

our "Margaret and Roger" act. Underneath this verbal horseplay, we were fond of each other and shared much mutual respect.

Whenever the situation called for it, Margaret's practical common sense was a tower of strength. During the 2 years we spent together on the Board of Directors, the AAAS was on the edge of serious financial trouble, and it was necessary to be very careful in all our activities. Our principal task, together with my predecessor as president, Leonard Reiser, was to find a new executive officer to replace William Bevan, who had resigned to accept a distinguished professorship at Duke University. Margaret took this very seriously. Her profound good judgment about individuals and her eloquent tongue were among the decisive factors in our choice of Bill Carey and in persuading him to take the job.

Because she was so earnest and plain-spoken in her public appearances, it was easy to believe that she had little sense of humor. But in fact she could make a wickedly funny speech when she wanted to. Her quick wit and ready rejoinders, delivered in the flat, clear voice that was so familiar to millions of radio listeners, enlivened many of our dinners after a daylong meeting of the Board.

Margaret Mead had a remarkable ability to bring her insights from comparative studies of the small diverse cultures of Oceania to bear on the problems of contemporary America. She became a kind of modern oracle because of her sensitiv-

ity to what was significant in American life. Her book, *Culture and Commitment*, written in the 1960's, dealt with the relations between the generations just at the time when these had become critically important in the United States.

She developed into what can best be described as a public citizen. She never held political or bureaucratic office, yet she influenced many aspects of national and international policy. This influence might have been greater if she had not talked and written so much on so many different matters. But Margaret was an "idea person," who had more ideas in a month than most people have in a lifetime, and like the other rare people who have many original ideas, she was often unable to tell her good ideas from her bad ones.

Above all else, Margaret loved conversation. If she had had her way, her whole life would have been spent in good talk. She hated being alone and on her trips she didn't like to stay in hotels.

Her autobiography, *Blackberry Winter*, and her more recent *Letters From the Field* give insights into her own self-image. Two aspects are particularly notable: her concern about her posthumous reputation and her interest in herself as a woman. Three long chapters in *Blackberry Winter* describe the birth and upbringing of her only child, her daughter Dr. Mary Catherine Bateson (linguist and anthropologist, a fourth-generation woman social scientist) and of her granddaughter, Sevanne Margaret Kassarian.

Margaret received almost every honor that can be given to an anthropologist, but these honors came late. She was elected to the National Academy of Sciences at the age of 73, with one of the highest votes ever recorded in an Academy election. A special tribute came at the AAAS annual meeting in Boston in 1976, when an entire daylong symposium was devoted to "Margaret Mead: Fifty Years of Anthropology."

It is likely that Margaret cherished the hope she would be able to die in the field and not in a hospital. She and Ted Schwartz, with several colleagues, were planning to meet during the Christmas holidays in Manus to round out her years of study of the culture of the islanders. The others are carrying out this plan. But Margaret will not be there.

—ROGER REVELLE

Asian Regional Seminar Held in New Delhi

Representatives of 18 developed and developing nations met in New Delhi, 4-6 October 1978, to address the applications of science and technology in the development process in Asia.

The Indian National Science Academy (INSA), the Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA), and the AAAS co-sponsored the seminar, with support for international travel from the U.S. National Science Foundation. The seminar's objectives were to provide specific examples of new programs, projects, and technologies; to identify problems and priorities in applying science and technology; and to draft recommendations for government policy planners.

The seminar was one in a series of meetings convened by nongovernmental organizations in preparation for the U.N. Conference on Science and Technology for Development to be held in Vienna in August 1979.

Participants came from Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, and the United States.

The discussions were organized into four working groups: energy, natural resources, and environment; food, population, and health; settlements, transportation, communication and education; and technologies for development.

It was felt that the uses of science and technology should be assessed on a more individual basis by each country, weigh-

(Continued on page 84)

San Francisco Meeting in 1980

It is not too early to begin thinking about the next Annual Meeting in San Francisco (3-8 January 1980). If you have suggestions for a symposium for the San Francisco Meeting, please submit the following information no later than 15 March 1979:

- a. Name, address, affiliation, and phone number of person who would arrange the symposium (if more than one arranger is proposed, specify which one is to receive correspondence).
- b. Title of proposed symposium
- c. Brief (about 200 words) statement of the purpose of the symposium.
- d. List of probable speakers (do not confirm until the proposal is accepted), their affiliations, and probable topics.

All proposals are subject to review, and if the material submitted is inadequate for the purpose of reviewing, the proposal will be returned. Notification about acceptance, conditional acceptance, or nonacceptance will be sent about the beginning of May. Preliminary programs with confirmed speakers are due in mid-June. Final program copy, suitable for publication, is due in early August.

We are particularly interested in symposia which deal with the latest developments in science and technology and the implications of these developments for society.

Send your proposals to the AAAS Meetings Office at the AAAS address.