

ary and administrative responsibility to the newly created AHA's, the reorganizers not only added a layer to the management structure, but severely wrenched established relationships. Critics complain that the effect has been to increase bureaucratization of the NHS, without substantially improving services. Governing boards of district hospitals, who say they formerly felt they had direct access to decision-makers, now grouse about delays in getting decisions on local problems and about the loss of able administrators to higher-paying upper-echelon jobs where they have no operational function.

Some of the sharpest reproaches against reorganization and RAWP have come from the medical schools and related teaching hospitals in London. The 12 London medical schools presented special problems even before reorganization. The population of central London has been declining for several decades, affecting the catchment areas of the London teaching hospitals and reducing the variety of "clinical material" available to the medical schools. This decline had been recognized, and plans had been put

forward for mergers among London medical schools and for relocation of the hospitals to outlying areas. Lack of funds and resistance from London loyalists, however, slowed the pace of change.

London's historic medical schools had developed earlier and rather differently from the provincial schools, which were closely linked with universities. The London schools had a tie with London University but had been dominated by private specialists—the proverbial Harley Street consultants—who operated as voluntary part-time faculty. After World War II, a style of academic medicine with full-time faculty, closer to the American model, developed in the provincial schools, with the London schools following more slowly and grudgingly.

Reorganization and RAWP struck hard at the teaching hospitals linked to the medical schools in London. As one professor put it, RAWP was pronounced "rape" in London. The number of beds in teaching hospitals were ordered reduced, merger and relocations were pushed, and the replacement of faculty who, for one reason or another, vacated

their posts became difficult or impossible.

Provincial medical schools and teaching hospitals began to feel similar if somewhat less strong pressures as resources were transferred within as well as between regions. Traditionally, there had been little love lost between the London and provincial schools, but in the new climate the two groups made common cause by forming the University Hospitals Association, whose membership is made up of medical school deans and top officials of teaching hospitals.

The association's view of current policy is summed up for the Royal Commission in a statement which starts, "We believe arrangements for the provision of medical care, in particular, for medical education in this country are set upon a course of disaster because of an unfortunate conjunction of circumstances. . . ."

A major problem, said the association in a background memorandum, is dependence on central Treasury funds for revenue. "Economic circumstances have forced a near standstill in investment in medical care in this country as funded from central Government Revenue. This standstill finds the National Health Ser-

Briefing

Carter Cancels Two Trips by Scientists over Human Rights

The Carter Administration, taking particular umbrage at the start of a trial of a Soviet dissident on charges of spying for the United States, last week canceled two trips by government scientists to the Soviet Union.

The Soviet dissident is Anatoly Shcharansky, a Moscow computer technician who resigned his job in 1973 to seek an exit visa. Along with Yuri Orlov, a Russian physicist, and Alexander Ginzburg, a poet, Shcharansky was one of the Jewish members of a group set up informally to monitor Soviet compliance with the Helsinki Rights Accord. He was arrested on charges of treason last May, and his trial began on 10 July under near-total secrecy in Moscow. A trial of Ginzburg on charges of anti-Soviet propaganda began the same day.

Shortly after the timing of the trials became known on 7 July, and hours before a delegation of scientists from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was scheduled to depart for the Soviet Union, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance asked

that the trip be canceled. At the same time, a forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union by presidential science adviser Frank Press and other government scientists—much the same group that has just returned from China—was also canceled. The visit by Press was intended as a general consultative exchange; the visit by scientists at the EPA, led by assistant administrator Barbara Blum, was to review research in climatology and pollution-control being conducted under a joint U.S.-Soviet agreement.

It was reported that the impetus for the cancellations came from the U.S. ambassador in Moscow, Malcolm Toon, and that the final decision was made by Carter over some State Department opposition but with the backing of national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski.

State Department spokesmen also said that a review of all cooperative agreements with the Soviet Union was being conducted by the Administration, including a review of the basic agreement on scientific exchange signed by Nixon and Brezhnev in 1972. Last week, however, no one in Press's office seemed to know who would be conducting the review, when it would begin, or what its potential outcomes could be.

Pardes to Head NIMH

After a 6-month search, a new director for the National Institute of Mental Health has been named, Herbert Pardes, who up until his appointment had been chairman of the department of psychiatry at the University of Colorado and chief of psychiatric services at the Colorado Psychiatric Hospital and Clinics.

Like his boss, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Joseph Califano, Pardes was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. He received his medical degree in 1960 from the State University of New York and between 1972 and 1975 was chairman of psychiatry at the university's Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn.

Pardes, who is 43, has conducted most of his research in the area of mental health services delivery. He is a co-author, with Richard Simons, of *Understanding Human Behavior in Health and Illness*, considered a basic text. He is also a fellow in the American College of Psychiatrists and the American College of Psychoanalysts.

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