ministration, while the great array of scientific matters that remain outside of NASA still rest with other committees.

Thus, in many respects, Congress is a victim of its internal jealousies when it finds itself unequipped to take a broad view of scientific expenditures and programs. During the past session, for example, Senator Proxmire (D-Wis.) sought to interest his colleagues in a study of the effect that the space program was having on the availability of trained manpower for other scientific programs. A number of his colleagues felt that Proxmire had raised an issue that demanded serious attention, but there was no single place within the Senate that could claim jurisdiction over the problem. NASA's Senatorial guardian, the Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee, pushed aside Proxmire's case with assurances that (i) the space program was not disrupting other scientific efforts and (ii) several scientific manpower studies were under way outside of Congress. Proxmire's call for a congressional study was overwhelmingly voted down, but the result in no way altered the fact that many members of Congress feel that the space program has burgeoned beyond congressional influence, leaving Capitol Hill with no function but to ratify Administration decisions.

Medical Research

Congressional dissatisfaction with this role annually boils over in disputes on expenditures for medical research. It is now a well-established practice for both houses to give the National Institutes of Health an appropriation in excess of the Administration's request. This is politically popular, since no one is going to lose votes for being generous to medical research. But many members, while swept along by the tide that regularly expands the NIH budget, fervently wish they could get some expert guidance on the very difficult question of whether medical research is being financially overfed. Perhaps there is no answer, and therefore it is best to err on the side of generosity, but within Congress there is no informed judgment to be had on this or most scientific issues. The difficulty here lies in the fact that extremely few competent scientists wish to serve on congressional staffs. Although a few committee staffs have been "professionalized," and are chosen without regard to political ties, the general atmosphere of Congress is not inviting to people who have trained for a career in research. The House Science and Astronautics Committee got around this problem to some extent by establishing a panel of distinguished scientists that meets with the members twice annually to discuss various problems involving government and science. But, in general, Congressmen who seek scientific guidance must rely on nontechnically trained staff members or representatives of the very federal agencies whose programs they seek to judge. It is not surprising that they therefore feel that they are close to working blind in an area of vast importance.

Congressional Reform

Since Congress must consent to its own reform, it has never been a very reformable body. But in the session that just ended, it became obvious to even the most enthusiastic devotee of Congress' peculiar ways that the national legislative machinery is very much in need of an overhaul. Most attention has centered on the destructive squabbles between the House and Senate over the right to initiate appropriations bills and on the time-consuming delays involved in separating the authorizing and appropriations functions in each house. Because of these divisions of function, agency officials often find themselves giving virtually the same testimony before four separate congressional committees. To some extent, the method can be justified on the grounds that it produces an extremely careful and thorough examination of Administration proposals, but it also consumes vast chunks of time of executive officials who are overworked to begin with. The move for reform, which has fairly substantial bipartisan support, is largely directed toward these problems, but it might be useful for the scientific community to take advantage of the present atmosphere to interest Congress in equipping itself for its responsibilities to the national scientific effort. Congressional lack of understanding and the archaic legislative machinery have curiously worked to the advantage of the nation's scientists, but it is not difficult to recognize that a good deal of luck has been at work here and it would be better for everyone involved if Congress were both generous and intelligent about science.

—D. S. GREENBERG.

Announcements

The New York Medical College has announced plans for the establishment of an institute for research, education, diagnosis, and treatment of **cardiovascular disease**. Under the direction of Robert A. O'Connor, assistant dean of the college, the institute will offer both research and clinical study programs covering congenital, rheumatic, degenerative, and hypertensive heart disease. Facilities will include underground operating rooms to permit surgery under abnormal atmospheric pressures, and a 1500-seat auditorium for those who wish to observe operations via closed-circuit television. A heliport will be situated atop the hospital to facilitate the arrival of emergency cases.

The National Science Foundation has announced that the next closing dates for receipt of proposals for renovation or construction of **graduate-level research facilities** are 1 December 1962 and 1 April and 1 August 1963. Funds are granted on a 50-percent matching basis to departments having at least a master's program in the life, social, mathematical, engineering, or physical sciences. A booklet describing the NSF program is available. (Office of Institutional Programs, NSF, Washington 25, D.C.)

Bequests of **temporal** or **inner ear bones** of persons with hearing and equilibrium disorders are being sought by the Temporal Bone Banks Center, Chicago, to aid in studies of pathological conditions accompanying deafness and in evaluation of previous treatment. The center, recently established as coordinating agency for a chain of 22 ear banks, also needs bones of persons with normal hearing to aid in the training of ear surgeons. Legal forms for making such bequests are available. (Temporal Bone Banks Center, Box 146, Faculty Exchange, University of Chicago, Chicago 37, Ill.)

Courses

A short course on **measurement engineering** in engineering, physics, and metallurgy, will be offered at Arizona State University from 28 January to 1 February. The two-part course will consist of an experiment program, to be conducted during evening hours,

and a lecture program covering physical principles of transducers; fundamental measurement theory, including static and dynamic system behavior and their correlation; and measurement problems and approaches in specific areas. Registration fees are $125 for the experiment program and $200 for the lectures. Deadline: *18 January*. (Peter K. Stein, Engineering Center, Arizona State University, Tempe)

A 1-week course in **automation, computers (analog and digital), and instrumentation**—designed to orient senior technical personnel in the latest concepts underlying these areas—will be held from 12 to 16 November in Atlanta, Ga. The course fee is $125, including tuition, supplies, and textbooks. Deadline for registration: *2 November*. (Director, Short Courses and Conferences, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta 13)

Films

Germfree Animals in Medical Research; 19 minutes, color, free loan. Describes kinds of equipment necessary, demonstrates the usefulness of germfree animals as research tools, and discusses studies in host-parasite relationship in the absence of enteric bacteria. (Communicable Disease Center, U. S. Public Health Service, Atlanta 22, Ga. Order M-430)

Radioisotopes; Their Application to Humans, as Tracer Studies and for Therapeutic Use; 32 minutes, color, free loan. Reviews practices in the use of radioisotopes, including tracer studies and therapeutic methods of application and their use with various radioactive substances; and discusses the neutron capture therapy involving boron for treatment of brain tumors. (Medical Film Guild, 506 W. 57th St., New York 19)

Baboon Behavior; 31 minutes, color, rental $11, sale $245. Record of the results of a year's field study in the Royal Nairobi National Park, Kenya. Includes general introduction to baboon ecology and social behavior; covers development of infant behavior, and comparison between pertinent aspects of sexual behavior and their counterparts in human development and behavior. (Psychological Cinema Register, Audio-Visual Aids Library, Pennsylvania State University, University Park. Order PCR-2107K)

Scientists in the News

The following staff members of the National Bureau of Standards are the first recipients of the bureau's $1500 Samuel Wesley Stratton awards:

James R. Wait, for his work on the mechanisms of electromagnetic radiation and radio wave propagation.

Peter L. Bender and **Raymond L. Driscoll**, for their work in precision electromagnetic measurement and the determination of the gyromagnetic ratio of the proton.

Henry A. Miranda, Jr., senior physicist with Braddock, Dunn & McDonald, Inc., El Paso, Texas, has been named leader of the radiation physics group at the Lowell (Mass.) Technological Institute.

Recent appointments at General Precision's new Aerospace Research Center, Little Falls, N.J.:

Daniel Grafstein, of Thiokol Chemical Corporation, as principal staff scientist in chemistry.

Paul B. Richards, of General Electric's missile and space vehicle department, as principal staff scientist in mathematics and theoretical physics.

Paul Zilczer, of Kollsman Instrument Corporation, as principal staff scientist in guidance and navigation.

John H. Gibbon, Jr., Gross professor of surgery and head of the department at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, has received the 1962 Alvarenga prize for his work on the development of the heart-lung machine and in the field of thoracic surgery.

Frank Hartley, manager of research and product development at the British Drug Houses, Ltd., London, has resigned to become dean of the University of London School of Pharmacy. He is succeeded by **Valdimir Petrow**, director of chemical research at B.D.H.

K. Z. Morgan, director of the health physics division at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and **Walter Binks**, Ministry of Health and Medical Research Council, England, are corecipients of the first radiation protection medal of the Royal Swedish Academy of Science for "valuable contributions to the work of international radiation protection during the preceding 10-year period."

Ernst Stern, of Sperry Gyroscope Company, has been named vice president and director of microwave research at Microwave Chemicals Laboratory, Inc., New York.

Anthony J. Matuszko, former head of the U.S. Naval Propellant Plant's polymer research division, has joined the Chemical Sciences Directorate, Air Force Office of Scientific Research.

S. S. Penner, professor of jet propulsion at California Institute of Technology, is on leave to serve as director of the research and engineering support division of the Institute for Defense Analyses, Washington, D.C.

Howard A. Meyerhoff, executive director of the Scientific Manpower Commission, has been named professor of geology and chairman of the department of earth sciences at the University of Pennsylvania, effective in January.

James Reekie, organizer and former director of Semiconductors Ltd., a subsidiary of Britain's Plessey Company, has become director of physics research at the Bell & Howell Research Center, Pasadena, Calif.

F. Gaynor Evans, professor of anatomy at the University of Michigan, will spend the 1962–63 academic year as a visiting professor at the universities of Gothenburg, Lund, and Stockholm (Sweden).

Wendell H. Griffith, professor of physiological chemistry at the University of California (Los Angeles), is on leave to direct a new life sciences research office for the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, Washington, D.C.

Louis D. Cohen, chief psychologist and director of the Duke University Hospital division of medical psychology, has been appointed head of clinical psychology at the University of Florida's College of Health Related Services.

Esther M. Conwell, head of the electronics materials program of General Telephone and Electronics Laboratories Inc., Bayside, N.Y., will serve as a visiting professor of physics at Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, during the current academic year.