

and diplomatic aspects, Americans should not lose sight of its "self-interest" aspects. After commenting that in his state, which ranks high "in the realm of literacy," his mail runs about ten-to-one against foreign aid, Neuberger urged his listeners to "convince your people that world health and our participation in it is in the interest of world peace. . . . I think we have to put flesh on the skeleton and to show that the people feel that they have an international stake in health. . . ." Then he emphasized that the new program might produce medical discoveries that would prevent death and extend the lives of many Americans. That the United States has no monopoly on scientific development—that major findings have often been made in unexpected parts of the world—was a recurring theme throughout the discussions.

Although most of the formal consideration of the "Health for Peace Act," both governmental and nongovernmental, has emphasized its apolitical character, many of the editorials on the measure have mentioned that the Soviet Union is winning gratitude in many areas of the world by providing medical aid, while in this country such aid is largely in the discussion stage. House hearings on the act have not been scheduled at this writing. However, now that Representative Fogarty is back from the World Health Organization meeting in Geneva, perhaps prompt action can be expected.

NATO Progress in Science

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Science Committee and Office of the Science Adviser were established a year ago and are now in full operation. Recently Norman F. Ramsay, scientific adviser to the secretary general of NATO, reported on the Science Committee's activities for the first year of its existence. He pointed out that the committee has studied means for strengthening science among the NATO nations and has already taken action.

Fellowships and Summer Institutes

The largest and perhaps most obvious of its actions is the establishment of the NATO fellowship program. Ramsay observed that since the end of the war there has been a need for more freedom of movement for scientists, both within Europe and reciprocally between Europe and the United States. There has also been a shortage of well-trained scientists. The North Atlantic Council, at the recommendation of the Science Committee, has established about 250 science fellowships, each to be used in a country other than that in which the applicant lives. This number is expected to rise to about 400 next year.

It should be noted that the Department of State and the National Science Foundation have recently announced the award of the first group of 20 NATO postdoctoral fellowships to Americans. The grants will enable fellows to attend institutions in Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. Of the 20 awards, seven are for research in the life sciences and 13 are for research in the physical sciences, including mathematics and engineering. Each NATO fellow will receive a basic 12-month stipend of \$4500. In addition, limited round-trip travel and dependency allowances will be provided.

Another of the NATO Science Committee activities described by Ramsay is the encouragement of institutes and summer schools for study of advanced or special scientific subjects. The organization has now established a fund for the partial support of such institutes. Largely as the result of NATO support, there will be six institutes next summer and even more in subsequent years.

Other Plans Being Considered

Ramsay also said that the pooling of scientific facilities and information for various collaborative programs is under discussion, particularly in deep-sea oceanography, space exploration, and materials research. He pointed out that oceanographic research ships, for example, are too expensive for most NATO nations to finance separately, but not collectively. Furthermore, he added, even when ships are sponsored by individual nations, coordinated studies are more meaningful than separate ones.

Ramsay also suggested that another means by which NATO science might be advanced on a cooperative basis would be through establishment of a comparatively small fund that would be available to provide quick assistance to joint scientific projects that are held up because of lack of money. He explained that a project is sometimes short of special equipment which can only be bought with foreign currency. Ramsay emphasized that a fund available without delay to those who need help is "many times more valuable, price for price, than money that is laborious and slow to administer." He expressed the hope that such a flexible, speedily administered fund could soon be made available.

Defense Science Slowed by Secrecy

He observed that defense science is of obvious importance but that cooperation is often slowed down by secrecy. However, Ramsay commented that during the past year there has been spectacular improvement in the exchange of classified defense research information. He said: "The launching of the Russian Sputnik showed both that the NATO nations

could not afford such a waste of scientific effort and that the Russians had probably already discovered much of the information that the NATO nations were so zealously guarding from each other."

Ramsay's report closed with the following statement.

"The problem of science in the Atlantic Community remains a challenge. . . . Compared to the past, the scientific and technical cooperation now existing among the NATO nations is impressive. Yet compared to what is needed to be done, when we think of the swift advance of Russian research—even if Russia has yet to catch up with the West in most subjects—then our efforts are still too slow footed. The present is a beginning but the challenge still remains."

Kistiakowsky Succeeds Killian as Top Science Adviser

James R. Killian, Jr., President Eisenhower's top science adviser for the past year and a half, will leave government service next month. The former president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who is both the President's Special Assistant for Science and Technology and the chairman of the new Federal Council for Science and Technology, will be succeeded, probably in both positions, by George Kistiakowsky, professor of chemistry at Harvard University. In his letter of resignation, Killian said that "compelling personal reasons" were the basis for his action. Replying to the letter, which was submitted 28 May, President Eisenhower said, "It would be impossible for me to overemphasize the importance of your work here. . . ."

Killian Had Major Role

One of the administration's responses after the first Soviet satellite launching in October of 1957 was the creation of a new post in the executive branch of the government. This position—Special Assistant for Science and Technology—was filled, with wide acclaim from the American scientific community, by Killian, who was then president of MIT. During the 18 months since his appointment, Killian, with the support of the Science Advisory Committee, has exerted a profound influence on the planning of this country's scientific efforts. Numerous reports, which, taken together, constitute a thorough review of the role of science in American society, have issued from the Killian committee. One of them, "Strengthening American Science," led to the establishment of the Federal Council for Science and Technology. Others have been concerned with the need for basic research, the role of