

praisal that may (i) cause FDA to restudy its position and (ii) serve as potent argument if the matter is forced to a legal showdown.

Fish flour, also known as fish protein concentrate, is a powdery substance that has caught the administration's attention as an excellent solution for protein deficiencies in underdeveloped nations. Its principal virtues are high protein content, low cost, stability without refrigeration or expensive packaging, and tastelessness, which makes it suitable as a supplement for various cultural food preferences. The cost, however, is low only if the product is made from whole fish, since the labor involved in eviscerating the raw material raises the price considerably.

Last January, FDA, in response to a domestic manufacturer's application for certification, noted informally that the product contains fish eyeballs, intestines, gills, and scales, and then concluded officially that "consumers in the United States generally would regard the product . . . as filthy." It subsequently set forth a requirement that the product could be sold in interstate commerce only if made from cleaned fish.

Difficulties Abroad

The decision did not have any significant effect in this protein-rich country, but it posed difficulties for promoting use of the product abroad. For one thing, the public health authorities in many underdeveloped nations look to FDA as a guide for their own standards; furthermore, the decision left the administration open to propaganda charges that it was trying to get foreigners to eat a product that it considered entirely unsuitable for its own people.

The Academy study was conducted at the request of the Interior Department, whose Bureau of Commercial Fisheries sees fish flour as a new and sizable source of income for the troubled American fishing industry. The study concluded that fish flour seems to be more wholesome than a number of whole fish products that go unchallenged by FDA—sardines, oysters, clams, and shrimp. (FDA has explained that it is not troubled by these products because they were widely consumed before FDA came into existence.) But the Academy also noted that more research is needed on fish flour to control the quality and the solvent

residues from the production process.

The Bureau has undertaken a broad research program at its Technological Laboratories, College Park, Maryland; considerable work is also being done by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Disarmament: Copies of Testimony by Administration Leaders Available

Detailed and illuminating testimony by administration officials on the formulation of American arms control and disarmament policies is contained in a congressional transcript released last week.

The transcript, covering 120 pages, contains testimony given in September by William C. Foster, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency; Franklin Long, director of the agency's bureau of science and technology; Paul H. Nitze, assistant secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, and Secretary of State Dean Rusk. Classified information has been deleted from the transcript, but the remaining material, while offering no revelations, provides considerable information on ACDA's interagency dealings and on the concepts that are dominant in administration thinking on disarmament. Copies, titled "Arms Control and Disarmament Hearings, September 1962," may be obtained without charge from the Senate Armed Services Preparedness Investigating Subcommittee, Washington, D.C.

Addition to News and Comment Staff

John R. Walsh, former assistant to Congressman John Brademas of Indiana, has joined the News and Comment staff. Walsh is a graduate of Middlebury College and Oxford University. He was a reporter for the *Louisville Times* from 1955 to 1960.

Announcements

An agreement to cooperate in the testing of **experimental communications satellites** has been signed by the Japanese government and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The Japanese Ministry of Posts and

Telecommunications is to provide a ground station with capability for communication by means of American artificial satellites. Transmissions are to be used for test purposes only, although attempts will be made to arrange for telephone, radio, television, and wire-photo demonstrations through domestic telecommunications networks. Each agency is to designate a central point for continuing exchange of information relating to the tests, and will defray all costs of their respective activities.

A **National Institute of Child Health and Human Development** is to be established early in 1963 within the National Institutes of Health to promote and support studies directed at the entire life span process. The new institute, which will include the current Center for Research in Child Health, is expected to stimulate research in such problems as congenital malformations, infant mortality, mental retardation, and maternal influences on development and health of infants and children. The bill authorizing its establishment was signed by President Kennedy on 7 October.

The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has initiated a nationwide personnel recruitment program to obtain engineers and scientists with experience in various **atomic energy** fields, including reactor development, physical research, biology and medicine, and AEC regulatory activities. Particularly desired are nuclear engineers and physicists, radiation specialists, physicists, mathematicians, biologists, and other biomedical scientists. Candidates in the nuclear reactor field should have a B.S. degree or its equivalent in nuclear engineering, physics, or in mechanical, chemical, metallurgical, or electrical engineering. In the health physics—radiation protection field, the basic requirement is a B.S. degree in the physical sciences and mathematics. For positions in physical and biomedical research activities, the basic requirement is a Ph.D. degree or its equivalent in physics, chemistry, mathematics, biology, physiology, or related life sciences. All candidates must have research experience in atomic energy activities. Salaries range from \$8025 to \$17,925 per year. (Coordinated Technical Recruitment, Headquarters, AEC, Washington 25, D.C.)