

NEWS IN BRIEF

● AEC HIGH-ENERGY PHYSICS

PANEL: The Atomic Energy Commission has set up a 12-member advisory panel on high-energy physics to provide advice and guidance to the AEC in this area of physical science research. The panel is chaired by Victor F. Weisskopf, head of the physics department at MIT. Other members are Rodney L. Cook, Brookhaven National Laboratory; Earle C. Fowler, Duke University; Leon Lederman, Nevis Laboratories, Columbia; Edward J. Lofgren, Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley; George E. Pake, Washington University; W. K. H. Panofsky, director, Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford University; Robert G. Sachs, Argonne National Laboratory; Keith R. Symon, University of Wisconsin; Robert L. Walker, California Institute of Technology; Robert R. Wilson, Laboratory of Nuclear Studies, Cornell University; and C. N. Yang, director of the Institute for Theoretical Physics, State University of New York, Stony Brook.

● **SAIGON MEDICAL SCHOOL:** Hobarth A. Reimann, professor of medicine at Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital of Philadelphia, has taken a 6-month leave of absence to serve as field director to help in the reorganization of the medical school program at the University of Saigon. The project is sponsored by the Agency for International Development and the American Medical Association Project for Medical Education in Vietnam. Before Reimann joined the Hahnemann faculty in 1960, he held a number of consultant and faculty posts at foreign medical schools, including Peking/Union Medical College in Peking, the American University of Beirut, Lebanon medical school, the University of Indonesia, and the University of Shiraz, Iran.

● **INSTITUTE FOR EYE RESEARCH:** Senator Lister Hill (D-Ala.) has introduced a bill (S. 325) to establish a National Eye Institute within the National Institutes of Health. The bill, which is identical to legislation that was introduced both in the House and the Senate during the closing days of the last session, would create a separate Eye Institute for the conduct and support of research and training relating to blinding eye diseases and visual dis-

orders (*Science*, 29 July 1966). The bill was referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare where hearings have not yet been scheduled.

● PRE-COLLEGE SCIENCE EDUCATION:

The National Science Foundation is asking for grant proposals for experimental projects designed to improve pre-college science and mathematics education. Institutions eligible to submit proposals include universities and 4-year colleges, associations of professional scientists, and nonprofit research organizations. Proposals may be submitted at any time but at least 4 months must be allowed for evaluation and processing. More information is available from Special Projects in Pre-College Science Education, Division of Pre-College Education in Science, NSF, Washington, D.C. 20550.

● LOAN AIDS INDIAN SCIENCE

EDUCATION: A \$12-million loan to finance the purchase in the United States of equipment needed in India for new methods of teaching science, mathematics, engineering, and technology has been announced by the Agency for International Development. A portion of the equipment will be used in support of Summer Science Institute programs, which have been held annually on a trial basis since 1963. The program is being carried out with the assistance of the National Science Foundation.

● CHESAPEAKE POLLUTION LAB-

ORATORY: Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall has announced plans to establish a Chesapeake Basin Water Laboratory which will serve as a focal point for coordination of programs to reduce pollution in the Bay. The laboratory was authorized under a 1961 amendment to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act which directed the Interior Secretary to establish at least seven field laboratories and research stations for study of water pollution. The facility will serve as a center for the Water Pollution Control Administration and for coordination of both federal and state programs to achieve high water quality for the Bay and its tributaries. The site of the laboratory has not been determined although Udall indicated that it would be located in the southern Bay region.

withering away of their profession. Robert W. Meyer of the University of Illinois concluded that 'academic attention to public utility economics in the form of scholarly articles clearly has dwindled almost to the vanishing point.' Columbia University, the authors note, offers courses "ranging from Urdu to 12th-Century French lute music" but dropped the course in public-utility economics upon the retirement of the professor who had taught it.

Metcalf and Reinemer believe effective regulation will be even more important to ratepayers in the future than it has been in the past, for they foresee a trebling of the use of electricity by 1980. Electricity is being used to heat more and more homes, and some utility officials predict that electric heating eventually will predominate. Given the growing threat of air pollution, electric cars may in time come to replace many of the gasoline-powered automobiles now fouling the air. Moreover, the general growth of the U.S. economy and population will place enormous additional demands on the power industry.

One can only speculate whether *Overcharge* will stir the wide public interest in utility regulation for which the authors are hoping. The success of other recent muckraking books such as Ralph Nader's *Unsafe at Any Speed* and Jessica Mitford's *The American Way of Death* would seem to be a good omen. Regardless of whether *Overcharge* makes the best-seller list, it seems certain that the utility industry's carefully cultivated Reddy Kilowatt image of bright innocence is likely to be tarnished. Metcalf will be using the Senate floor and committee rooms to illuminate what he regards as Reddy Kilowatt's darker side.—LUTHER J. CARTER

Grand Canyon: Udall Drops Controversial Dam Proposal

Conservationists scented a victory last week when Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall announced that the administration was dropping its proposal to build a hydropower dam in the Grand Canyon. In fact, implications of the administration's decision may go beyond the Grand Canyon dam issue (*Science*, 17 June 1966). Udall indicated that the Department of the Interior is developing a more flexible approach to water resources development.

For years it has been the policy of the