

the Institute for Environmental Studies to abandon eminent domain for voluntary compliance with the easement system, and to develop a short explanation of the Plan, since many of the objections to it seemed to bear no relation to fact. In April of 1968 an attractive, well-illustrated booklet (*The Brandywine Plan*) carefully describing the Plan was sent to residents in the Brandywine basin. The residents were allowed some time for reading and digesting the facts, and then another sequence

of meetings was called, in the summer of 1968.

The third and final set of public meetings went like the second, however. The people resented "intellectuals" and outsiders telling them what to do with their land, and felt they were being railroaded, patronized, and lectured to; they suspected the WRA of engineering a land grab, questioned the patriotism of proponents of the plan, refused to become "dupes of the Duponts," and so on.

The negative and abusive atmosphere of the public meetings at length became a source of embarrassment to some of the residents, and they were moved to form a Planning Commission for the region, at about the time of the last public meetings. The 14-member commission has pledged itself to develop a viable alternative to the IES Plan, one which embraces the same goals but which achieves them through local (that is, township, not county) ordinances rather than easements. Chairman Carl Maenak, a teacher of history at a private boys' school, envisions a long period of "education" in which the local people come to understand that a plan is needed and the Planning Commission learns the peoples' views on what should be done with their land, and how.

Maenak insists that the shrill opposition to the IES Plan does not indicate indifference to the quality of water in Brandywine Creek—quite the opposite. The residents, he says, consider the stream's present purity to be due to their wise land management practices over generations, and not some happy accident. They resent the presence of the two industries which are polluting the Brandywine, and feel it is because of the weakness of county authority that these continue to operate without proper effluent treatment. Maenak and his commission feel that Pennsylvania has all the laws necessary to protect the basin of the Upper East Branch; higher levels of government have defaulted on their obligation to enforce these laws, and now it is time for local government to take over.

So the WRA-IES Plan for the Brandywine is dead, and a plan based on local police power seems years in the offing; the time is right for the land speculation which always accompanies the change from rural to urban land use. If the time, money, and effort spent on the Brandywine Plan was wasted on the Brandywine itself, the Plan is serving as a model for the development of watershed plans in other regions of Pennsylvania and the Northeast. Much of the work done by IES and its consultants can serve as base-line data for these other plans, which can thus be drawn up for a fraction of the cost of the Brandywine Plan. And perhaps the lesson in human relations which came out of the confrontation between "experts" and rural Americans is the most valuable piece of base-line data to emerge from the study.—PETER THOMPSON

Paine Named NASA Administrator

The new head of the National Aeronautics and Space Agency, Thomas O. Paine, has a background in industrial research and research management. Paine joined NASA in January 1968 as deputy administrator, the space agency's No. 2 post, and has been acting administrator since October, when his predecessor, James E. Webb, retired.

When President Nixon announced Paine's delayed-action appointment last week, Nixon said, "after searching the whole country for somebody perhaps outside the space program, we found, as is often the case, that the best man in the country was in the program."

Paine, 47, was manager of TEMPO, General Electric's "think tank" in Santa Barbara, California, before he went to NASA. Paine joined GE in 1949 and served in a series of research and research administration posts of ascending importance before he went to TEMPO as manager in 1962.

After completing undergraduate work in engineering at Brown, Paine served as a submarine officer during World War II. He then earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in physical metallurgy from Stanford.

Paine takes over NASA leadership at a time when the Apollo program is approaching the climatic landing on the moon and when the space budget is declining and NASA's mission in the 1970's is uncertain. Some observers have suggested that the Air Force may be given a larger role in space, and that NASA might be reduced to a



Thomas O. Paine

junior partner or even be merged with the Air Force.

Paine's appointment comes as a further example of Nixon's willingness to include in his administration top officials of science-based agencies who served in the preceding administration. Unlike Leland J. Haworth, director of the National Science Foundation, and Glenn T. Seaborg, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, who are both serving term appointments, Paine has no specific term attached to his job. There is slight irony in new Air Force Secretary Robert C. Seamans's being numbered along with Paine among the highest-ranking officials who also served in the Johnson administration. Seamans was Paine's immediate predecessor as NASA deputy director.—J.W.