

News Staff Changes

Elinor Langer has resigned from the *Science* staff to engage in freelance writing on scientific and political subjects and to work with a group of journalists in establishing a new national political affairs magazine. The new magazine, which is in the very early stages of planning, and is as yet unnamed, will be published in New York. Miss Langer will retain an association with *Science* as a contributing correspondent. Since joining the *Science* staff in 1963, Miss Langer has specialized in coverage of matters related to medical research and practice. Her contributions in this area were cited by the American Medical Writers' Association last month when it presented to *Science* its 1967 Honor Award in Medical Communication.

Newly appointed to the News and Comment staff is Philip M. Boffey, a member of the *Wall Street Journal* Chicago bureau, who has specialized in coverage of political and scientific affairs. Boffey was graduated *magna cum laude* in 1958 from Harvard College, where he was executive editor and managing editor of the *Harvard Crimson*. Before joining the *Journal* he served as a naval officer and was a reporter on the *Chicago Daily News*.

fields in which Negroes think that they will have equality of opportunity with whites. Only about two-fifths thought that they would have employment on the same basis as whites in medicine, and only about a third thought they would have equal opportunities in engineering or in research in the physical sciences. By contrast, about three-quarters thought they would enjoy equality in the military, and half thought they would find equality in high school or elementary teaching. Only 15 percent thought that they would have equal opportunity to become business executives.

Most often, the reason given for not seeking employment in certain areas was that such employment required training which was too costly. Of those who considered such fields among principal career choices, the following proportions of male graduates decided that these careers required financial resources which they didn't possess: medicine, 71 percent; engineering, 46 percent; and biological sciences, 33 percent. Of the female graduates, more than a third decided they didn't have the financial resources necessary to train for nursing, medical technology, or physical and occupational therapy.

Fichter stated that the lack of financial resources is the "principal deterrent to graduate education and further professional training" for Negroes. He pointed out that Negro students often incurred burdensome financial obligations while in college. "Their

debts, both for education and for other things, pile up in a way not experienced by white students, southern or non-southern," his study noted. Sixty-two percent of the Negro graduates owed money when they finished college, as compared to only 36 percent of white students. Although Negro students usually have greater need of financial help in graduate school, "the monetary value of the graduate stipends they do receive is lower than that of the stipends received by white students," Fichter found.

Although many Negro graduates say that they shy away from graduate work because of the cost, Fichter found that a high proportion of Negro students expressed a desire to go to graduate schools. The study states, "Hardly any Negro of either sex, compared to the white graduates, admits that he is 'tired of being a student.' If he had the money, he would go."

As to the students' perception of their own colleges, many express a good deal of dissatisfaction with their education. Many thought they would have fared better at an Ivy League school or at a major state university. Few, however, expressed a desire to attend a white southern university.

Some Optimism about Employment

Most graduates wanted to be employed in integrated organizations, not only to prove their own merit but also because such organizations offered the

most advantageous opportunities for employment. On one hand, the graduates seemed somewhat optimistic about future employment possibilities. More than eight out of ten thought that opportunities for Negroes were changing for the better in such areas as medicine, college teaching, and physical and biological research. Virtually all said that they would advise freshmen to prepare themselves for fields which were not currently receptive to Negroes.

On the other hand, more than two-fifths of the graduates thought that it would take from 30 to 60 years (or longer in some cases) for Negroes to achieve equal employment opportunity in the southern states. Three-quarters of the students thought that Negroes would have equal employment opportunity in the large northern cities in 10 years.

It may be argued that many of the students polled had an inadequate or unrealistic conception of opportunities for the employment of Negro college graduates. But, even if unrealistic, it is obvious that such a conception helps determine the choice of careers and the extent of Negro aspirations.

—BRYCE NELSON

APPOINTMENTS

H. Bentley Glass, academic vice president and distinguished professor of biology, State University of New York at Stony Brook, to president of the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa. . . .



H. B. Glass

Sherburne F. Barber, assistant dean and associate dean of liberal arts and sciences, City College, to dean of liberal arts and sciences at the college. He succeeds **Reuben Frodin**, who is returning to the Ford Foundation as program adviser in education. . . . **Robert L. Egbert**, professor of educational psychology and chairman of the graduate education department, Brigham Young University, to director of Follow Through, a nationwide program to extend the effects of the Head Start program into the regular school system. . . . **Louis O. Quam**, former director of the Earth Sciences Division, Office of Naval Re-