

another decision the Institute for Environmental Studies would later regret.

While the many consultants were making their detailed studies of the Brandywine, the plan was taken to the people. The Board of Supervisors in each township appointed two residents to act as liaison between the people and the WRA, and the first sequence of public meetings was held in each township in the fall of 1966. John Keene and Ann Louise Strong of IES were disappointed at the meager attendance and apparent lack of interest, particularly since a detailed attitude study had indicated that, while residents valued the independence of the landholder and distrusted government intervention, they were more concerned with preserving the beauty of the Brandywine countryside and the quality of its water.

If the Plan met with apathy initially, there developed over the space of half a year a consensus of antipathy which was embodied in the Chester County Freeholders, formed to fight the Plan, and typified by defensiveness and suspicion. Indicative of the growing sentiment was an advertisement which appeared in a local newspaper early in the summer of 1967: "CITIZENS ALERT. . . . STOP THE LAND GRAB. . . . Do you wish 'Big Daddy' government to perpetually restrict from 50% to 60% of the land area of entire townships? . . . Do you believe in private ownership or state control? . . ." Since "Big Daddy" referred to the Chester County Water Resources Authority and not the federal government, a second group of public meetings seemed necessary to clarify the situation.

If the public meetings in the summer of 1967 were better attended, they were marked by growing acrimony and resistance to the IES Plan. At these meetings the representatives of IES and WRA learned that the residents had had many bad experiences with pipeline, power-line, and flood-control projects in which eminent domain was invoked with little attention to local interests or feelings. These seizures had been fought to no avail by the residents, but fought nonetheless—bulldozers were stopped at gunpoint in one case, and citizens spent thousands of dollars in court suits. The use of the writ of eminent domain contemplated in the Brandywine Plan precipitated a glacial reaction against the Plan as a whole.

The second set of public meetings led the Water Resources Authority and

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **WHITE HOUSE DIRECTIVE:** Expensive research equipment and facilities in federal laboratories are expected to be more readily available to university scientists working on their own research projects as a result of a directive from President Nixon. The action follows a 2-year investigation by the Committee on Federal Laboratories of the Federal Council for Science and Technology. The directive allows federal agencies to pay research costs at the Federal facility when a university investigator's project is consistent with the goals of the federal laboratory. All costs of research not directly related to the agency's mission must be paid by the university. The directive applies to all federal agencies and would make more uniformly available to scientists such facilities as atomic laboratories, national health research facilities, and agricultural research stations. It is left to directors of local facilities to decide which university proposals will be accepted.

● **STRICT COAL MINE HEALTH STANDARDS PROPOSED:** More rigorous air quality standards, based on British mine health regulations, have been included in a new Administration-backed bill on coal mine health and safety. Government health officials say the standards, which would eventually limit respirable dust in coal mines to 3.0 milligrams per cubic meter of air, are based on government studies in the United Kingdom that show that reductions in dust levels significantly lower the incidence and prevalence of pneumoconiosis, or "black lung," an incurable disease caused by coal dust. The Administration bill, introduced by John N. Erlenborn (R-Ill.), is being sponsored by a bipartisan block of congressmen. Hearings on the measure are now under way and are expected to continue through March.

● **KUSCH NAMED COLUMBIA VICE PRESIDENT:** Polykarp Kusch, who shared the Nobel prize for physics in 1955, has been named vice president and dean of faculties at Columbia University. Kusch, a member of the Columbia faculty since 1937, worked at the National Defense Research Committee's Radiation Laboratory at M.I.T. during World War II. As dean of the

faculties at Columbia, Kusch will be responsible for staffing and coordination of Columbia's various schools.

● **FEDERAL COURT RULES ON ABM:** U.S. District Court Judge Hubert L. Will has denied a government motion in Chicago to dismiss a suit filed by Illinois residents who seek to prevent the location of an antiballistic missile site near Libertyville. Will has said the case will be heard. He declared, "There must be some point where executive insanity can be stopped."

● **SOCIAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION:** A bipartisan bill to establish a National Foundation for the Social Sciences, similar to the National Science Foundation (NSF), is likely to receive more notice in Congress this session. Twelve senators have added their names to the bill this year. The measure now has 32 cosponsors, including Senator Ralph Yarborough (D-Tex.), the new chairman of the Labor and Public Welfare Committee, which is expected to handle the bill. The measure, reintroduced by Senator Fred Harris (D-Okla.), would establish a foundation with broad powers for the support of research, education, and training in the social sciences. The measure also calls for a yearly authorization of \$20 million.

● **MORE NEGRO ENGINEERS:** A new dual degree program to encourage Negroes to become engineers has been established by Georgia Institute of Technology and four predominantly Negro colleges in Atlanta, Ga. The new program, funded by a \$265,000 grant from the Olin Mathieson Charitable Trust, will provide 85 students from Clark, Morehouse, Morris Brown, and Spelman colleges with support over the next 3 years. Students will attend one of the Negro colleges for 3 years for a bachelor of arts degree and then transfer to Georgia Tech for 2 additional years to receive a bachelor of sciences degree. In addition to cross enrollment and scholarships, the program will provide recruiting services to encourage high school students in low-income areas to seek engineering degrees. The combined graduate and undergraduate enrollment at Georgia Tech is about 7800 students, 43 of whom are Negroes.