

## NEWS IN BRIEF

● **FIRST POLLUTION SUIT:** The U.S. government has won its first suit to abate interstate air pollution under provisions of the Federal Clean Air Act of 1963. The Justice Department charged a Bishop, Md., animal rendering plant with discharging pollutants into the air across the Delaware state line. The judgment provides the Delaware state pollution director with the authority to declare that pollutants are crossing into his state. When this occurs, the Justice Department may issue a court order to close the processing plant immediately.

● **STANFORD RESEARCH INSTITUTE:** Student claims that Stanford Research Institute (SRI) is involved in chemical and biological warfare research and other defense projects have caused Stanford University to reexamine its ties with SRI. A 12-man student-faculty committee to study relations between the university and the neighboring institute has been established by acting president Robert Glaser and will report to the university by 1 April. SRI, a university-owned independent subsidiary, which adjoins the Stanford campus, operates on an independent budget of about \$65 million. Both the university and SRI have common members on their governing boards, and some Stanford faculty have working arrangements with SRI.

● **LARGER DRAFT CALL:** As expected (*Science*, 8 Nov.), the Defense Department issued a larger draft call for January—26,800 men—the highest call since May and more than twice as high as this month's call. Monthly calls may average about 25,000 men in the first 6 months of 1969. It is anticipated by many educators that these higher calls will greatly increase the number of inductions of graduate students and thus affect graduate school programs.

● **REORGANIZATION:** The Department of the Interior has consolidated its water research programs, including its Office of Water Research. Assistant Secretary Max N. Edwards will evaluate proposed programs, establish priorities, and coordinate Interior's \$83-million-per-year water resources research effort. Similarly, Interior will bring its marine resources programs under a single authority and establish an Office

of Marine Resources (OMR) under Assistant Secretary Clarence Pautzke. OMR is expected to coordinate marine pollution control, estuarine studies, multi-use of the coastal zone and high seas, and other programs.

● **NSF ANTIRIOT PROVISION:** More than 18,000 graduate and undergraduate students now receiving National Science Foundation (NSF) support could be affected by an antiriot amendment, attached by Congress to the NSF appropriations bill. Like the recently passed Higher Education Act antiriot provision (*Science*, 27 September), the NSF version requires the university to give the student the opportunity for a hearing if the institution decides to withhold federal aid, but it differs from the earlier provision in that it does not require the university to cut funds for a student convicted of a felony as a result of a campus demonstration. The amendment affects about 500 NSF undergraduate basic research project grantees, 3700 undergraduate research participants, 2300 graduate fellows, 5600 graduate trainees, 1000 graduate summer trainees, and 5100 basic research project graduate assistants.

● **CHICAGO EXODUS:** The American Historical Association has moved its 28–30 December convention from Chicago to New York in response to adverse reaction among its members to the disorders in Chicago during the Democratic convention in August. At least three other national social science associations (*Science*, 13 September) have taken such action since the convention.

● **NEW PUBLICATIONS:** A study of careers of 10,000 doctoral degree holders indicates that, in general, academic salaries are less than 80 percent of non-academic salaries. The study shows that salaries and the desire to teach are the most important considerations in determining whether individuals remain in academic positions. *Careers of Ph.D.'s: Academic versus Nonacademic*, a report of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences, may be obtained for \$6 from the Printing and Publishing Office, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20418.

tation, and he will thus be delayed a year in conducting meaningful experiments.

To be sure, not all investigators are badly hurt, and there is a good deal of exaggeration and self-pity in the weeping and wailing of some scientists. One senior faculty member, with a perfectly straight face, described his "personal tragedy" to *Science*. It seems he had originally hoped, using his own funds in addition to federal grant money, to spend 6 months in Japan, take his family with him, and then proceed to travel around the world. But because of various difficulties arising from the budget stringencies, his departure will be delayed, he now thinks he will spend only 2 months in Japan, he'll have to leave his son home, and he probably won't go around the world. "I'll still go to Japan," he pledges grimly, "but at greater sacrifice to myself."

Some campus cynics think many investigators are more concerned about the possibility of losing their summer NSF salaries than they are about possible disruptions in their research work. Federal grantees can receive summer salaries equivalent to two-ninths of their regular academic salaries, and university officials say many investigators have come to regard such salary supplements as "almost a Constitutional right." Department heads say some financially strapped investigators could not afford to do research in the summer without the additional salary. But others could, if they chose, continue their research and live comfortably on their regular university paychecks, which continue to arrive every week. "There's a lot of hypocrisy in all this," says one faculty member. "These guys may say they're concerned about their work or their graduate students, but they're really worried about losing that summer gravy."

The budget squeeze at Massachusetts has had a number of adverse effects besides the disruption of research projects already cited. Administrators say the cutbacks have had a "divisive" impact as faculty members squabble over who will get the few loose pennies on campus. There is also a morale problem as young investigators and graduate students, who are trying to make their marks in a competitive academic world, suddenly find, through no fault of their own, that they can't continue their research. Moreover, many young investigators are being pushed into inexpensive theoretical work, a trend which some department heads find alarming.