

space officials privately agreed that this was much too little but said they had been putting off major research efforts until their building program was satisfactorily financed, and they want to retain the right to make such choices. The relationship between the government and its nonprofits seems to be like that of parent and child not only in the sense of ancestry but in the sense that, like many children, the nonprofits are struggling for independence.

One outcome of the investigation of Aerospace seems to be a feeling in Washington that it is time to have a look at the nonprofits as a whole. What the look might reveal is hard to say, for it is unclear how far Aerospace may have departed in some of its actions from the standard practices of nonprofits, or even if a standard exists. Officials of nonprofits seem to be trying to avoid investigation by lying low, playing down the kind of disagreements with their government sponsors that sometimes led to tensions at contract-negotiation time, and perhaps trimming their sails somewhat to avoid the comparisons with civil service standards that politicians tend to find inequitable and invidious. Nonetheless, some kind of examination now seems likely. The Hardy subcommittee suggested that "the Air Force management concept which led to the formation of Aerospace Corp. should be reappraised"—a hint that it was time to consider in-house capacities once more—and recommended that "steps should be taken to eliminate the use of a fee for Aerospace." There have been similar rumblings of dissatisfaction from other congressional sources lately, and it is probable that one or another of them will undertake a review.

Final decisions on the future shape of the nonprofits will obviously require concentrated study and debate. Public policy in this area is so entangled with defense and security matters that the room for maneuver is small. The manpower situation in the missile and space fields is still competitive, and it is conceivable that even a move to eliminate fees (thereby reducing management flexibility) might produce an upheaval in a company like Aerospace. It is certain that a move to transform the company into a government laboratory would do so. If any changes in the status of nonprofits adversely affected defense programs, defense officials would have to answer for it—and congressmen would be the first to ask the questions.—ELINOR LANGER

## Announcements

Purdue University and four mid-western public utility companies have formed a **research and education center**. The center will work on a study of the long-range use of computers in electric utility management, and on the preparation of computer programs adapted to the needs of each participating company. Purdue's participating agency is the recently formed Purdue Energy Research and Education Center (PEREC), directed by Philip N. Powers. The industrial representatives are Consumers Power of Jackson, Michigan; Indianapolis Power and Light; Public Service Indiana; and Detroit Edison.

The National Science Foundation has announced plans for the operation of the research vessel *Anton Bruun* for a year, as a national facility for **biological oceanographic research** in the southeastern Pacific Ocean. A series of nine cruises has been scheduled from October until next September; they will be for the study of various biological phenomena associated with the Humboldt Current and adjacent waters. Limited financial support will be available for cruise participants. Additional information on the program, and applications for participation are available from Edward Chin, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

## Meeting Notes

Papers are invited for presentation at the second international congress of **food science** and technology, to be held in Warsaw next August. The languages of the meeting are English, French, German, and Russian, with simultaneous translation only for English and Russian. Deadline for receipt of titles and abstracts: *1 November*. In addition to the technical sessions, discussion will be held on plans to establish an international union of national scientific and technical organizations which deal with food science and technology. (A. Borys, Instytut Przemysłu Miesnego, Rakowicka 36, Warsaw 12, Poland)

Papers are being solicited for the 13th annual **solid state circuits** conference, sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. The meeting will be held in Philadelphia 9–11 February. Unpublished papers on

solid state circuits or related fields will be considered. Abstracts of 35 words, and 300- to 500-word summaries are required. Deadline: *15 October*. (K. H. Fischer, U.S. Army Electronics Command, Attn: AMSEL-KL-I, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey 07703)

A symposium on interdisciplinary aspects of **radiative energy transfer** will be held in Philadelphia 24–26 February. Papers are being solicited on: space and atmospheric physics, stellar aerodynamics, plasmas, oceanography, atmospheric entry and reentry, and solid transparent media. Persons planning to participate in the meeting are requested to notify the arrangements committee by *15 October*. (J. J. Welsh, Space Sciences Laboratory, General Electric Company, Box 8555, Valley Forge, Pa.)

Papers are invited for the second international congress on **hormonal steroids**, scheduled for 23–28 May in Milan, Italy. Abstracts of the papers are required. The languages of the meeting are French, Italian, and English; English will be preferred because there will be no simultaneous translation. Deadline for abstracts: *1 December*. (L. Martini, Istituto de Farmacologia, Via Andrea del Sarto 21, Milan, Italy)

The New York Academy of Sciences will sponsor the seventh international **transplantation** conference, scheduled for 10–11 February in New York. Symposia will be held on transplantation antigens and tissue typing, effector mechanisms, and immunobiology. Abstracts of research in transplantation biology are invited for presentation during the meeting; a maximum of 30 will be accepted. Twenty copies of the abstracts are required by *15 October*. (F. T. Rapaport, New York University Medical Center, 550 First Avenue, New York 16)

## Courses

Training Services, Inc., will present the second annual **measurement and instrumentation** institute, 29–30 October in New York. The theme will be "conversion of phenomenon to be measured into a usable signal." The program will be directed toward users of instruments, and manufacturers and sellers of instruments and associated equipment. (L. J. Smith, Training Services, Inc., 33 Lincoln Avenue, Rutherford, N.J. 07070)