kind of national legislation could be proposed formally requiring federal agencies to pay greater heed to geographic considerations in the dispensing of their funds, perhaps in the way that Title VI of the Civil Rights bill requires them to observe nondiscrimination in racial matters. On this point Nelson is exceedingly cautious, stating that he feels a real purpose is being served simply by reminding federal agencies that the implications of their policies are being watched, and that an overall formula might not be particularly useful. A decision on whether or not to legislate is still far-off. But while Nelson's efforts are still rather academic and low-keyed, there is clearly the chance that he will at some point produce the proposal that could change his investigation from a footnote in the history of science-government relations to an entire chapter.—ELINOR LANGER

Announcements

The Division of Biological and Medical Sciences of the National Science Foundation announces that there will no longer be closing dates for the receipt of **basic research proposals in the life sciences**. The division had operated with three closing dates each year. Proposals will be received all year, and will be reviewed by the NSF's advisory panels usually three times during the calendar year. Applicants should allow 6 months between the time the foundation receives a proposal and the notification of its decision regarding support. Inquiries should be addressed to the Biological and Medical Sciences Division, NSF, Washington, D.C. 20550.

Florida State University, department of biological sciences and oceanographic institute, is introducing a program in **geological and marine microbiology**. The program will be conducted by Carl H. Oppenheimer, formerly of the Marine Laboratory, University of Miami, and Wilhelm Schwartz, former head of the Institute of Microbiology, University of Greifswald, East Germany. The program will be affiliated with the departments of geology and chemistry to provide a wide range of curriculums needed for background in the area. The primary emphasis will be on training students both in the laboratory and in the field. Some assistantships are available for graduate students. Requirements include a basic background in biology, chemistry, mathematics, and possibly geology. The problems for research will include marine microbiology, microbial ecology, pollution, sanitary aspects, diagenesis of organic matter and the origin of oil, geochemistry and microbial diagenesis of sediments, and economical aspects in microbial fouling, deterioration of plastics, and corrosion. Additional information is available from Esther E. Sell, administrative assistant, Oceanographic Institute, Florida State University, Tallahassee 32306.

The American Association of Petroleum Geologists, American Institute of Professional Geologists, and the Society of Independent Earth Scientists have formed a committee for cooperation in the **certification of geologists**. Its members are Ben H. Parker, chairman and AIPG representative; G. Frederick Shepherd, of AAPG; and Willis G. Meyer, of SIPES. The sponsoring societies invite other groups to participate in the committee's work. Information may be obtained from Dr. Parker, Frontier Refining Co., 4040 East Louisiana St., Denver, Colorado.

A committee to allot appointments for laboratory space at the Naples Zoological Station, Italy, is accepting applications. The AIBS-organized committee, known as the American Tables Committee, reviews applications and selects U.S. participants for research at the laboratory. The station offers opportunities for varying periods of research in behavioral, physiological, biochemical, and radiological sciences; it is supported primarily by institutions throughout the world, which buy "tables," or laboratory space, for scientists. U.S. support, through an NSF grant, is in the form of purchase of ten "tables," each of which provides logistic support for the researcher. Applications must be received at AIBS at least 6 weeks before the beginning date of the research. (J. Burk, AIBS, 3900 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20016)

Scientists in the News

David B. Scott, chief of the Laboratory of Histology and Pathology, National Institute of Dental Research, has been named the first Thomas J. Hill distinguished professor of physical biology at Western Reserve University school of dentistry. He will assume the position 1 August.

Charles Gald Sibley, professor of zoology and curator of birds at Cornell University has been appointed professor of biology at Yale, and curator of vertebrate zoology at the school's Peabody Museum of Natural History, effective 1 July.

Richard E. Klinck, a sixth grade teacher from Wheat Ridge, Colorado, last month was presented the Look Magazine Teacher of the Year award. Klinck is known as an authority on U.S. national parks and a leader in the conservation movement. The national "teacher of the year" is chosen by *Look* and the Council of Chief State School Officers, from among the winners of the state teacher of the year awards.

Robert D. Barnes, biology professor at Gettysburg College, has been appointed chairman of the department.

Eugene M. Holleran, chairman of the chemistry department at St. John's University, Jamaica, N.Y., has been appointed to the new position of director of science at the university. He will coordinate the activities of science study and research within the school's curriculum.

The new president of the American Gastroenterological Association is **Joseph B. Kirsner**, professor of medicine at the University of Chicago.

The Federation of American Scientists recently elected **W. A. Higinbotham** president. He is a physicist at Brookhaven National Laboratory.

Joseph N. Beasley, former professor at Texas A&M University, has become a professor of animal industry and veterinary science at the University of Arkansas.

Elmer Berry, scientific director of the Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH, will become a professor of zoology at the University of Michigan and curator of malacology at the university museum, 1 July. He retired this month from the Public Health Service.

James D. Schneider, director of placement at Tulane University, has been appointed general manager of the university's Riverside Research Laboratories, Belle Chasse, Louisiana.

R. John Garner, formerly of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, has been appointed director of the U.S. Public Health Service–Colorado State University Collaborative Radiological Health Animal Research Laboratory, Fort Collins, Colorado.

The Manufacturing Chemists Association recently presented its annual awards for outstanding college chemistry teachers to three men. Each received a medal, citation, and $1000. The recipients were:

Ernest L. Eliel, head of the chemistry department at Notre Dame University.

Albin Iver Johnson, chairman of the department of chemical engineering at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario.

William F. Kieffer, professor of chemistry at the College of Wooster, Ohio, and editor of the *Journal of Chemical Education.*

Ernest F. Nippes, chairman of the department of materials engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, has been appointed director of the research division, succeeding **Raymond H. Hartigan**, who has joined the research and development division of National Dairy Products Corp.

The Smithsonian Institution's highest honor to an employee, the "exceptional service award," has been presented to **John C. Ewers**, director of the Museum of History and Technology. The award, first of its kind to be given by the Smithsonian, and a $1000 honorarium were presented to him for his "exceptional performance and extremely significant contributions which have served to promote the basic purpose of the Institution: 'the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men.' "

Roger P. Maickel, of the National Heart Institute, has been named associate professor of pharmacology at the Indiana University medical school.

Recent Deaths

John D. Benjamin, 63; professor of psychiatry at the University of Colorado; 14 May.

Sidney C. Hayward, 60; secretary of Dartmouth College; 29 May.

Erwin Jungherr, 68; pathologist at Lederle Laboratories and former professor of animal pathology at the University of Connecticut; 16 April.

Carl J. Mess, 89; former dean of the George Washington University dental school and former professor of prosthetic dentistry at Georgetown University; 30 May.

Jason John Nassau, 73; professor emeritus of astronomy at Case Institute of Technology; 12 May.

Ferdinand Springer; head of Springer-Verlag scientific publishers in Heidelberg, Germany; 12 April.

Erratum: In the report "Rubella complement fixation test" by J. L. Sever, R. J. Huebner, G. A. Castellano, P. S. Sarma, A. Fabiyi, G. M. Schiff, and C. L. Cusumano (16 April, p. 385), the amount of sediment given in parentheses in the second sentence of the third paragraph should have been "approximately 0.1 ml."

Erratum: In the legend to Fig. 3 in "A new method for studying the atom" by S. Bashkin (21 May, p. 1047), the initial energy of the bromine ions should have been given as 10^7 electron volts. In Fig. 4, the two microphotometer tracings should have been aligned so that the peak between 4800 and 4900 Å in the lower tracing would be directly beneath the peak labeled H_β, N III (9) in the upper tracing; the wavelength scale in the lower part would then also apply to the upper part of the figure.

Erratum: In the report "Nitrous acid mutation of transforming DNA: Consideration of mode of action," by S. H. Goodgal and E. H. Postel (21 May, p. 1095), centered subheadings in both tables are transposed. In Table 1, the subheadings should have read *H. influenzae* and *H. parainfluenzae,* respectively, instead of *H. parainfluenzae* and *H. influenzae;* in Table 2, the subheadings should have read *H. parainfluenzae* and *H. influenzae,* respectively, instead of the reverse. In addition, the sentence beginning on page 1097, column 2, line 22, should read "On the other hand, the deamination of adenine to hypoxanthine would be consistent with the results since hypoxanthine could function like quanine." The original sentence implied the opposite.

REPORT FROM EUROPE

World Health Organization Shelves Research Center Plan

London. For some time to come the World Health Organization is going to stick to its primary role of adviser and agent of rapid information exchange. This is the substance of decisions taken by WHO's 18th general assembly, which met in Geneva from 4 to 21 May. The assembly approved increases in efforts to eradicate smallpox and malaria and agreed to administration of a five-nation cancer center, but it firmly rejected such large-scale projects as establishment of a center for biological and medical research, a proposal which has been studied for the last 3 years.

The most dramatic of the decisions was unanimous agreement, after many years, on a resolution permitting WHO to give advice on the regulation of population to countries asking for it. Complex bargaining in a Geneva working group produced a resolution so worded as to satisfy the varied sensibilities of Communists, Roman Catholics, and proponents of crash programs to limit births. The resolution does not favor any one method of contraception or any one policy. It does not allow WHO to accept requests for running birth control services without a vote of the general assembly.

The resolution is especially interesting because of the hints it offers about the way in which the Roman Catholic Church may resolve the conflict between acknowledged social requirements for birth control and the church's need to maintain its spiritual authority.

The resolution, carefully based on a resolution of the U.N. Economic and Social Council and on WHO's function, as stated in its constitution, of promoting maternal and child health and welfare and of fostering "the ability to live harmoniously in a changing total environment," asserts that "changes in the size and structure of