

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **HARVARD ESTABLISHES EDUCATION POLICY RESEARCH CENTER:** Harvard University's newly established Center for Educational Policy Research will be directed next year by David Cohen, a professor of education at Harvard, who succeeds Christopher Jencks, on leave from the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington. The center, affiliated with the Harvard Graduate School of Education, was created to provide policy makers, particularly government officials, with a more informed basis for their decisions affecting education. Researchers from the center will study policies of integration, compensatory education, and environmental factors in order to analyze the effects of various school policies on student attitudes and achievement. The center, established in January, has received a \$250,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation.

● **KIDD NAMED TO AAU:** Charles V. Kidd, a member of the staff of the President's Office of Science and Technology (OST) has been named director of the recently formed Council on Federal Relations of the Association of American Universities (AAU). The AAU Council was created to promote a productive relationship between the federal government and universities engaged in graduate education and research. Since 1964 Kidd has been the executive secretary of OST's Federal Council for Science and Technology, which coordinates government research and development programs.

● **SWEDEN BANS DDT USE:** Sweden has become the first country in the world to officially ban the use of the pesticide DDT. The Swedish government has decided to ban the use of DDT and its derivations for 2 years in an attempt to determine if levels of DDT in plants and animals can be significantly reduced. Swedish action follows a technical report by Stockholm scientists who claim that DDT is present in ever-increasing amounts in higher forms of wildlife. The DDT ban may also have been generated, in part, by reports from an international conference in Stockholm in which scientists claim that DDT in remarkably small quantities may affect human metabolism. It has been reported that the Swedish government plans to en-

courage that the DDT ban be extended to its neighboring countries, particularly Norway, since it is recognized that a local ban may have a limited effect.

● **ROLE OF FOUNDATIONS TO BE STUDIED:** In a self-policing measure aimed at avoiding extensive legislative regulation of tax-exempt organizations, a group of foundation leaders has created a national panel of individuals from independent private organizations to review the role of philanthropy and to study the relationship between foundations and the government. The 13-member foundation study panel, formed at the Council of Foundations meeting in New Orleans at the urging of John D. Rockefeller III, consists largely of businessmen and a few members of the academic community. The study follows heavy criticism of tax-exempt organizations in February hearings conducted by the House Ways and Means Committee (see *Science*, 28 February 1969).

● **PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY:** A new environmental quality control council is being created by President Nixon to coordinate interagency action on environmental problems. At this time the eight-member council, chaired by the President, has been organized to include Vice President Agnew and the secretaries of six departments, including Interior and Health, Education, and Welfare. Lee A. DuBridge is slated to be executive secretary. The Council is expected to establish an environmental policy on such issues as pollution, conservation, and resources.

● **UNIVERSITIES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION ENLARGED:** The Universities Research Association (URA), Inc., of Washington, which operates the National Accelerator Laboratory at Batavia, Ill. for the Atomic Energy Commission, has increased its membership to 50 institutions by adding Case Western Reserve University and the State University of New York at Stony Brook. H. Guyford Stever, president of Carnegie-Mellon University, was elected chairman of the URA Council of Presidents, URA's ruling board, and W. Allen Wallis, president of the University of Rochester, was elected vice-chairman.

appointed" because he expected Long to be a "very strong and imaginative director" of NSF.

H. Guyford Stever, one of the two nominees who turned down the NSF directorship before Long was approached, commented that he didn't think that partisan views should be considered in choosing the NSF director but added: "No administration can withstand within itself an activist against itself."

The President is not required to appoint a scientist as NSF director, and he is under no obligation to pick a candidate nominated by the National Science Board. But DuBridge told *Science* he would not support a candidate who had not been recommended by the board, and DuBridge, in fact, has already asked the board to come up with more names. The board, in its recent statement criticizing the President's action, said it will continue to advise on qualified candidates and that its advice "will, as in the past, be based on the scientific and administrative competence and experience of the proposed candidates, the criteria which should be governing in the appointment of a director of the National Science Foundation." The politely worded rebuke to the President was approved by all of the 21 board members who could be reached. The statement was released over the signature of Philip Handler, board chairman, who was one of the first prominent scientists to express opposition to the Administration's action. The two board members who are government officials—Clifford M. Hardin, secretary of agriculture, and Haworth—were not asked to support the statement.

The Long incident seems to be one of those sorry affairs where there are many more losers than winners. In fact, there may be no winners at all, except possibly Dirksen and Fulton.

The NSF, which has been staggering under the burdens of a tight budget and a lame-duck director, is clearly a big loser, for it faces serious morale problems and an even more uncertain future. Almost everyone concerned predicts that it will be exceedingly difficult to find a new NSF director, partly because scientists may be unwilling to do anything that might be interpreted as a slap at Long, partly because few scientists will want their colleagues to think they got the job by submitting to—and passing—a political Wassermann test.

DuBridge, who had made such a