

26–31 January 1975

New York City

Science and Human Environment

The role of science in the quality of life—the theme for the Annual Meeting in January—is linked to its involvement with the many issues in the human environment: ecology; land use, food, and population; energy and transportation; and education and manpower. These and other topics will form a major meeting subtheme—“Science and Human Environment.”

Earth reconnaissance by satellite has offered a new view of our planet, as well as new opportunities to manage it well. A symposium on *Space Observations for Management of World Resources* will analyze the benefits, as well as specific legal and technical problems. Related symposia will focus on *U.S. Contributions to the International Biological Program* and *The Structure and Function of the U.S. Tundra Ecosystems*. Another symposium will discuss *Lead: Its Sources, Transport, Sinks, and Impacts* followed by *Are There Thresholds in the Effects of Pollutants on Health?* which will discuss the implications of low levels of pollutants. This subject area will wind up with a symposium on environmental education and one on the *Electrical Responses of Plants to External Stimuli*, an exploration of what is known about “primary perception” in plants.

Major environmental concerns will be explicitly addressed in sessions on land use, food, and population, beginning with a symposium on *Land Use*, that explores the legal and technical problems involved; one on *Water Use: Past, Present, and Future*, that gives an anthropological perspective; and, going on to more specialized concerns, symposia on *Land Use and Mineral Resources* and *Land Use Policies and Management in Relation to Food Production*. The latter is one of a set of symposia which will explore the technical and political aspects of our food supply. The others include *The Impact of Engineering on Food Supply*, *Weather and Climate Modification: Im-*

pacts on World Food Problems, *Science and Foreign Policy: The Food-Energy Relationship*, *Food Safety Regulations: Benefit and Risk*, and *Biochemical and Nutritional Aspects of Trace Elements*.

Culture-related aspects of the problem will be considered in *Introduction of New Foods—Principles and Problems* and *Food, Population, and the Environment*. The latter, an overview of all aspects of this subject area, leads into a set of symposia on the problems of population research and policy, including *Economic Change and Family Size*, *The Chain of Communication in Population Studies*, *The Dynamics of Population Education—World Perspectives*, and *Frontiers of Population Research*. The latter topic considers demographic and fertility research, a subject presented in a broader perspective in *Anthropological Studies of Fertility*.

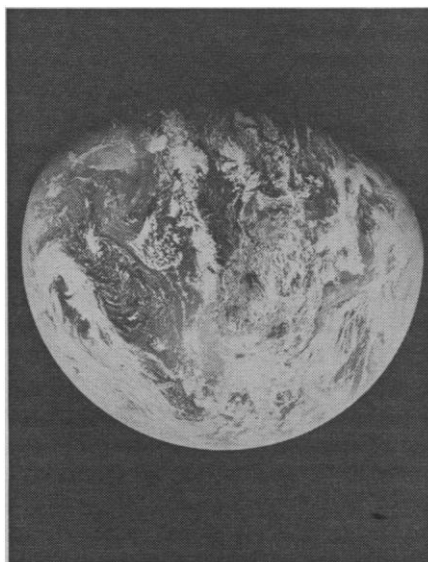
Energy and transportation are major themes. Energy and food production will be considered in a symposium on *Biochemical and Photosynthetic Aspects of Energy*. Cultural, technical, and political aspects of energy-transporta-

tion are themes of *The Effects of Energy Reduction on Work and Play*, *Transportation and Energy Utilization—Evaluating the Options*, *The Future of Cars: Energy, Environment, and Economics*—which considers near-, medium-, and long-term options, and regulatory issues—and *Project Independence: Environmental Bust or Boon?*, a discussion of current energy policy.

The final subject area of “Science and Human Environment” is the man-made environments of education and the professions. *Formulation and Implementation of Educational Policy* is a symposium topic, while testing is considered in *The Problems of Longitudinal Comparisons in Educational Outcomes*. Curricula is a theme of *The Role of Comprehensive Problem-Solving Curriculum in the Secondary Schools*, *The Place of Applications in the Mathematical Curriculum*, *Innovations in Education: Curricular and Technological*, *Contributions of the Visual Arts to Environmental Education*, and *Developmental Psycholinguistics: From Sound to Meaning*. The human environment in the professions is discussed from the point of view of employment in *The Human Resources of Science and Engineering—Today and Tomorrow* and from the special point of view of *The Physically Disabled Scientist: Potential and Problems*. The final symposium in this area is devoted to the *Prospects for Increased Professional Responsibility in Science* and potential conflicts with the scientific ethos.

This set of 38 symposia, collectively 174 hours, covers many of the most important and most pressing aspects of “Science and Human Environment,” and, like those of the other subthemes of the program for the New York meeting, “Science and Human Health” (*Science*, 11 October), “Science and Human Imagination” (*Science*, 25 October), and “Science and the Metropolis” (which follows), provides a unique opportunity for you, whatever your scientific or cultural bent, to be informed and to participate. Fill out the forms on pages 346 and 347 of the 25 October issue of *Science* and register early.

—ARTHUR HERSCHMAN



The Earth taken from Apollo 15. [NASA, Washington, D.C.]



The United Nation's 39-story Secretariat Building adds luster to the nighttime skyline of midtown Manhattan. [New York Convention and Visitors Bureau]

Science and the Metropolis

In a nation where most of the population lives in cities or contiguous suburbs, the quality of life is inextricably intertwined with the problems of metropolitan life. The role of "Science in the Metropolis" in helping us cope with these problems is explored in 18 symposia on health and education in urban areas, policy and planning problems, and urban housing and its alternatives.

The symposia on *Urban Medical Problems* and *Primary Health Care in the Urban Community* examine the ef-

fects of alcohol, drugs, emergencies, and costs on medical care, as well as the institutions and procedures which are or can be set up to meet these problems. Urban education is discussed in *Improving Inner-City Science Teaching*, *The Role of the Living Museum*, and *Growing Up in Large Cities: Research and Research Needs*.

Symposia on urban policy and planning consider relationships between *Social Science and Urban Policy*; case studies, techniques, and factors in *Pol-*

icy Analysis and Urban Life; a critique of the New York experience in *Science, Regional Environmental Management, and Policy-Making*; the capabilities of and needs for *Urban Information Systems*; and the problems of *Urban Modification of Weather*. Other problem areas considered are those of mass transportation and of ethnicity in urban areas. The final symposium in this area, *The City and the Sea*, will discuss the unique situations and problems of maritime cities in several parts of the world.

Symposia on urban housing and its alternatives include *The Central City: Spatial Aspects of the Quality of Life*, *Urban Housing: The Future of New Techniques*, and *Innovation in New Communities*, both within and outside of cities. Counterbalancing these are *Changes in the Quality of Nonmetropolitan Life* and *The Quality of Life in Small Towns*.

Of course, the meeting location is itself a symposium on metropolitan life. The City of New York is one of the world's great centers of culture and a living laboratory of urban promise and problems. The Americana Hotel, where most sessions will be held, is a few blocks from the theater district, Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and a short trip from some of the world's greatest museums: Modern Art, Whitney, Natural History, the Metropolitan, and so forth. Other areas of the city show other faces—finance, power, and blight. Come and experience it with us—register now on the forms provided on pages 346 and 347 of the 25 October issue of *Science*.

—ARTHUR HERSCHMAN

INTERSCIENCE INTERNATIONAL

In June of this year, the Board of Directors of AAAS authorized the establishment of an international and interdisciplinary scientific instrument exposition to be held in conjunction with the AAAS Annual Meeting and to replace the traditional exhibits of the meeting. The Board took this action because its members felt the need for a professional presentation of the significant tools of science to a gathering of scientists representative of all scientific disciplines in this country.

For many years, European scientists have enjoyed such an opportunity through Achema and Analytica, two of the largest interdisciplinary and international instrument exhibits held anywhere in the world. We believe that such a display in the United States will be a valuable asset to American science and we urge you to attend.

Major instrument manufacturers in this country and

abroad have been invited to demonstrate their equipment at the time of the Annual Meeting in New York; the response has been encouraging, despite our late start. A sample of early responders includes: Bio/Physics Systems, EM Laboratories, Gilford Instruments, Kelvinator, Plas-Labs, Spex Industries, Tracor, Varian Associates, Waters Associates, and Wild Heerbrugg Instruments.

If your company wishes to participate in *INTERSCIENCE INTERNATIONAL*, please contact

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for further information and brochures or call Mr. Ruffing at (201) 746-7950.