

and hopes to use the Suntory support—\$5 million (Austrian)—to make the process more routine.

If successful, the project will open new vistas in love songs for sunburned women, for example, "Blue Roses for a Red Lady."

## Psychological Warfare

The upstart American Psychological Society will hold its second annual meeting next week in Dallas, Texas, but it won't be joined by the American Psychological Association, the group it split away from 2 years ago.

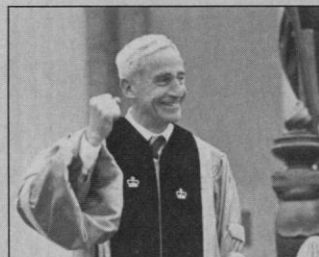
APS has billed itself as an organization dedicated to the scientific side of psychology. APA has a heavy contingent of nonphysician, clinical psychologists among its 100,000 plus members. The two organizations have been trading barbs since the split occurred.

The latest flap is over booth space at each organization's annual meeting. After putting down a \$500 deposit to hold an exhibition space at APS's annual meeting, APA wrote to APS announcing its intention to pull

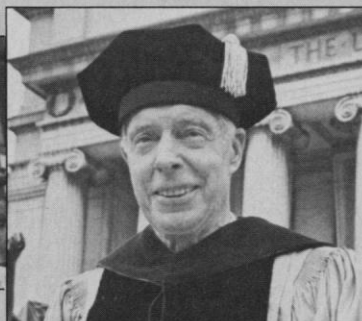


out and asking for its money back. The letter mentioned low attendance, high exhibit costs, and "hopelessly long exhibit hours," as the factors influencing the decision.

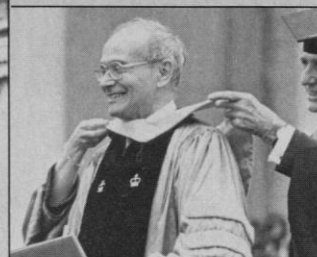
This stuck in APS's craw, especially as APS Executive Director Alan G. Kraut says APA refused to give exhibition space to APS at APA's annual meeting in Boston later this summer. APS declined to return



From Vagelos ...



to DiMaggio ...



... to Press

Columbia University

## Dr. Press, Meet Dr. DiMaggio

What do Frank Press, P. Roy Vagelos, and Joe DiMaggio have in common? Neither Press, president of the National Academy of Sciences, nor Vagelos, chief executive officer of Merck & Co., is known for his slick fielding or 56-game hitting streak. And DiMaggio is not famous for his contributions to science. But all three have now received honorary doctorates from Columbia University—awarded at commencement exercises on 16 May. Columbia President Michael I. Sovern hailed DiMaggio as a true American legend, adding that "your loyalty and decency as a human being are qualities to be emulated by every generation."

APA's deposit.

Raymond Fowler, executive vice president of APA, says APS missed the application deadline for booth space, which is heavily oversubscribed. To let APS in, he would have to kick someone else out.

Fowler says he hopes someday the two organizations can rejoin to speak for psychology with a single voice. For the time being, however, that doesn't seem terribly likely.

## A Bum Bomb Detector?

It's official now: the million-dollar Thermal Neutron Activation (TNA) device to be installed at major airports cannot catch small bombs of the size that probably brought down Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland in 1987—at least not in routine operation. The Federal Aviation Administration last year told the airlines they would have to buy hundreds of these machines, even as news of technical problems came to light (*Science*, 1 September 1989, p. 926).

A report by the President's Commission on Aviation Security and Terrorism, chaired by Ann Dore McLaughlin, looked into all aspects of the Lockerbie

disaster and on 15 May published some harsh judgments, including an indictment of TNA. It faulted security forces for missing the bomb in the first place (an alert on it had gone out in advance) and criticized the FAA for being too committed to the TNA machine in its antiterrorism strategy.

During its investigation, the commission staff went to JFK Airport, where a TNA machine is now in operation, and ran an impromptu experiment using borrowed plastic explosives. The results, said the commission, were "startling": the machine failed to detect explosives of the quantity it was designed to catch in two out of ten passes, and it failed to detect a smaller, Lockerbie-like amount in seven out of eight passes. They concluded it has a 64% detection rate at best.

Hadi Bozorgmanesh, spokesman for SAIC, Inc., which manufactures the machine, responds: "The commission had no technical staff ... and those results are totally meaningless. Nobody even took any notes" during the experiment. Based on experience at JFK so far, he claims the machine has a 93% detection rate and an 8 to 9% false alarm rate.

## HIV: Dangerous and Contagious?

At the request of Representative Henry A. Waxman (D-CA), the General Accounting Office has reviewed the legal basis for immigration restrictions on people testing positive for HIV virus. The GAO has concluded that despite a 1987 law adding HIV infection to the list of "dangerous and contagious" diseases, either the President or the secretary of Health and Human Services can remove it if he makes a "good faith" judgment that the designation is no longer appropriate.

Facing the threat of an international boycott, the Administration did introduce a special 10-day visa for anyone attending the Sixth International Conference on AIDS in San Francisco later this month, regardless of HIV infection status (*Science*, 20 April, p. 306). But responding to the GAO opinion, HHS declared that since Congress directed that HIV be on the list and HHS points out the Senate vote was 96 to 0, it is up to Congress to remove it. Waxman and Representative J. Roy Rowland (D-GA) have introduced legislation that would do just that.