

It is possible that Dr. Bush was similarly misled, but the fact remains that he must personally assume the burden of responsibility for the introduction of a bill for which his own representative arranged the hearings on 28 May. Congressman Mills had as much to do with the revision of HR 3852 into HR 6448 as he had to do with the drafting of S. 1285—HR 3852, which, as the testimony shows, was next to nothing.

Many scientists had voiced their objection to having a peace-time Foundation created in the image of the Office of Scientific Research and Development. But regardless of the motives which prompted the introduction of HR 6448 it was unilateral action betraying the democratic principles upon which the compromises in S. 1850 were worked out in conference. Furthermore, HR 6448 violated practical political procedure in proposing a nine-man, part-time board of scientists to administer the affairs and the millions of the National Science Foundation. Many Congressmen have voiced serious objections to this type of adminis-

tration, and in his testimony (p. 27) Secretary of War Patterson says "I believe in agencies with a single administrator to take the full responsibility for the performance of the Government agency . . . rather than division of responsibility among the members of a board." In view of the fact that "a White House spokesman" had predicted a presidential veto for science legislation creating this type of administration, insistence on a part-time board was something less than astute.

In content, in timing, in complete misjudgment of the strength of S. 1850, HR 6448 was a political blunder which has cost science at least a year of life for the National Science Foundation. Every scientist has the right to his convictions, but no scientist—no group of scientists, whether a majority or minority—has the right to impose its convictions at this cost. The moral of 19 July is simple: *Only in a reasonable show of unity, achieved by some compromise, can scientists expect political results.*

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## *Association Affairs*

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### Scientific Exhibits

113th Meeting, Boston, 26-31 December 1946

*The Committee on Exhibits for the Boston Meeting* has announced the availability of space for scientific exhibits together with application procedures. The scientific exhibits will be housed with the technical exhibits in the First Corps Cadet Armory, which is located opposite the AAAS headquarters, Hotel Statler.

It is the purpose of the Committee to arrange a wide variety of selected exhibits which will (1) portray scientific advances in the various fields of science; (2) show new techniques and apparatus usable in the laboratory or in classroom teaching; (3) summarize research in a given field. The Committee feels that personal demonstration is the most important single factor for a successful scientific exhibit. Both the visiting scientists and the demonstrator benefit from such a presentation. Originality in planning the exhibit is encouraged; charts, drawings, transparencies, specimens, and other materials can be shown in a variety of ways, using light and color judiciously. A large expenditure of money is not necessary.

In general, the space allocated will be 6 feet deep

and 10 feet wide. A 10-inch shelf at table height runs around the three closed sides of the booth. The backdrop is of plywood and can be used for hanging or tacking materials. The Committee in its discretion may allocate a greater width than 10 feet. Booths, including illumination, necessary electrical outlets, two chairs, uniform name signs, and general service, are furnished to exhibitors without charge. The exhibitors pay the expense of the preparation, transportation, and installation of their exhibits. Special construction in the booth, extra tables, chairs, or other furniture can be obtained at regular rates from the decorating firm. Application forms for scientific exhibit space may be obtained from: Theo. J. Christensen, Director of the Science Exhibition, AAAS, Massachusetts and Nebraska Avenues, N.W., Washington 16, D. C.

*Those who are interested in exhibiting should request forms immediately.* The closing date for applications will be 15 September 1946. Applications will be acted on by the Committee as soon as possible after that date and notification sent to exhibitors.