

he would not be reappointed to a full 4-year term, so he resigned as of 31 December 1967, the end of his previous term, rather than continue to serve on a day-by-day basis while a replacement was found.

Breslow's departure had been foreshadowed in mid-December when an appointments official in the Reagan administration told a newspaper reporter that while Breslow was "eminently qualified" for the post, the governor was "leaning against" reappointing him because of "basic philosophical differences." Later Reagan defined these differences in a press conference: "He (Breslow) believes that government . . . should play a greater part in certain areas, in the social structure, than I believe, and that government should . . . have a greater control in the field of medicine than I believe it should have."

Many observers felt Reagan was justified in seeking a public health director more in tune with the philosophy of his administration. But, to some public health leaders, the dropping of Breslow—and particularly the effort to get him to resign before his term was up—seemed an ominously political move unrelated to professional questions. "Public health has not been a tool of politics in this state, but Reagan is bringing back the spoils system. It's the worst thing he's done as far as health is concerned," asserts L. S. Goerke, dean of the school of public health at UCLA. Goerke, a Democrat, served on the state board of health for 14 years under both Republican and Democratic governors but was not reappointed by Reagan.

A second factor that has alarmed California public health leaders has been the character of Reagan's appointments to the state board of health, which have generally lessened the influence of the public health professionals and the academicians and boosted the influence of the private practitioners. "Reagan hasn't appointed a single public health expert—there's not a man on the board with a background in public health," says Egeberg, who points out that he himself is a dean of medicine, not of public health. (Egeberg's term on the board expires 31 December.) Under the previous administration, the board, whose responsibilities are largely advisory, had included the late Charles E. Smith, public health dean at the University of California, Berkeley, who served on the board until he died; Goerke, the public health

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### ● EAST EUROPE EXCHANGES:

Recent political developments in Eastern Europe notwithstanding, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has announced that applications are open for the NAS Soviet Eastern European exchange program. Under the existing agreements, NAS, in cooperation with the Soviet Academy and the academies of sciences in Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania, and Yugoslavia, offers 1- to 12-month visits during the 1969–70 academic year to American scientists interested in current scientific research in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Applications may be filed before 25 November with the Office of the Foreign Secretary, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C. 20418.

### ● GOVERNMENT-UNIVERSITY RE-

**SEARCH:** A cooperative agreement to share university scientific personnel and government research facilities in advanced materials science has been signed by the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) and the University of Maryland. In exchange for use of NBS research equipment and laboratory facilities, the University of Maryland will provide a research and training program for NBS employees. A similar program has existed since 1962 at Boulder with the University of Colorado and four more programs are contemplated with other universities.

● **MEDICAL SCHOOLS:** Five new medical schools will admit their first classes this fall, providing places for 220 of the estimated national total of 9630 first-year medical students. The new schools are the University of California at Davis, University of California San Diego School of Medicine, University of Connecticut School of Medicine in Hartford, Mount Sinai School of Medicine of the City University of New York, and the University of Texas Medical School at San Antonio.

● **MATERIAL VALUES:** Congress has passed a law intended to make information on the properties of materials readily available to engineers and scientists. The National Bureau of Standards, which will coordinate the new program, indicates that scientists and engineers do not have adequate access to materials data such as melting points,

electrical resistance, and strength. Under the new program, a group of experts from the National Academy of Sciences will review available data and make a compendium of the most reliable values.

### ● BRANDEIS MEDICAL CENTER:

Brandeis University will establish a medical services research center with \$19 million—the largest gift in its history—from Lewis S. Rosenstiel, retiring chairman of Schenley Industries. The new center will coordinate basic research in the life sciences with social sciences research and will offer research programs such as the economics of medical aid and problems of the aging. The center is expected to offer about 100 rotating fellowships to visiting researchers.

### ● CORNELL ELECTRON SYN-

**CHROTRON:** The world's largest 10-Gev electron synchrotron, built with National Science Foundation support at a total cost of \$11.5 million, has been completed, and will be dedicated this fall as the Robert Rathbun Wilson Synchrotron Laboratory; the circular particle accelerator is located at Cornell University.

### ● ARTIFICIAL HEART RESEARCH:

Grants totaling \$7 million in research contracts have been awarded for the development of heart-assist devices by the Artificial Heart Program of the National Heart Institute. In all, \$19 million has been awarded in grants for the development of artificial heart aids since the Artificial Heart Program began its operations in 1964.

### ● MARINE SCIENCE SURVEYS:

Five surveys of marine science activities in 99 nations have been published by the National Council on Marine Resources and Engineering Development. The surveys include a description of the economic importance of marine activities, the nature and scope of marine research, and the organizations involved in marine sciences programs. *Marine Science Activities of the Nations of the Near East and South Asia* (30¢); *East Asia* (35¢); *Latin America* (35¢); *Africa* (35¢); and *Canada and Europe* (55¢) may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.