

the literature for each of the five traces evidently found strong justification for the idea that undirected research, with knowledge for its own sake as the only goal, provides a reservoir of understanding essential to subsequent technological innovation. The report will be a valuable piece of supportive evidence when NSF faces congressional authorization hearings in early March.—PETER THOMPSON

## APPOINTMENTS



J. T. English



I. L. Bennett, Jr.

**Joseph T. English**, assistant director for health affairs in the Office of Economic Opportunity, to director of the Health Services and Mental Health Administration of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. . . . **Ivan L. Bennett, Jr.**, deputy director of the Office of Science and Technology and director of the department of pathology at Johns Hopkins University, to director of the New York University Medical Center and vice president for health affairs at the university. . . . **Robert C. Wood**, Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, to director of the Harvard-M.I.T. Joint Center for Urban Studies; he succeeds **Daniel P. Moynihan** who has become chairman of President Nixon's new Council on Urban Affairs. . . . **William D. Carey**, director of the Human Resources Programs Division of the Bureau of the Budget, to senior staff member in the Washington office of Arthur D. Little, Inc. . . . **Philip O. Montgomery, Jr.**, professor of pathology at Southwestern Medical School, University of Texas, Austin, to associate dean of the medical school there. . . . **Cyrus Levinthal**, associate professor of plant physiology at Columbia University, to chairman of the department of biological sciences at the university.

## RECENT DEATHS

**Fred Alt**, 56, director of the testing division of the Oceanographic Instrumentation Center, U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office; 4 January.

**Franklin L. Austin**, 53; research project leader in the Industrial Crops Laboratory, Northern Research Laboratory; 26 December.

**Leo O. Colbert**, 84; former director of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey; 24 December.

**Ben Davidson**, 52; director of the geophysical sciences laboratory of New York University's School of Engineering and Science; 20 December.

**John C. Donaldson**, 80; professor emeritus of anatomy at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine; 16 November.

**Maximilian R. Ehrenstein**, 69; professor emeritus of biochemistry at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine; 28 December.

**Theresa Huang**, 30; a research psychologist at the American Institute of Research, Silver Spring, Md.; 19 November.

**Edwin B. Mains**, 78; former director of the herbarium of the University of Michigan; 23 December.

**Charles Muzzicato**, 67; a radiologist who once served as the national chairman of the American Medical Relief for Italy and was also once a commissioner of New York City's Civil Service Commission; 20 December.

**Victor E. Shelford**, 91; eminent ecologist and former professor of zoology at the University of Illinois; 27 December.

**Courtney C. Smith**, 52; president of Swarthmore College and American secretary of the Rhodes Scholarship Trust; 16 January.

**Georgi N. Speransky**, 95; founder of the Russian School of Pediatrics; 14 January.

**Mario H. Zarlengo**, 30; assistant professor of biochemistry at the University of Colorado Medical School; 19 October.

## A POINT OF VIEW

*Excerpts from an article by William L. Cary, professor of law at Columbia University, on "Topics: No Tenure for University Presidents" which appeared in the New York Times 16 November 1968 (© New York Times).*

The disturbances on American campuses highlight the diverse roles of the president of a large university, and pose the question whether this is an office that he should hold until retirement age. Does he more closely resemble the professor-scholar who stays on till seventy, or the chief executive of a corporation who does not have tenure? . . .

I believe the president of a large university should be appointed for a term of years (such as ten) and no more. Even reappointment for a second term is questionable, for it places the trustees in the same embarrassing position. Men of breadth recognize this, perhaps the finest example being Conant (who went from Harvard to new and creative roles). Brewster at Yale has said that he does not expect to spend his whole life there. After all, Yale wisely appoints its deans for a term; why not its president?

If the president has made a contribution, there should be proper gratitude. But need it follow the tradition of academic tenure? Professorial appointment until retirement may be questioned, but at least it has a rationale: the need for independence and total dedication to scholarship.

The president, on the other hand, no longer need be a scholar. He is much closer to being the head of a major company than a teacher. Yet business corporations have escape hatches, and the universities have none. When a change is needed, one can be made chairman rather than president, or head of the executive committee. The salary and prerequisites continue. Why are there not comparable formulae in the university world?