

lowing: Ekkehard Bautz, Rutgers; Herbert W. Boyer, University of California's San Francisco Medical Center; Royston C. Clowes, Southwest Center for Advanced Studies, Dallas; Stanley Falkow, Georgetown University School of Medicine; Dean Fraser, Indiana University; Saul Goodgal, University of Pennsylvania; D. MacDonald Green, University of New Hampshire; Donald R. Helinski, University of California, San Diego; A. Dale Kaiser, Stanford University School of Medicine; Lorraine L. Larison, Harvard; Mark Ptashne, Harvard; Arnold W. Ravin, University of Rochester; Helene Smith, Princeton; Ray Wu, Cornell; Frank E. Young, Scripps Clinic; and Norton Zinder, Rockefeller University.

A 17th scientist, Yvonne T. Lanni, of the Southwest Center for Advanced Studies, Dallas, was scheduled to speak but withdrew after the final program was printed. Other protesting scientists count Lanni as one of their number, but all she would tell *Science* was: "I'm simply fed up with the whole business and I don't want to talk about it."

A number of scientists who were invited to attend the symposium as guests also boycotted, but the extent of this boycott is not known. A total of 141 persons attended the nucleic acid symposium, about half from Detrick and half from outside.

The withdrawal of four speakers at the last minute forced Detrick to rearrange the nucleic acid program somewhat. In its final form the program included nine papers by outside scientists, one by a Detrick scientist, and a round-table discussion that was organized to fill the void left by the four late withdrawals. The nine outside scientists who gave papers included Louis Baron, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research; Kenneth F. Bott, University of Chicago; Werner Braun, Rutgers, who formerly worked at Detrick; James C. Copeland, Argonne National Laboratory; Ray Curtiss III, Oak Ridge National Laboratory; Herman T. Epstein, Brandeis; Yu-Chih Hsu, Johns Hopkins; W. R. Romig, UCLA; and Curtis B. Thorne, University of Massachusetts, who also formerly worked at Detrick. The speakers were virtually unanimous in proclaiming the program a scientific success, though some were disappointed that one or more of the boycotters had not delivered papers. Ironically, the round-table discussion that replaced the boycotters turned out to be one of the most popular parts of the symposium.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

● **HEW REORGANIZATION:** Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) Secretary-designate Wilbur J. Cohen has announced a reorganization of the health activities of HEW which include enlarging and strengthening the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Under the plan, NIH will encompass the Bureau of Health Manpower and the National Library of Medicine—thus placing NIH's educational activities on an equal footing with its research functions. James A. Shannon, director of NIH, will continue to head the expanded agency until his retirement in the fall. Cohen also announced the formation of a new agency, the Health Services and Mental Health Administration, which will include the National Institute of Mental Health and such programs as chronic disease control, disease prevention, health statistics, and some aspects of regional health planning. Robert Q. Marston, director of the division of regional medical programs on heart, cancer, and stroke, was named acting director of the new agency. Cohen's reorganization announcement was made in early April and followed his previous statement, some 3 weeks earlier while he was still acting secretary, that Philip Lee, HEW assistant secretary for Health and Scientific Affairs, would be given direct authority over the Public Health Service. Under the reorganization plans, the Public Health Service is enlarged to include the Food and Drug Administration, the new Health Services and Mental Health Administration, and NIH.

● **TIDAL WAVE DATA:** The United States, Russia, and Japan have agreed to increase their exchange of tidal wave data in an effort to improve the effectiveness of the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific Ocean. The agreement was reached in late March during the closing session of the United Nations Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Conference in Hawaii.

● **MEDICAL SCHOOL FINANCES:** The Committee on Medical Education, an ad hoc committee of medical school deans and other medical school educators, urges, in a published report, that the federal government provide more direct support for medical education in the United States. The report notes

that although research support, primarily by the National Institutes of Health, "has been decisive and realistic, the educational functions of the schools have been allowed to languish for lack of funds." The report adds that "there are no financial resources to enable the schools to undertake essential new roles." Lewis Thomas, dean of the New York University School of Medicine, is chairman of the Committee on Medical Education.

● **SHARED COMPUTER STUDY:** The National Science Foundation has awarded three grants totaling \$735,000 to finance studies on the costs and benefits to educational institutions of sharing computers on geographical bases. Grant recipients are Cornell University, Dartmouth College, and Oregon State University.

● **MATHEMATICAL GEOLOGY ASSOCIATION:** Plans have been announced for the formation of the Association for Mathematical Geology. The association will be affiliated with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and will work closely with the International Association for Statistics in the Physical Sciences. A 13-member ad hoc committee with international representation is working on the organization of the association and the election of officers. Elections are scheduled to take place during the IUGS annual meeting, which will be in Prague next summer. Additional information may be obtained from Richard Reymont, Paleontologiska Institutionen, Uppsala Universitet, Fack, Uppsala 1, Sweden.

● **NEW PUBLICATIONS:** A directory of the organization and members of the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and the National Research Council, *Organization and Members 1967-1968*, is available in limited supply, without charge, from the National Academy's Printing and Publishing Office, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20418.

*Goals of Engineering Education*, the final report of the Goals Committee of the American Society for Engineering Education, is available, at \$2 a copy, from the ASEE, 2100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20037.