

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **MUSEUM TRAINING PROGRAMS:** The National Endowment for the Humanities has announced two new programs aimed at upgrading the staffs of museums and historical societies and encouraging more students to seek careers in this field. The Endowment has allocated about \$213,000 for the support of a museum internship program and a graduate fellowship program. Under the internship program, curators from small museums will study in large teaching museums. They will be appointed by the participating institutions and receive salary-matching stipends. Taking part in this program are Colonial Williamsburg; the University of Pennsylvania Museum; the Ohio Historical Society; Lowie Museum of Anthropology; New York State Historical Association; Old Salem, North Carolina; Bishop Museum, Honolulu; Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago; Smithsonian Institution; Winterthur, Delaware; and the Museum of Northern Arizona. Four universities will offer fellowship appointments in museum-related graduate programs under the second Endowment project. They are the University of Maryland, University of Delaware, State University College, Oneonta, N.Y., and George Washington University.

● **AIR POLLUTION SETS ACADEMIC LINK:** New York City's Department of Air Pollution Control will move to the Cooper Union School of Engineering in what is described as the first limited merger of an operating governmental agency and a college. When the move is completed during September 1967, the department will have the services of faculty and staff members, laboratories, and other facilities. In addition, Cooper Union will establish a new department of environmental engineering, in which students will work with the staff and the equipment of the Pollution Control Department.

● **UNITED KINGDOM POSTGRADUATE AWARDS:** The Association of Commonwealth Universities has published a list of more than 10,000 fellowships, scholarships, and grants available for advanced study or research in Britain. Some are open only to graduates of schools in the United Kingdom, but those for which over-

seas students can apply are specially marked. Most of the awards are intended for current degree candidates or for students who have recently obtained a first or higher degree. However, a number are available for university teachers and other senior research workers. The book, *United Kingdom Postgraduate Awards, 1967-69*, can be obtained from the Association of Commonwealth Universities, 36 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1, for \$1.50.

● **OCEANOGRAPHIC SHIP SCHEDULING:** The Environmental Science Services Administration (ESSA) has established an advisory board on allocation of oceanographic ship facilities to review applications from other federal agencies and nonfederal organizations for use of ships of the Coast and Geodetic Survey. The board will recommend priorities for ship time and space and submit them to the director of the Coast and Geodetic Survey. The advisory board, chaired by Rear Admiral Don A. Jones, associate administrator of ESSA, is composed of eight members: four from ESSA, one each from the U.S. Geological Survey and the Smithsonian Institution, and two from the academic community nominated by the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Oceanography. The Interagency Committee on Oceanography and the National Council on Marine Resources and Engineering Development have been invited to send representatives to board meetings.

● **ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES BOARD:** Increased activity in pollution control and other environmental problems has prompted the establishment of a joint Environmental Studies Board by the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering. The board will coordinate activities of the two organizations in this area, recommend new studies and projects, and work with the government in attacking problems dealing with the quality of the environment. A major emphasis of the board will be to serve as a national focus for broad interdisciplinary efforts in reducing and controlling environmental problems. Dr. Harold Gershonowitz, former president of the Shell Development Co., is chairman of the 7 member board. The establishment of

such a coordinating body within the Academy structure was recommended in a 1965 report of the President's Science Advisory Committee—"Restoring the Quality of Our Environment." Five of the eight divisions of the Academy-National Research Council, are presently studying pollution problems.

● **NATIONAL ATLAS MAPS:** The first four maps to be included in the U.S. Geological Survey's *National Atlas of the United States* have been printed in preliminary form and are available for purchase. The complete 425-page volume atlas is expected to be finished in 1968. Congress appropriated funds for the project in 1963. The atlas is intended to serve as a reference and research tool for government agencies, major libraries, commercial and industrial firms, and educational institutions. It will include multicolored maps on the physical, agricultural, economic, social, cultural, and administrative aspects of the nation, plus a section on U.S. economic, political, and organizational relationships with the rest of the world. Maps available now are: geologic and land-surface maps, each \$1.50; and population and sunshine maps, each \$1, from the Branch of Distribution, U.S. Geological Survey, 1220 South Eads St., Arlington, Va. 22202.

● **TECHNOLOGY DANGERS:** A bill to create an independent Technology Assessment Board to identify possible dangers of new technology, has been introduced in the House by Representative Emilio Q. Daddario (D-Conn.), chairman of the subcommittee on Science, Research and Development of the House Committee on Science and Astronautics. Daddario said he introduced the bill mainly to promote discussion on ways of avoiding unwanted side effects of applied technology and was not suggesting that the proposed board is the best way to accomplish this. The bill is a follow-up of recommendations made by Daddario's subcommittee to its parent committee last fall (*Science*, 25 November 1966). The twofold duties of the five-man, nonregulatory board, called for in the bill, are: to identify potentials of new research and technology and promote their practical use; and to identify undesirable by-products and side effects in advance so that steps may be taken to eliminate them.