demics from getting the increase in salary that was awarded by an independent arbitration panel. Britain in 1975 was a jittery country apparently on the edge of economic collapse: inflation was running near 30 percent, the currency was collapsing, and the smell of Weimar was in the air. The university teachers prudently decided not to challenge the government at that stage—they would have lost anyway—and settled for the official pay policy settlement of £6 a week, considerably less than the arbitration panel had awarded. Teachers in polytechnics, who had already settled before the pay policy was introduced, were thus able to leapfrog above their better qualified colleagues in the universities.

The pay policy, by catching some and letting others through, had thus created an anomaly which has rankled in the universities ever since. Wander into any senior common room and mention "the anomaly" and nobody will be in any doubt what you mean. Earlier this year, in a mass lobby of Parliament, 7000 university teachers turned up in academic gowns carrying banners urging the government to "rectify the anomaly." Since all universities in Britain (with the exception of one small college in Buckingham) are financed by the state, it is to the government rather than the university

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Antinuclear Protests Are Busting Out All Over

A season of antinuclear protest began on the May Day weekend with demonstrations directed at the nuclear weapons plant at Rocky Flats, Colo., and the nuclear fuel reprocessing plant near Barnwell, S.C. A series of rallies, organized by local antinuclear groups, but coordinated by the national Mobilization for Survival organization, have been planned in part to call attention to the U.N. General Assembly special session on disarmament from 23 May to 28 June.

The national agenda includes plans for a mass, nonviolent, direct action protest at the Trident submarine base near Bremerton, Wash., a 2-day event which will include an attempt by protesters to enter the base on 22 May. The Live Without Trident group is the organizer.

This and other events will lead up to major activities on the Memorial Day weekend in both New York and San Francisco. The New York program will start on 25 and 26 May with interreligious meetings. On Saturday, 27 May, a mass march to the U.N. and a rally there are scheduled; the next day a women's gathering is planned. The New York events, organized by the New York Mobilization for Survival group, is expected to draw a large number of participants from abroad including a group of 450 from Japan. At the rally on 27 May, a petition is to be presented to the U.S. mission to the U.N. asking that the United States take a number of specific steps toward outlawing nuclear weapons and controlling nuclear technology. In the expectation that these requests will not be met the New York group is planning a "sit-in for survival" at the U.S. mission on 12 June.

A rally, parade, and fair in San Francisco are now planned for 27 May to coincide with the activities in New York. The coalition of California groups organizing the program say they expect numbers of people from other Western states.

Other preliminaries to the Memorial Day weekend events include an antinuclear meeting in the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles on 21 May and a rally on the Berkeley campus on 24 May protesting University of California ties with the Los Alamos and Livermore weapons labs.

Later scheduled events include an effort on 24 June at reoccupation of the Seabrook nuclear power plant site at Portsmouth, N.H. The Barnwell and Rocky Flats protests—the latter was held in Denver—were timed to commemorate the Seabrook protest in May 1977 which is regarded as having given momentum to an organized antinuclear movement. The national Mobilization for Survival was created subsequently in an attempt to unite nuclear arms control groups with those opposed to nuclear power (*Science*, 28 October 1977). Mobilization now says that 200 to 300 groups are affiliated in a loose "network."

The Seabrook protest was sponsored by the Clamshell Alliance in Portsmouth. The alliance seems to have inspired other groups to use regional natural symbols in their names. Witness, for example, the Catfish Alliance in Alabama, the Oystershell Alliance in New Orleans, the Cactus Alliance in Utah and Arizona, the Red Clover Alliance in Vermont, and the Crabshell Alliance in Seattle. The Palmetto Alliance in South Carolina organized the Barnwell protest, and the Abalone Alliance in California plans a protest at the Diabolo Canyon nuclear power plant on 6 August—Hiroshima Day.

Science at State—Back to Square One

For the second time in less than 3 years a woman appointed from outside the State Department to State's top science post has resigned after a relatively short period in office, complaining that she had not been adequately involved in policy decisions. Patsy T. Mink, assistant secretary of state for oceans and international environmental and scientific affairs (OES), resigned effective 1 May after slightly more than a year in office. A predecessor in the job, Dixy Lee Ray, resigned in July 1975 after only 6 months on the job.

Mink went considerably more quietly than the feisty Ray, who rebounded vigorously into the governorship of the state of Washington. On her departure, Ray minced no words in expressing her disappointment that she and her staff were not consulted on relevant decisions and in laying the blame squarely at Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's office door.

Mink, a former six-term member of Congress from Hawaii, who has not indicated her future plans, told the Associated Press that her "opportunities to participate in policy decisions were far more limited than I had expected," and then made herself tactfully unavailable to reporters.

There had been some criticism that Mink seemed mainly interested in fisheries problems and had spent a lot of time at international meetings rather than in mastering the science issues facing OES, but there also seems to be general agreement that the real problem was not the occupant but the position, which currently seems to be one of the most thankless subcabinet jobs in government.

The OES office used to be mainly occupied with running State's science attaché program and administering scientific cooperation agreements, but a major reorganization a few years ago made OES responsible for a much wider range of issues including oceans, fisheries, wildlife, conservation, population, nuclear, and environmental matters. OES resources, however, were not notably increased and the office has not been able to overcome a chronic lack of bureaucratic clout.

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authorities that appeals must be directed.

The Secretary of State for Education and Science, Shirley Williams, has acknowledged that the anomaly exists and has offered to put it right gradually, over the next 3 years. But this is too slow for the university teachers, who decided at a special conference in March to refuse to mark final exams. Finals are still a vital part of the British university system, and unless the government agrees to implement the "frozen" pay award (which amounts to between 12 and 14 percent) by October of this year, the 75,000 students graduating from British universities this year will do so without degrees. The AUT admits that this will cause hardship to the students affected, but as Andrew Taylor, a member of the AUT executive, put it to a students' conference, "We produce university graduates. We are switching off production until our pay dispute is settled."

The decision to take this action was passed by an overwhelming majority of the university AUT branches represented at the March meeting. Of the 76 delegations present, 72 voted in favor of the action, one against, and three (Oxford, Imperial College, and University College, London) abstained. A smaller majority, in a separate action, voted to ac-

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In recent years, the OES malaise has attracted attention and caused concern in the upper echelons of the department. Top officials in the new Carter Administration were said to subscribe to the importance of science and technology in international affairs and to the need to strengthen OES, but no substantial changes occurred in OES resources or status during the past year.

There seems no question that occurrences such as the becalming of the Law of the Sea Conference and the crash of the Cosmos satellite have earned serious attention for OES problems at the top of the State Department. But the past has bred pessimism about good intentions.

The search has begun for a successor for Mink. Officials involved say they are pushing hard for an able replacement. Mink's resignation, however, is unlikely to make the quest any easier.

There has been a persistent view among some members of the scientific community that the problems of science at State would be solved if only a first-class scientist would take the job. Sterner analysts argue that what is needed most now is somebody who has a feel for scientific and technological issues, but above all knows how to operate successfully in the corridors and cul-de-sacs of power in Foggy Bottom.

French Science Policy—An Old School Tie

France's post-election shuffle of high ranking officials has brought back into government and into its top science policy post Pierre Aigrain, a scientist with a formidable transatlantic reputation and experience.

Aigrain, a physicist, has combined the holding of responsible jobs in French government science with an academic career in France and the United States. His most recent university stint in the United States was as Henry R. Luce professor of environment and public policy at M.I.T. in 1973–1974. At the time of his return to government service he was head of research and a vice president of

Pierre Aigrain

Thomson-C.S.F., a major French electrical and electronics manufacturer.

Aigrain's new post is that of Secretary of State for Research, which carries broad responsibility over science budgeting and organization. It is a cabinet post at the ministerial level and involves acting as science adviser to the government.

Predictions last winter that the parties of the Left would win the March parliamentary elections created considerable suspense in France. The result in government was that, by and large, French officialdom marked time in respect to both policies and appointments. Uncertainty in the science hierarchy was increased by the death during the winter of Bernard Gregory, head of the *Délégation générale à la recherche scientifique et technique* (DGRST), the principal coordinating agency for science and technology in France's highly centralized administrative system.

Gregory was regarded as a person of unusual ability and influence and his death left a serious gap in the government science structure. Knowledgeable observers say that Aigrain was appointed in the expectation that he has the qualities to fill that gap.

Aigrain's powers in his new post have been bolstered by giving him direct authority over DGRST, which in recent years has been attached to the ministry of industry. DGRST has traditionally been headed by a scientist, and the plan is to leave the top job open so that Aigrain will be the effective head, a sort of super *délégué générale* with ministerial rank.

Other changes in the scientific hierarchy include the appointment of the head of the French atomic energy commissariat (CEA), André Giraud, to be minister of industry, and promotion of his deputy at CEA, Michel Pecquer, to the top job in the agency. Both are well-known in this country by government and nuclear industry officials who deal with international nuclear matters.

Aigrain, 53, earned a Ph.D. from Carnegie Tech in 1948 and a doctor of science degree from the University of Paris in 1950. A solid-state physicist, his most recent work has been in semiconductors; he is the author of about 100 scientific papers and has taken out more than 100 patents. He is a professor of physics at the University of Paris (VII) and served as a visiting professor at M.I.T. 1957, 1959, 1961, and 1962 as well as in 1973–1974.

Although the French and U.S. governmental science systems are quite different, Aigrain's opposite number as science adviser is Frank Press, the President's science adviser. Ergo, Press, who came to the White House from M.I.T., and Aigrain, for what it's worth in terms of international understanding, are old faculty colleagues.

John Walsh