

university built up one of the best philosophy departments in the nation during Litchfield's chancellorship.

But Litchfield was not able to pull the university up by its bootstraps without making enemies. Faculty members who were told to move elsewhere or who were refused promotion or pay increase because of more rigorous academic standards were naturally hostile to him. Pittsburgh academic institutions and many nonacademic Pittsburghers were suspicious of the upstart Pitt, especially when Litchfield announced grand projects and when Pitt acquired new chunks of valuable urban land, including Forbes Field, home of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Litchfield might well have been able to pull off his whole breathtaking ambition, if he had been able to obtain the necessary money. In later years, Litchfield talked as if the trustees had promised to raise \$125 million for the university. Money on that scale was never forthcoming.* One principal difficulty was that an important Litchfield backer, Pitt Board Chairman Alan M. Scaife, died only 3 years after Litchfield became chancellor. Litchfield was eventually forced to resort to the kind of large borrowing which characterizes American business in order to fulfill his commitment to build a great university. But this kind of borrowing is much more accepted in industry than in university life. By 1965, the University of Pittsburgh was almost \$20 million in the red and lacked the cash on hand to pay current bills and salaries. Because of this financial crisis, some of the trustees erupted in anger against Litchfield. He resigned shortly after this dispute; the explanation given was that he had suffered a mild heart attack.

Litchfield Remained Silent

Because he had left Pittsburgh under cloudy circumstances, Litchfield's career as an academic administrator was finished; for the last few years of his life, he devoted himself to his business affairs and to the presidency of the Governmental Affairs Institute. There is no doubt that Litchfield's family, some of his associates, and perhaps even Litchfield himself sometimes wanted to tell his side of the Pittsburgh dispute. But Litchfield never spoke out publicly. As he explained to this reporter, "A

*These matters were discussed by D. S. Greenberg in a three-part series entitled "Pittsburgh: The Rocky Road to Academic Excellence" which appeared in *Science* on 4, 11, and 18 February 1966.

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **LBJS CONSERVATION MESSAGE:**

In the conservation message to Congress, delivered on 8 March, President Johnson emphasized the need to control pollution of the nation's air and water. He urged passage of the Oil Pollution and Hazardous Substances Control Act of 1968, which makes it unlawful to discharge oil within 12 miles from shore and imposes upon the oil polluter the responsibility and costs for cleaning up oil spills. As in his other messages, the President gave special attention to proposals which did not commit his Administration to new spending. One such idea in the conservation message was the President's espousal of "an historic and unprecedented adventure—an International Decade of Ocean Exploration for the 1970's."

● **SEA GRANT AWARDS:** NSF has awarded the first grants under the National Sea Grant College and Program Act of 1966. Institutional support grants totaling nearly \$1.3 million were awarded to Oregon State University, the University of Rhode Island, and the University of Washington. Institutional support grants are designed to aid universities in developing broadly based programs for increasing the use of marine resources. Six grants for individual sea grant projects have also been awarded. The University of Miami and Florida Atlantic University received the largest of those grants.

● **AIR POLLUTION SUIT:** The Justice Department has filed its first suit in connection with the Clean Air Act of 1963. A civil suit, filed by the department on 7 March against the Bishop Processing Company of Bishop, Md., seeks an injunction ordering the animal rendering firm to stop discharging foul-smelling pollutants. The department filed the suit at the request of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare—after an interstate conference and a public hearing failed to persuade the company to comply with the Clean Air Act.

● **MEDICAL EDUCATION:** To meet expanding American medical manpower needs, medical schools should expand their "collective enrollments to a level that permits all qualified applicants to be admitted," the American Medical Association Board of Trustees and the

Executive Council of the Association of American Medical Colleges declared in a joint statement issued 5 March. The groups also urged medical schools to consider revising their curriculums to shorten the duration and costs of medical education.

● **PHILADELPHIA MERGER:** The Franklin Institute and the Jefferson Medical College, both in Philadelphia, affiliated 27 February in an effort to provide a broader base for scientific research and for graduate and undergraduate education. The laboratories, personnel, instruments, and equipment of both institutions will be pooled. Degrees awarded under the joint program, which will be in medicine, physical sciences, and paramedicine, will be granted by the Jefferson Medical College. Each institution will maintain its own management, although each institution will be represented on the board of the other. The *Journal of the Franklin Institute*, published since 1826, will be used by both institutions for publication of articles on science, academic matters, and biomedical engineering data.

● **WATCHING THE CIGARETTE COMMERCIALS:** A new organization, called Action on Smoking and Health (ASH), has been established to defend the Federal Communication Commission's ruling applying the "fairness doctrine" to cigarette advertising and to file complaints against broadcasters who fail to comply with the ruling. Under the ruling, stations which carry cigarette commercials are supposed to present antismoking messages. Broadcasters seek, however, to overturn the ruling in the courts. The founder of ASH is John F. Banzhaf, III, the young New York attorney whose complaint led to the FCC ruling.

● **"MONKEY LAW" REVIEW:** The Supreme Court has agreed to consider the constitutionality of one of the last state laws which forbids the teaching of evolution. The Court indicated on 4 March that it will review an Arkansas law that makes it a crime "to teach the theory that mankind ascended or descended from a lower order of animals." Mississippi is the only other state that forbids the teaching of the Darwinian concept of evolution.