RECENT DEATHS

Emory S. Bogardus, 91; dean emeritus, Graduate School, University of Southern California; 21 August.

Leonard Carmichael, 74; vice president, National Geographic Society, and former head, Smithsonian Institution; 16 September.

Nelson S. Fisk, 59; associate professor of civil engineering, School of Engineering and Applied Science, Columbia University; 2 October.

George Gold, 61; attending professor of psychiatry, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University; 29 September.

George D. Humphrey, 76; former president, University of Wyoming and Mississippi State College; 10 September.

Elmer E. Jukkola, 68; retired advanced systems materials engineer, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base; 15 June.

Frank D. Kern, 90; first dean, Graduate School, Pennsylvania State University; 28 September.

Laura A. Kolk, 82; former associate professor of biology, Brooklyn College; 11 August.

Beatrice G. Konheim, 64; dean, Institute of Health Sciences, Hunter College; 1 October.

Thomas B. Ledbetter, 53; professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering, North Carolina State University; 25 August.

Frank T. McClure, 57; deputy director, Applied Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University; 18 October.

Robert E. Ohm, 55; dean, College of Education, University of Oklahoma; 14 October.

Frank E. Rice, 86; former professor of agricultural chemistry, Cornell University; 19 August.

Gordon L. Roene, Jr., 43; associate professor of physiology and health science, Ball State University; 7 September.

Karl Sax, 81; professor emeritus of botany, Harvard University; 8 October.

Madan M. Singh, 49; professor of medicine, State University of New York, Buffalo; 24 August.

Erratum: In the issue of 25 January, p. 291, *Science* reported that Representative Charles A. Mosher (R-Ohio), vice chairman of the Technology Assessment Board, would become chairman of the board in January 1975. However, by law, any House member of the board may become the chairman. It is likely that a member of the majority party, in this case a Democrat, will be chosen. Edward Wenk, Jr., is chairman of the Committee on Public Engineering Policy of the National Academy of Engineering.

RESEARCH NEWS

(Continued from page 738)

between his program and the final form of the report. "I was just one of the infantry for the tanks to run over," he said. Geologists seem to have been particularly alienated during the preparation of the report, which took more than 2 years.

But the report of the U.S. Geodynamics Committee serves a useful function in drawing up a coordinated program for scientists from the many disciplines now involved in the earth sciences. There was no previous tradition of comprehensive earth science reports. The only obvious predecessor is the report of the Upper Mantle Project in 1962, which is just 36 pages long and much more limited in scope. In the view of some scientists, the report also comes at a time when better monitoring of the various funds spent for earth science research is badly needed. The committee made a hesitant attempt at monitoring by denoting the areas to which various federal agencies contributed research monies, although it did not publish the figures.

The report could also have the effect of making the importance of geodynamics much more visible to Congress and the public. The idea that North and South America split away from Africa and Europe has fascinated people for years. Unfortunately, the report is probably too technical for a nonscientific audience.

Much research in the earth sciences is also relevant to another important public concern—the availability of fossil fuels and minerals. Although the report underplays economic aspects, plate tectonics is clearly related to the formation of oil and mineral deposits. Long-term vertical movements have resulted in sediment-filled basins which are important sources of hydrocarbons, and the locations of minerals may be influenced by tectonic spreading centers. Geodynamic research may thus have a substantial economic impact. Geophysical exploration cruises are already followed quite closely by those hoping to find oil.

A comment by John Sclater, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, seems to sum up the view of many others. "We've got a nice model which works damn well for 70 percent of the world, but that's all ocean. How's it going to work for the continents?"

—WILLIAM D. METZ AND ALLEN L. HAMMOND