

cal Information Project in Washington, a public interest education and consulting organization specializing in resource conservation, technology assessment, and "life-style simplification." His group was begun as a sister organization to the Center for Science in the Public Interest, founded by several persons formerly associated with Ralph Nader.

Moreover, some younger scientists may be added to the task force who advocate counterculture ideas and the goal of making science and science policy more amenable to "the people" and popular control.

The word to have Branscomb head the task force came from the Carter organization in Atlanta, and originated with staff people close to Carter if not from the candidate himself. Branscomb has talked with Carter several times over the past few years, most recently in New York when Carter was there for the primary campaign. He first began contributing advice to Carter (whom he describes as "very, very intelligent") last November.

Final selection of the task force members was made by the Carter organization, but suggestions as to whom to appoint came from a variety of sources—from Branscomb, from scientific organizations such as the AAAS and the NAS, and from numerous individuals either taking part in or interested in the Carter campaign. Dennis Brezina, who came to the Carter organization from the defunct Fred Harris campaign and served as national task forces coordinator for a time, collaborated with Branscomb in actually putting the science policy task force together. Harry Schwartz, a Philadelphia attorney who at one time worked for former Senator Joseph Clark of Pennsylvania, succeeded Brezina in this capacity in early July, when the job of making up the task force was more or less completed.

A 50-year-old physicist, Branscomb now lives in Westchester County, New York, where IBM has its corporate headquarters. Much of his past professional career was spent with the National Bureau of Standards, which he directed from 1969 to 1972. His first job as task force coordinator will be to have the various members prepare informal position papers on issues such as federal support of academic science, the relationship of science and technology to economic growth (domestically and in the "Third World"), and opportunities for applying the social sciences to improving the operations of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Branscomb communicates with the members by telephone and by mail. The task

force as a whole has never met and is not expected to.

The position papers are to go to Carter's issues staff in Atlanta before the start of the fall campaign on Labor Day. There, they will be handled in the first instance by Noel Sterrett, one of several "generalists" assigned to work on specific issues under the general supervision of Stuart Eizenstat, a 33-year-old Atlanta attorney. After carrying out this initial assignment, the science policy group, like the other task forces, may be asked for advice looking to the longer term, beyond election day.

Carter's task force on the environment is a direct offshoot of "Conservationists for Carter," a group headed by an Atlantan named Jane Yarn. It is made up solidly of environmentalists such as Eugene Odum, director of the Institute of Ecology at the University of Georgia; Kenneth Watt, professor of zoology at the University of California at Davis; J. G. Speth, an attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council; Estella B. Leopold, now with the department of botany at the University of Washington; and Gordon MacDonald, a prominent geophysicist who served a few years on the Council on Environmental Quality and is now director of environmental studies at Dartmouth. Odum chaired a meeting of the task force held recently in Washington.

The energy task force is also an offshoot of Conservationists for Carter, but its membership—which has not been disclosed—is said to reflect a diversity of viewpoints. One of its members is Alvin Weinberg, former director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The coordinator is Carlton Neville, a member of Carter's issues staff in Atlanta.

Coordinator of the task force on health is Mary King, who has a background as an activist in the civil rights movement and the Office of Economic Opportunity. Both she and her husband, Peter Bourne, a psychiatrist who was Georgia's director of mental health under Governor Carter, have been close friends and advisers to the candidate. Others who have been mentioned as members of the health task force include Harvey I. Sloane, mayor of Louisville, and William Roy, a physician and former member of Congress from Kansas.

The task force on education is chaired by William Friday, president of the University of North Carolina. Friday and another member, Samuel Halperin, director of the Institute for Educational Leadership at George Washington University and an HEW official during the Johnson Administration, were among

the visiting experts on social services who met with Carter at Plains on 16 August. Halperin, who had never met Carter before, was impressed. "He displayed an amazing knowledge of federal programs, and an impressive breadth of information and insight," Halperin says.

As in every presidential election year, there are many people eager to volunteer advice to the candidates whether they have been appointed to do so or not. Richard Rosen, a founder of Energy Resources Company, Inc., in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on 10 August brought together a meeting at the MIT faculty club of what had been described in his letters of invitation as "the Carter energy task force." Those present included several prominent academic economists, a former president of the Sierra Club, and the environmental adviser to the governor of Colorado. Some were puzzled at just what the tie was between the group and the Carter campaign, and justifiably so.

Schwartz, task forces coordinator, first told *Science* that, "As far as I know, he [Rosen] is someone operating out in left field without a mandate." But, then, after talking with Rosen and Eizenstat, Carter's issues chief in Atlanta, Schwartz said, "I told him we are compelled to regard his output as that of a self-starting group but that we are pleased to have it because his group includes some good names." Rosen says that his activities on behalf of the campaign were in fact solicited several months ago, but by persons no longer with the Carter organization. "Throughout this, I have acted in 100 percent good faith," he told *Science*.

—LUTHER J. CARTER

RECENT DEATHS

Carl B. Boyer, 69; professor and historian of mathematics, Brooklyn College; 26 April.

J. David Brilliant, 42; assistant professor of dentistry, Ohio State University; 8 February.

Welton J. Crook, 90; professor emeritus of metallurgy, Stanford University; 14 March.

Henrik Dam, 81; former head, biology department, Polytechnic Institute, Copenhagen; 17 April.

Robert E. Danielson, 44; professor of astrophysical sciences, Princeton University; 9 April.

Peter A. Herbut, 63; president, Thomas Jefferson University; 31 March.