.

**James E. Perkins**, managing director of the National Tuberculosis Association in New York.

**James Watt**, former director of the National Heart Institute and recently named director of the Public Health Service's division of international public health.

**Eli Chernin**, assistant professor of tropical public health at Harvard, has received the \$1000 Bailey K. Ashford award of the American Society of Tropical Public Health and Hygiene.

**Marvin D. Rausch**, senior research chemist with Monsanto Chemical Company's research and engineering division, has been appointed visiting professor of chemistry at the University of Kansas for the current semester.

**Paul D. Agarwal**, former professor of electrical engineering at the University of Massachusetts, has joined General Motors Corporation as a technical specialist in the defense systems division at Santa Barbara, California.

**Leo L. Beranek**, president of Bolt, Beranek and Newman, Inc., in Cambridge, Mass., is the third recipient of the Wallace Clement Sabine award of the Acoustical Society of America for his work in architectural acoustics.

**Walmer E. Strobe**, associate scientific director at the U.S. Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory in San Francisco, has been appointed director of research and development for Civil Defense in Washington, D.C.

**Loren G. Hepler**, of the University of Virginia, has been named associate professor of chemistry at Carnegie Institute of Technology.

**Thomas A. Loftus**, of Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, has been named professor and chairman of psychiatry at West Virginia University Medical Center.

**Christian DeDuve**, professor of physiological chemistry at the University of Louvain (Belgium) is spending 3 months as visiting professor of biochemistry at Yeshiva University's Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York.

**Keith B. Harvey**, on leave from the Imperial Chemical Industries in England, has been appointed visiting scientist in the National Bureau of Standards' mineral products division.

**Robert Goldstein**, of Tufts University School of Medicine, **Morton Smith**, of the Chicago Medical School, and **Norman Deane**, of New York University School of Medicine, have been appointed associate professors of medicine at New York Medical College.

**James W. Moyer**, of the Sperry Rand Research Center, has been appointed director of research for Servomechanisms, Inc., in Santa Barbara, California.

**Surindar N. Bhaskar**, associate professor of pathology at Georgetown University Dental School, has been appointed chief of the newly created department of oral pathology at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

**Charles L. Cave**, formerly with International Business Machines' federal systems division, has been appointed director of systems engineering for Machine Translation, Inc., in Washington, D.C.

**Leslie E. Wagner**, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Michigan, has received the annual George N. Sieger award of the American Welding Society.

Recent staff appointments at the University of California, San Diego (La Jolla):

**Fred N. Spiess** has been named acting director of the university's Scripps Institution of Oceanography for a 1-year period, effective in October. Spiess, former director of the Scripps marine

physical laboratory, succeeds **Roger Revelle**, recently appointed science adviser to Secretary of the Interior Udall.

**James R. Arnold**, chairman of the university's department of chemistry, will become acting dean of the school of science and engineering during Revelle's absence.

**S. Y. Wong**, of Philco Corporation's Computer Division, and **N. Metropolis**, director of the University of Chicago's Institute for Computer Research, are spending 6 weeks as computer consultants to the Indian Government's Statistical Institute, Calcutta.

**Robert T. Hewitt**, chief of the hospital consultation service in the National Institute of Mental Health, has retired to assume a position with the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education in Boulder, Colorado.

**Herbert R. Albrecht**, director of Pennsylvania State University's agricultural extension service, will succeed the late **Fred S. Hultz** as president of North Dakota State University.

**Robert Rawson**, postdoctoral fellow in physiology at Loyola University School of Medicine, has been appointed assistant fellow of the John B. Pierce Foundation and instructor in physiology in the Yale University School of Medicine.

**Maurice Ewing**, director of Columbia University's Lamont Geological Observatory, has been awarded the American Geographical Society's Colum medal for his work in oceanography.

At Princeton University's biology department:

**William P. Jacobs** will be spending a leave of absence during 1962 at Oxford University's department of agriculture.

**Camilla Odhnoff**, of Lund University's institute of plant physiology in Sweden, is a visiting fellow in the department. In January 1962 she will join the University of Wisconsin's botany department.

**Raymond W. Meyer**, formerly with Lockheed Electronics, has joined Eitel-McCullough, Inc., in California, as director of quality assurance.