vatively oriented Americans for Constitutional Action (ACA) is among them. The ACA responded to the determination by Valeo's office on "bundling" by sending to the secretary's office prior to the election photocopies of every check, in whatever amount, that it had delivered.

In sum, the CLW, a group which many thoughtful people have admired and supported, now seems about to become further entangled in a potentially damaging controversy over the question of disclosure. To many council supporters, this question may seem to be neither a matter that is vital to council goals nor one that is appropriate to contest.—LUTHER J. CARTER

Academy for Contemporary Problems: Mixed Parentage, Ambitious Aims

Columbus, Ohio. The Academy for Contemporary Problems might be described as an institution established to attack the problems whose time had come in the 1960's with strategies devised to work in the 1970's. The academy is a joint venture of Ohio State University (OSU) and Battelle Memorial Institute (BMI) created on the premise that the new organization could do things that could not be done by either of the parent institutions—each the largest of its breed—or by other existing organizations.

The academy was conceived in the social climate of the late 1960's, when the "relevance" of the university was being sharply questioned and when research organizations like Battelle were under fire for putting science and technology to inhumane or at last amoral uses. At the same time, there was an awareness among leaders of OSU and Battelle that knowledge that could be useful in dealing with the problems of society was not being applied at the community level.

In the broadest sense, the academy was intended to act as a technology transfer organization to benefit society. The purposes of the academy stated in the formal agreement signed in May 1971 by Sherwood L. Fawcett, president of Battelle, and Novice G. Fawcett, then president of OSU, were very general* as is often the case in such documents. But the clear implication of the Battelle-OSU initiative is that other organizations dealing with problems of society have been failures, to one degree or another, in getting new ideas implemented. The corollary is that the academy is asking to be judged by the extent to which it succeeds. This, some may feel, means that the academy has a congenital case of institutional hubris.

Taxonomically, the academy is not just a smaller version of think tanks such as the Rand Corporation or the Stanford Research Institute. Nor is it very similar to the centers for advanced study that have grown up inside and outside universities or to the urban studies centers which burgeoned on poverty-program money and now, in many cases, have withered. It has elements of all these but does not really fit into any of the available institutional pigeonholes.

In the most practical sense, what sets the academy apart is that it does not depend on contract research to pay its way. The agreement between Battelle and OSU says that the parent institutions shall go halves in providing a minimum $1 million a year operating budget for 10 years. Because inflation has escalated costs, Battelle has upped its contribution to $1 million, so that the academy budget for 1974 is $1.5 million.

In addition to its commitment to a decade of support, Battelle also gave, as part of the dowry, the academy's brand new $2 million facilities. These consist of a main building housing offices for researchers and administrative staff and space for meetings. There is also a separate lodge with two apartments for longer-term visitors and 15 rooms.

The academy buildings have style. The main building's ground floor has a flexible layout which accommodates small groups very comfortably. And the architects have managed an exterior which doesn't obtrude excessively on a neighborhood of middle-aged brick and frame houses.

But there are some drawbacks. The offices for academy fellows and their associates are, by design, clustered on the second and third floors in a way that puts teams together. But the result is that groups are cloistered as well as clustered.

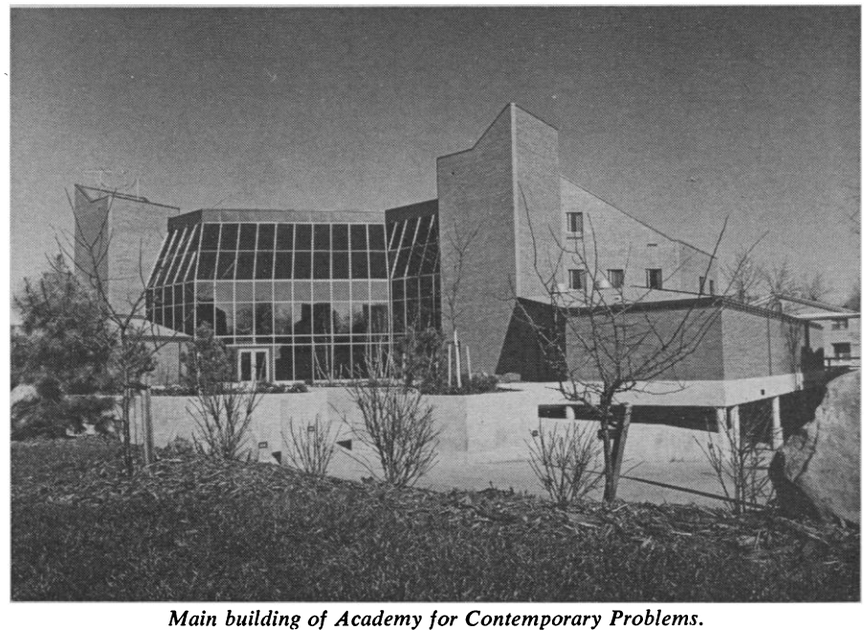
The place has more than a touch of class. The lodge, for example, is furnished in a fashion several notches above motel modern, with designer chairs and details to match. It is all very comfortable and durable and in the affluent 1960's would probably not have caused comment. Now the elegant angular architecture of the buildings and the tasteful interiors seem to strike some staff members as an inappropriate setting for an effort to deal with certain of the grittier issues facing society.

The academy's ambiance and its freedom from dependence on contract research are enviable assets—and they are envied. Unquestionably, the academy is resented by some people in both parent organizations, and this resentment has been sharpened by current economic pressures. The university has avoided using state funds for its contribution to the academy and has consequently drawn on development funds provided mainly from private gifts and endowment income. The demands on development funds are heavy these days, and the commitment of funds to the academy is noted. Battelle has always used a portion of fees and investment income to sponsor research programs of its own, but there is a tradition at BMI of "covering your charge number," that is, of generating revenue to defray the cost of one's work. Particularly at a time of financial stringency, this causes some hostility toward

* The section on purposes is as follows: "The purposes of The Academy shall be:
(a) to encourage a combination of advanced study, education, and the development of strategies for problem solving on topics relevant to contemporary challenges of man;
(b) to promote provocative and mutually beneficial communication of information between members of The Academy and the leadership of the community regarding important public problems;
(c) to serve mankind through the application of knowledge and provide advanced training and public service."

the academy. The leaders of Battelle and OSU were aware of these and other pressures on the academy, and in recruiting a director and other staff members to launch the academy, they were intent on finding people who would make it more than a nice place to spend a sabbatical.

The choice for director was Ralph R. Widner. Widner was director of the Appalachian Regional Commission from 1965 to 1971 and, at the time the OSU-Battelle search committee was in the field, Widner was serving on the National Academy of Sciences committee which produced the report on the "Impact of science and technology on regional development." Widner's background in state and federal government and his experience in dealing with the 13 member states of the commission about the kind of complex and often amorphous issues the academy would be dealing with clinched the appointment.



Main building of Academy for Contemporary Problems.

Widner joined the academy in early 1972 and began a reconnaissance of other research and education organizations looking for both inspiration and object lessons. Over the next few months he recruited the nucleus of the academy's small staff, including an assistant director, Charles E. Taylor, whose Ph.D. in educational administration is from OSU and who along the way had collected relevant experience as director of a community action organization in Columbus. By the summer of 1972 the founders had settled on general principles on which the academy was to operate.

They intended to create an institution in which turnover rather than tenure would be the rule for fellows and even for administrators. With slight hyperbole, Widner says it was to be "a warehouse for temporary, problem-solving teams." A major aim was to breach the old tradition in academe of the expert studying the problem and handing down the solution. It was to be standard procedure to involve people with problems in the process of solving them right from the outset. An open-door policy was to prevail to encourage groups and individuals to come to the academy and to have a real chance of stimulating action. The criterion of success, as noted earlier, was to be whether ideas were actually implemented.

To meet its own criteria the academy obviously has to find people who are not merely academicians. Many, perhaps most, of the academy recruits will come from universities, but academic or scientific credentials are not enough. What is needed, says Widner, are people with entrepreneurial instincts, and a particular combination of intellectual and temperamental traits. For one thing, they must be able to deal effectively with community organizations, activist groups, and government officials. In some of these encounters, the expert is likely to have his expertise taken in vain and generally be given a hard time. The academic who can't take it will want to pick up his marbles and go home.

The work of the academy is organized around its fellows, about 20 of which are active at any one time. The fellows are picked to take the lead in a specific project or, in several cases, to split their time among two or more projects. The prototypical fellow is a "hybrid," with a good track record in both academe and "the real world." The term of a fellow's appointment is 6 months to 3 years. The fellow is usually based in Columbus with a group of full-time or part-time "associates" recruited to work with him.

Projects do not follow a single pattern but vary according to the subject and the personalities of the people working on them. Early in the game, the academy's leaders chose a few major subject areas which they decided were important and could be orchestrated into a coherent program.

The umbrella title for the projects being carried out under the biggest budget item is "Problems of government and finance," which is perhaps better described by the shorter, more often used term, "metropolitanization." Some $185,000 is earmarked in the current annual budget for such projects, including those providing for assistance and advice on development to state and local governments, work on national growth policy, and technical assistance to several local authorities interested in metropolitan government.

In a separate budget category, but closely related, is the "Benchmark" program ($185,000). Academy officials were convinced that a lack of relevant information hampers local decision-makers, and Benchmark is an attempt to develop a pilot "social weather report." Benchmark incorporates Census Bureau data with data drawn from local and state agencies plus results of a carefully conducted local survey of public opinion to construct a "social profile" of the Columbus metropolitan area. This fall, the project began to publish special "social reports" on specific issues, such as housing and the "quality of life." Whenever possible these are related to topical matters. For instance, a report on citizen opinion on police and crime appeared at a time when creation of a citizen review board for police was under discussion.

Academy policy is to finance its own main projects, but variations are possible. For example, the academy provides office space and donates some staff time to a program to develop leadership in the Columbus metropolitan area. Major funding comes from local foundations and industry. A year-long schedule of monthly meetings, field trips, analysis, and report writing

is being followed. The idea is to mix established civic leaders with those who are less experienced or may have shown leadership potential, drawing participants from every social sector of the community. So far the feedback has been encouraging.

A second main program of the academy operates under the title of "Problems of crime and justice" ($180,000). The main tack taken under this program has been to work with local and national officials to develop workable new policies in areas such as corrections and crime prevention. An academy group has been cooperating, for example, in a committee on economic crime with the National District Attorneys Association.

The third major area of concern falls under the aegis of "Problems of work and education" ($75,000). Changing attitudes toward work in industry and their effect on job satisfaction and productivity have obvious relevance in a heavy-industry state like Ohio, and academy people seem to have made a good start at working with both management and labor in projects to "redesign" work.

While the academy wants to be responsive to signals from the outside, it was decided at the outset that "reacting to the fire bell" would not be enough. Consequently, an academy program designated "Prognosis" ($150,000) was set up to work on an early warning system for emerging problems and to help local and state governments anticipate problems and set priorities in dealing with them.

Is it possible to pass judgment on

Unesco's Israeli Sanctions Arouse a Bitter Backlash

Officials of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization are starting to worry about a wave of Western protests over the sanctions the Unesco general conference brusquely meted out to Israel last month in Paris. The conference voted to deny cultural aid to Israel and to bar it from joining Unesco's European regional grouping, and the backlash has been picking up momentum ever since.

In the United States, Western Europe, and Israel, a passel of outraged artists and intellectuals—including some 20 Nobelists—have vowed not to participate henceforth in Unesco activities until the organization mends its ways. The U.S. Senate and the lower house of the Swiss parliament have already voted to curtail support of Unesco, and other nations are likely to follow suit.

While the impact of the intellectuals' protest seems mostly symbolic now—as were the sanctions against Israel—the U.S. Anti-Defamation League is predicting that the withdrawal of artists, educators, and scientists will snowball and Unesco officials fear the league may be right. A Unesco spokesman in New York foresaw a "serious potential for an unraveling" of the organizations' diffuse array of international conferences and aid programs. A major withdrawal, he averred, "could seriously impair the authenticity and universality of Unesco."

With the possibility for overreaction and lasting damage plainly in mind, the United States National Commission for Unesco, a congressionally chartered advisory group, dashed off a statement on 5 December that "deplores" and "condemns" the sanctions, but pleads with artists, scholars, and most of all Congress to maintain their support.

The imbroglio began on 7 November when Unesco's cultural committee, meeting in Paris, passed a resolution calling on Israel to halt its archeological diggings in Jerusalem and any other activities that might alter the city's "features or its cultural or historical character." On 20 November the general conference of member nations approved the resolution and "invited" the director general to "withhold assistance from Israel in the fields of education, science, and culture until such time as it scrupulously respects" eight similar resolutions adopted since 1968. The vote was 59 to 34, with 24 abstentions, and the effect was to cut off $12,000 a year in cultural grants (not $24,000 as widely reported).

Backed as it was by the Soviet bloc and a coalition of Arab and non-Arab Moslem nations, the resolution clearly had political motivations. But U.S. State Department officials who were present make the point that the Moslem's complaint was not entirely baseless. Israel had ignored repeated requests since 1968 to stop its excavations, and, while Unesco inspection teams generally gave Israeli archeologists high marks for the professional quality of their work, the diggings nevertheless remained an affront to Moslems, who hold the sanctity of Jerusalem second only to that of Mecca. To make matters worse, the Israelis have put up some modern buildings near the old city, including a high-rise apartment on the Mounty of Olives that altered a classic skyline.

The cultural resolution has nevertheless been widely interpreted as part of a transparent ploy to shoulder Israel out of Unesco and establish a precedent that can be carried back to the General Assembly. Not generally noticed was a caveat the Arabs attached to their resolution. According to a State Department official, the Arabs went on record as saying this resolution "should not be interpreted as extending outside Unesco."

Israel's exclusion from the European grouping of Unesco members is a murkier matter, the practical effects of which are likely—with a suitably narrow interpretation by the Unesco secretariat—to border on the inconsequential. It means that Israel may not vote on advisory resolutions considered in official regional meetings of the five groupings, although Israel may continue to observe such meetings and participate in Unesco in every other way. Indeed, up until this year, the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand also were not members of a regional grouping. Israel, though still a member of Unesco, is now alone in this respect.

The significance of this diplomatic pillowfight is that it reveals a further erosion in Unesco's traditional immunity to the political rivalries endemic in the General Assembly. It is an open question whether Israel's antagonists understand the potential for damage to Unesco, or care.—R.G.

the academy after less than 2 years of operation? The academy itself budgets a small evaluation effort, but so far this amounts essentially to some time and motion study. The two most interested parties, OSU and Battelle, are keeping close track of developments but so far appear not to be doing any serious second guessing. Outside observers cite debits and credits but generally agree that it is too early to balance the books.

There is no question that the academy faces some formidable challenges. Inflation is pushing up costs at a rate which makes it necessary for the academy to find an additional $150,000 a year merely to operate at its present level. And if the economy continues to decline, the parent institutions' contributions to the academy could be harder to keep up.

The legal status of the academy raises other sorts of questions. Sometime before the 10-year OSU-Battelle warranty on the academy runs out, a decision will be made on whether the academy is to have a chartered life of its own, and if so on what terms. This decision could be complicated by the current challenge to Battelle's operations as defined in the will of the founder, Gordon Battelle (*Science*, 13 December). Of even more immediate concern is a ruling by the state attorney general that Battelle support of the academy does not in its present form qualify as a charitable contribution under the will. It seems likely that Battelle can find an acceptable way to support the academy, but the organization may well face a legally bumpy future.

Under the present dispensation, the academy operates under a mixture of OSU and Battelle rules and regulations which makes for some administrative confusion in such matters as leave and vacations, general record-keeping, purchasing practices, and so forth. Other questions of management are more fundamental. The academy is pledged to be free of ideology and to avoid taking adversary roles. While this is irreproachable in principle, critics question whether the academy can be effective in some projects if it does not adopt a particular policy and push for it.

Then there is the question of the differing operating styles of the fellows. Some have one foot in the academy and the other in government agencies or in other organizations and personally perform a bridging function. Others base themselves in the academy and depend on friendly persuasion and providing the best possible information to those with whom they are working. The academy is supposed to provide information and education as well as participate in action projects, but some observers see a tendency to go the "seminar and conference route."

The academy takes pride in the claim that it attracts "risk-takers" who operate outside the usual incentive systems. In fact, few of the people who come to work at the academy appear to be taking big risks with their careers. They seem to be highly competent professionals with home bases to return to or better jobs to springboard on to. But the academy does seem to take some genuine risks by choosing difficult projects that can fail conspicuously. To their credit, both parent institutions seem prepared to accept a fairly healthy failure rate as a sign that the academy is tackling worthwhile projects.

To the outsider, the academy does seem to have real strengths. Some of them are perhaps minor, such as a low level of jargon in the discussion of projects and what appears to be a successful effort to involve people with problems in every stage of the problem-solving process.

The results of applied social science research in the 1960's were not brilliant. Too often, university experts saw a research contract as a way to study an "interesting" problem and get a few graduate students their Ph.D.'s. And private research organizations often did potboiling contract research.

The academy fellows have the advantage of a financial base which permits them to pick the problems they regard as important and deal with them in a way they think will be effective. To make good as an institution, the academy will have to make good on its promise of putting good ideas into useful action. It will have to satisfy some stern judges among those who hold the IOU's.—JOHN WALSH

Briefing

Edward Rall Expected to Replace Stone at NIH

It is apparently just a matter of time before Robert S. Stone resigns under pressure as director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). It is known that he is looking for another job.

Already, Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) officials are laying the bureaucratic groundwork necessary to put his successor in place with as much dispatch as possible. If anything goes according to plan, Stone is expected to be replaced by Joseph Edward Rall, who presently is director of intramural research in the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases (NIAMDD). Reportedly, Rall's name has cleared channels at HEW and has been sent to the White House for final approval. Rall's supporters hope that the fact that he is a liberal Democrat will not be held against him.

Stone's ouster has been in the works for at least a couple of months (*Science*, 15 November), the main problem being that he simply does not get along with his immediate superiors, Assistant Secretary for Health Charles C. Edwards and Deputy Assistant Secretary Theodore Cooper. During Stone's year and a half in office, relations between HEW and NIH, which had not been very good to begin with, deteriorated further.

The prospect of Rall heading NIH is both surprising and pleasing to many of his colleagues. He has been considered for both the directorship and scientific directorship in the past and has turned the jobs down. Furthermore, Rall is regarded as a man of considerable strength of character who would not complacently take orders from anyone, including the HEW brass. On the other hand, a strong leader may be just what HEW wants at NIH. As one HEW official has said, "The trouble with Stone is that he is a director who is not directing, and NIH needs direction."

Rall is admired by many fellow scientists for his interest in the social and ethical aspects of medicine. Scientifically, he has stature as an endocrinologist whose special interest has been in thyroid hormones.

In order to become NIH director, Rall will not only have to win White House approval—the NIH directorship is a presidential appointment—but also, under a new law, Senate confirmation.—B.J.C.