

the ensuing 6 years go by without a flight, NASA decided to build two new Mariner spacecraft for Mars flybys and to adapt a spare Mariner, left over from the 1964-65 Mars flight, for a Venus flyby.

Karth and his subcommittee noted that NASA had only vague plans for investigation of Venus beyond the 1967 Mariner flight and that even a back-up spacecraft was lacking in case of a flight failure. Also, it was recalled that last year NASA officials had indicated that investment of money and effort in the adaptation of the Mariner IV spacecraft, designed for flight away from the sun, for a Venus flight toward the sun would not be the best use of resources. In recommending cancellation of the Venus mission, the subcommittee said that NASA's concentrated efforts should be directed toward achieving successful Voyager missions to Mars. "We must all accept the fact that the attainment of one goal sometimes requires sacrificing others," it added.

However, the fact is that Karth and his colleagues ultimately abandoned this position and gave the Venus flight at least their reluctant blessing. Why? The awkwardness of upholding their judgment against that of the scientific establishment undoubtedly encouraged the retreat, but there were other factors as well.

Preparations for the Venus flight already had begun, and cancellation of the mission would have meant a loss of considerable time and money. Moreover, there is general agreement that time is now too short to permit development of the instrumented probe proposed for Mars in 1969.

In addition, the Karth subcommittee was given a consolation prize. The conference agreement worked out with the Senate provided that NASA submit, by 1 September, to the House and Senate space committees a "full report on the alternative approaches deemed scientifically, technically, and fiscally feasible for acquiring fundamental knowledge about the planet Venus."

The agency is to define the relationship of Venus exploration to the exploration of other planets, doing so in terms of opportunities, mission possibilities, and scientific priorities. One high-level NASA official, who has felt that the Karth subcommittee overreached itself in trying to set scientific priorities, says that the demand that NASA clarify its objectives is all to the good. "I'd say that now the right kind

of pressure has been put on us," he remarked.

In talking to Karth, however, one senses a lingering frustration and wonders how long it will be before he and his subcommittee colleagues again let NASA—and its scientific advisers—know that they intend to have a voice in the running of the space science program, too.—LUTHER J. CARTER

Ivan Bennett of Johns Hopkins Appointed Deputy Director of OST

Ivan L. Bennett, director of the department of pathology at Johns Hopkins University, was named this week to succeed Colin M. MacLeod as deputy director of the Office of Science and Technology. MacLeod, who joined OST in late 1963, will join the staff of the Commonwealth Fund in September. He previously was professor of medicine at New York University. Bennett is a member of the President's Science Advisory Committee and is chairman of the PSAC subcommittee on world food supplies. The deputy directorship, which is subject to Senate confirmation, pays \$27,000 a year.

Announcements

The University of Cincinnati is planning a 7-year program to develop a Center for Study of **Human Environment**. The project will be financed through a \$6.5 million grant from the Public Health Service. The center, representing areas in several divisions of the university, is to coordinate existing programs and expand activities into new areas of environmental health and to set up improved research and training activities in cooperation with local, state, and federal agencies. The university's Environmental Health Council is responsible for operating the center; its chairman is Edward P. Radford, professor of environmental health and physiology.

The headquarters and faculty of the **Food Research Institute** have been transferred to the University of Wisconsin. The institute, established in 1946 at the University of Chicago, will be a unit of the college of agriculture at Wisconsin; its programs deal with the microbiology and toxicology of foods. Its first director, Gail M. Dack, will retire from

the Chicago faculty in September and will become a part-time member of the Wisconsin faculty. E. M. Foster, bacteriology professor at Wisconsin, is the new director.

New Journals

Oceanic Abstracts, vol. 1, State of the Art—Instrumentation. June 1966. E. Sinha, Editor. Abstracts of literature which appeared between mid-1964 and May 1966; includes a list of authors and a list of manufacturers. (Oceanic Library and Information Center, 7730 Herschel Ave., La Jolla, Calif. \$12.50)

Respiration Physiology, vol. 1, No. 1, 1966, P. Dejours, Editor. "The body considered as a system of gas exchange"; theoretical papers, research results, methods and techniques in respiration physiology. (North-Holland Publishing Co., P.O. Box 103, Amsterdam. Quarterly; \$15 a year)

Scientific, Engineering, Technical Manpower Comments; distributed on a limited basis free of charge since 1964; as of September 1966, subscriptions available. Summary of current developments affecting recruitment, training, and utilization of scientific, engineering and technical manpower; published jointly by the Scientific Manpower Commission and the Engineering Manpower Commission. (Subscriptions: Scientific Manpower Commission, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20418. Monthly, \$6 a year)

Scientists in the News

The Chemical Institute of Canada medal, the organization's highest award, has been presented to **William H. Gauvin**, research manager of Noranda Research Centre, Pointe Claire, Quebec, and research associate in charge of doctoral research theses in McGill University's department of chemical engineering.

William G. Craig, headmaster of the John Burroughs School in Clayton, Missouri and a former director of training for the Peace Corps, has been appointed deputy associate commissioner for higher education in the U.S. Office of Education. He will assist in administering programs in the Bureau of Higher Education which provides aid to students and support for colleges and universities.