

domestic government programs.) Also there was Robert Green, chief of staff for COSPUP; Harris' own staff, and two subcommittee members, who have lately been voicing the complaints of the lesser recipients of federal R&D money; Senator Karl Mundt (R-South Dakota); and Senator Milward L. Simpson (R-Wyo.).

The focus of attention in the seminar was supposed to be a preposterous draft bill, calling for the creation of a Federal Council for Science and Technology in the Office of the President—with the President himself as chairman. The bill was probably intended as no more than a provocative irritant for the "Cambridge crowd," and unquestionably it served that purpose, for it drew them out in some state of alarm, but once the proceedings got underway, it was clear that there was little actual interest in putting the President of the United States in charge of science.

The seminar opened with one of the Cambridge-based participants jesting, "There has been no presidential directive as to the number of speakers you can have from Cambridge, has there?" But from thereon in, it was grim business, largely focused on a paradoxical complex of issues: the "outsiders" insisting that more structure, power, and responsibility be given to the White House science advisory system, principally so that Congress would know where to look when it sought to exercise its function of "oversight" of executive activities; and the "insiders," mainly the Cambridge-based architects of the present system, arguing that, by and large, *laissez faire*, based on quality, is the best way to run science. To which the outsiders replied that the present system guarantees affluence for a charmed few by making existing quality the criterion for support. To which the defenders replied, We have always favored building new centers of excellence, but that should be accomplished with funds separately budgeted for development—not with money that is needed to support ongoing high quality research.

As one of the Cambridge people put it, "diversity, competition, and quality should be the keynote to the Government's approach to science. . . ." He added that other countries seeking to emulate American scientific success, have tried "to do it by drawing an organization chart, instead of giving the people freedom to do what they please. And you can't do it, because we don't

## NEWS IN BRIEF

● **NSF LEGISLATION:** Following a brief and placid debate, the House on 18 July passed a bill providing for a series of modifications in the basic legislative charter of the National Science Foundation. The bill introduced by Representative Emilio Q. Daddario (D-Conn.) strengthens the NSF directorship, adds four presidentially appointed assistant directors, and enhances the policy-making role of the National Science Board, both in and out of NSF affairs. It also encourages, though does not require, NSF to increase its support of applied research and social science. In addition, the bill directs NSF to keep track of the destination of all federal research funds, and requires the Board to prepare an annual report on the status of American science (see Daddario's "A revised charter for the Science Foundation," *Science*, 1 April). An identical bill, S. 3465, introduced by Senator Lister Hill (D-Ala.), has been referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare. Hearings have not been scheduled, but they are expected to take place this session. In the House debate, Representative James Fulton (R-Pa.) urged that NSF be subjected to an annual legislative review. "We hear so much about money being spent on programs of research that really make no sense to us who are interested in science research and progress," he said. Fulton and Representative H. R. Gross (R-Iowa) also expressed concern about whether the social research provision means that "they [NSF]" will go into "such things as the national policy on segregation, or on civil rights, or on transportation, or on urban renewal." Daddario assured his colleagues they had no reason to worry, and the bill went through.

● **LIBRARIES STUDY:** President Johnson plans to appoint a National Commission on Libraries to study Federal efforts to improve libraries. The President made the announcement when he signed a bill to extend the 10-year-old Library Services Act last month. The proposed commission would study new developments in library techniques, library planning, and whether Federal library programs are too "fragmented." The new law continues the Act for five years and authorizes \$575 million for public library services and construction. An additional \$125 million is author-

ized for new programs of cooperative library services among public, college, school and research libraries and for library services at State institutions and for the handicapped. Earlier an 8-member Advisory Council on College Library Resources was appointed to set up criteria for making supplemental and special purpose grants to college libraries for purchase of books and other materials under the Higher Education Act of 1965. Harold Howe II, Commissioner of Education, is chairman. Other members are Curtis G. Benjamin, McGraw-Hill Book Co.; Herman H. Henkle, John Crerar Library, Chicago; Sister Jane Marie Barbour, Our Lady of the Lake College, San Antonio, Texas; Albert P. Marshall, Lincoln University; Archie L. McNeal, University of Miami, Florida; Rutherford Rogers, Stanford; Mildred Johnson Heyer, Carson City, Nevada; and Herbert S. White, NASA.

● **APPOINTMENTS:** Wilfrid E. Johnson, retired general manager of General Electric's atomics products operation at AEC's Hanford (Washington) facility, to the five-member Atomic Energy Commission. He fills the vacancy created by the resignation of John G. Palfrey. Palfrey, whose AEC term expires 30 June 1967, has a year's grant to work at Harvard's Graduate School of Public Administration. Then he will return to Columbia Law School where he will serve on the University's Committee on Science in Human Affairs. . . . Frank Di Luzio to the new post of Assistant Secretary of Interior for Water Pollution Control from his present position as director of Interior's Office of Saline Water. . . . Paul A. Miller, president of West Virginia University, to Assistant Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare for Education. . . . Robert Fleischer, director for the NSF Solar-Terrestrial Research program since 1962, to Deputy Head of the NSF Office of International Science Activities. . . . Eugene L. Hess, Program Director for Metabolic Biology at NSF, to head of the Molecular Biology Section, Division of Biological and Medical Sciences. . . . David W. Krogman, professor of biological chemistry at Wayne State University, to Program Director of NSF Molecular Biology Section. . . .