

## Brooks Succeeds Kistiakowsky as Head of NAS Committee on Public Policy

Harvey Brooks, dean of the division of engineering and applied physics at Harvard, has been named to succeed George B. Kistiakowsky as chairman of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Science and Public Policy (COSPOP).

Dr. Kistiakowsky's 3-year term as chairman expired 30 June and, at his own request, was not extended, according to NAS president Frederick Seitz, who made the announcement. Dr. Kistiakowsky took the NAS post after serving as special assistant to the President for science and technology and chairman of the President's Science Advisory Committee. Dr. Kistiakowsky, professor of chemistry at Harvard, was elected to a 4-year term as vice president of NAS, beginning 1 July 1965.

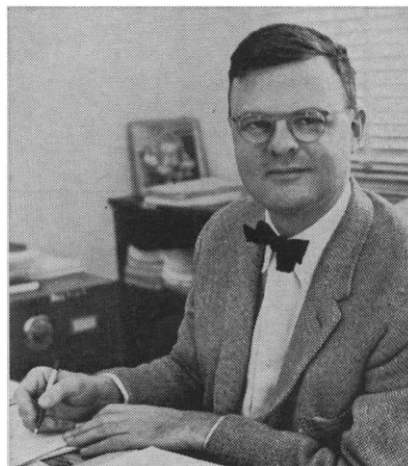
The Committee on Science and Public Policy was established in 1962 to make studies and recommendations on federal relations with the scientific community and on the employment of science for national-policy purposes. It has already issued reports on world and United States population, on federal support of basic research in institutions

of higher education, on a 10-year program for ground-based astronomy, and on basic research and national goals. It is completing a study of needs and opportunities in the broad field of chemistry and a parallel study of future requirements for the support of physics.

Brooks, 50, is a member of the National Science Board of the National Science Foundation and a former member and now a consultant of the President's Science Advisory Committee.

Brooks did his undergraduate work at Yale and earned his Ph.D. in physics from Harvard. During World War II he was a member of the staffs of the Harvard Underwater Sound Laboratory and of the Ordnance Research Laboratory at Pennsylvania State College. Later he joined the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Company. In 1950 he went to Harvard as Gordon McKay Professor of Applied Physics. In 1960 he was one of the first five recipients of the Ernest Orlando Lawrence award of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Other committee members whose terms have expired are H. W. Bode,



Harvey Brooks

Melvin Calvin, A. L. Lehninger, Harry L. Shapiro, and Tracy L. Sonneborn.

New members of the committee are Preston E. Cloud, Jr., University of Minnesota; Arthur C. Cope, M.I.T.; Fred Eggan, University of Chicago; Jesse L. Greenstein, Mt. Wilson and Palomar Observatories; G. Evelyn Hutchinson, Yale; William D. McElroy, Johns Hopkins; Cyril Stanley Smith, M.I.T.; and R. L. Wilder, University of Michigan.

J. J. Pickle (D-Texas) and Dr. John Griffith, a psychiatrist, and director of the Oklahoma Mental Health Planning Committee, when Pickle asked if we as a people "have become too pill happy."

*Mr. Pickle.* I actually get to feeling it is a sort of status symbol, that the [greater] number of pills you have, the better off you are.

*Dr. Griffith.* Well that might be true.

*Mr. Pickle.* You have a pill for everything and your medicine closets are so full now that you have a problem on knowing which one to take.

*Dr. Griffith.* This is an age of instant happiness. We like to get things quickly, and if peace of mind can be obtained with a pill, then it is attractive to a lot of people.

During the hearings an analogy between abuse of dangerous drugs and alcoholism was repeatedly suggested. And in its report the House committee noted that "the committee is mindful of the difficulties which this country

had in its attempted regulation of alcoholic beverages and therefore has provided for regulation of depressant and stimulant drugs by increased record-keeping and inspection provisions rather than by imposing more rigid controls." The new legislation does not apply to the user of a dangerous drug, even if the drug is obtained illicitly, and in this it differs from the narcotics laws, under which possession is a punishable offense.

The new provisions, therefore, define a calculatedly limited response to the problem. In its report the House committee acknowledged that other measures might be required when it noted, "The committee was told during the hearings several times that it was unlikely that the enactment of the bill would wipe out the problem in the United States. The committee hopes that the enactment of the bill, plus the institution of voluntary self-regulation on the part of all levels of the drug

manufacturing and distributing industries involved, plus increased vigilance on the part of those responsible for prevention of smuggling, will reduce this problem to a minimum and thereby eliminate the possible necessity for the future enactment of more stringent legislation than the reported bill."

—JOHN WALSH

### Staff Addition to News and Comment

Luther J. Carter, formerly Washington correspondent for the *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*, has joined the *Science News and Comment* staff. Carter, 37, is a graduate of Duke University, and later studied at the Graduate Institute of International Studies at Geneva. He was a Congressional Fellow of the American Political Science Association in 1960-61 before beginning his Washington assignment for the *Virginian-Pilot*.