

However, the examination of "broad problems of the type the government could be expected to deal with ultimately" would not be proscribed, and foundations could provide advice on legislation if requested to do so by a committee or member of Congress. According to Senator Curtis, one of the foundations' principal defenders in the Finance Committee, the antilobbying provision as rewritten by the committee is as permissive as any likely to be passed this year.

While only the Senate bill includes a death sentence for foundations, both the Senate and House bills contain a "birth-control" provision. Wealthy benefactors would be discouraged from making gifts of appreciated property to foundation endowments. The bill would accomplish this by allowing the benefactor a much greater tax break on gifts of such property if they are made to schools, hospitals, and other institutions. This discriminatory provision can be regarded as highly damaging if one takes the view that, given the relatively limited sums available to private philanthropy (by comparison with the huge sums spent by government), the public interest is often best served by having gifts distributed by a well-staffed foundation rather than by individual donors.

It can be argued, for example, that, while a wealthy donor's gift of a few million dollars to a university may be of marginal effect, the same amount given by an imaginative foundation staff for an experimental program (Headstart was begun with foundation support) may lead to results of enormous social value. Yet, despite its sweeping implications, the birth-control provision has received slight attention and has brought forth relatively little protest, from foundations or others.

The provisions of the House and Senate bills forbidding self-dealing and other tax abuses appear to be regarded by most foundation leaders as desirable and generally well devised. In fact, it is now apparent to some of these leaders that the foundations should have campaigned energetically for enactment of such reforms when they were first recommended by the Department of the Treasury in 1965.

Another major provision virtually certain to become law is one requiring foundations to distribute all of their annual income and, ultimately (after a transitional period), to distribute each year an amount equal to not less than about 5 percent of their assets.

NEWS IN BRIEF

● NONPROLIFERATION PACT IS

SIGNED: President Nixon on 24 November signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which was ratified and signed on the same day by the U.S.S.R. West Germany and Switzerland announced later that they had signed also. The treaty will go into effect when 43 nations ratify it and deposit copies of their ratification in the United States, Russia, or the United Kingdom. Twenty-two nations have completed the ratification process. All the nuclear powers except France and Communist China have signed, and those two countries have said they will not sign the treaty.

● DOW QUILTS NAPALM BUSINESS:

Dow Chemical Co., target of antiwar protesters for its manufacture of napalm for the Vietnam war, has stopped making the incendiary jelly. A Dow official said the contract ran out last May. Dow bid for a new contract during the summer but the Defense Department awarded the contract instead to the American Electric Co. of La Mirada, Calif. A rumor reported in the *Wall Street Journal* says the company deliberately bid high in order to lose the contract and thus ease the pressure it has been under from protesters.

● INTERNATIONAL SPACE EX-

PLORATION: The Senate has adopted a resolution authorizing the Committee on Foreign Relations to study the possibilities for international cooperation and cost sharing of space exploration. The resolution, introduced by 13 senators including Goodell, Muskie, McGovern, McCarthy, and Mondale, spells out two possibilities to be studied: establishment of an international consortium for space missions (similar to Intelsat and Comsat); and utilization of the United Nations organization. Senator William Proxmire (D-Wis.), who introduced the resolution, said the benefits of space exploration are shared on an equal basis, so costs should be also.

● NEW SCIENCE POLICY PUBLI-

CATION: A new bulletin on science policy is being published in Great Britain. Two newsletters have been combined—The British Science of Science Foundation Ltd. *Newsletter* and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development *Science Policy*

Information Bulletin—to form *Science Policy News*. A 1-year subscription to the new bulletin costs \$8 and can be obtained from *Science Policy News*, Science of Science Foundation Ltd., Benjamin Franklin House, 36 Craven Street, London W.C.2, England.

● AAAS-WESTINGHOUSE SCIENCE WRITING AWARD WINNERS:

Winners for the AAAS-Westinghouse science writing contest have been chosen. In newspapers with more than 100,000 daily circulation, Irving S. Bengelsdorf is the winner for an article on germ warfare, an article on ABM, and five columns about "Atoms and Men" in the *Los Angeles Times* (October 1968 to September 1969). In newspapers with less than 100,000 daily circulation, William Helton is the winner for two series, one on noise in Honolulu, the other on oceanography in Hawaii in the *Honolulu Advertiser* (July to September 1969). In magazines, Arthur C. Clarke is the winner for an article entitled "Next—The Planets," in *Playboy* (March 1969). Each first-place winner will receive \$1000.

● MAN OUTGROWS EARTH: A

gloomy report issued by a committee of the National Research Council warns that the supply of vital natural resources soon will not meet the demands of an expanding population. *Resources and Man* suggests that the government establish a high-level group of resource specialists and ecologists to maintain surveillance of resources, to inform the public when shortages will occur, and to recommend remedies for shortages. The report also stresses the need for population control (*Science*, 7 November). It may be obtained for \$2.95 paperbound (\$5.95 clothbound) from W. H. Freeman and Co., 660 Market St., San Francisco, Calif. 94104.

● PSAC REPORT ON SPACE

FLIGHT: The space science and technology panel of the President's Science Advisory Committee has released a report which recommends that NASA develop a biomedical research capability and research program to strengthen the biomedical foundations of manned space flight. *The Biomedical Foundations of Manned Space Flight* can be obtained for 45¢ from the Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.