

on the proposal. Officials from all the agencies involved—including Bureau of Narcotics commissioner Henry L. Giordano—presented a united front in favor of the merger at hearings, and when the matter did come to a vote in the House it survived by a narrow ten-vote margin.

Not surprisingly, in view of bureaucratic sensitivities, neither Giordano nor John H. Finlator, director of BDAC, were given the top job in the merged agency. Named director of the new Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs in July was John Edward Ingersoll, former police chief of Charlotte, North Carolina, and executive director of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Ingersoll, 38, has an A.B. in criminology from Berkeley and has had 2 years of graduate study in public administration. So far he has avoided the limelight and seems to have moved cautiously in integrating the hierarchies of the two agencies. Giordano and Finlator are associate directors. The Bureau of Narcotics was the elder agency, and its hierarchy seems to have had more seniority and higher civil service ratings than the BDAC counterparts. Consequently, the Bureau of Narcotics may have an edge in headquarters jobs, but BDAC men appear to hold rather more of the top regional jobs.

Before merger, each agency had about 300 agents, and the new bureau is authorized to increase the 600 total by a third. About 100 new agents have been in training, in an 8-week course, recently increased from 6 weeks.

The new bureau has a drug sciences division transferred from BDAC, and a doubling of the division's strength should help it perform its assignment of gaining knowledge of the chemical structure and effects on humans of dangerous drugs.

The division is involved in the control process, and its functions include identification of suspicious substances and a role in determining a drug's potential for abuse. Its interests also extend to such matters as the behavior of drug users and the sociology of the drug community.

Currently the division has 11 professionals and is headed by a clinical psychologist, Jean Paul Smith. These professionals, whose expertise ranges from pharmacology and chemistry to the social sciences (the division has recently added its first physician to the staff) do not function as basic researchers. Most jobs of analysis and identification are done under contract, and mem-

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### ● CANADIAN SCIENCE POLICY:

The Canadian government intends to remove a source of ambiguity in its science policy apparatus by giving its Science Council a staff of its own. The Science Council, a body comparable to the President's Science Advisory Committee (PSAC) in the United States, has shared the science secretariat of the Office of the Privy Council, which corresponds to the U.S. cabinet. Critics have suggested that involvement of the secretariat in both science advisory and actual planning activities places the staff in an ambiguous position (see *Science*, 2 August). Present plans call for the staff to be split and for staff members to work for only one organization.

### ● ALVIN MUST WAIT:

Recovery operations for *Alvin*, the tiny Woods Hole research submarine, which sank earlier this fall in 4500 feet of water 120 miles south of Cape Cod, have been postponed indefinitely because of continuing high seas and bad weather. Woods Hole officials say that gale winds and rough water foiled attempts to use the DOWB recovery vessel. Scientists say that no new attempts to recover *Alvin* will be made until spring.

### ● OIL SPILL ACTION:

A federal interagency advisory committee on oil spills has been established to coordinate the mobilization of equipment and manpower at national and regional levels to deal with emergencies, similar to last year's *Torrey Canyon* incident. Administration sources indicated that the President's decision to establish a committee on oil spills resulted from the failure by Congress last session to pass a strong water-pollution measure. The national center for action on oil spills will be operated by the U.S. Coast Guard.

### ● PNEUMONIA VACCINE:

A vaccine for bacterial pneumonia is being developed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in an effort to cut down on the 15,000 to 25,000 deaths per year resulting from pneumonia. Antibiotics have been used to cut the number of deaths by pneumonia, but NIH officials say that antibiotics are only effective in cases where they are administered before the disease reaches advanced stages. The new vaccine will serve as a preventive; it will be given primarily to the high-risk groups—the

aged and chronically ill. NIH plans call for studies to determine which of 12 different bacterial pneumonia strains are most prevalent. The strains will be tested in an effort to prepare a single polyvalent vaccine effective against those strains that cause the most illness. NIH officials estimate the entire pneumonia vaccine developmental program will cost about \$500,000. Pneumonia, together with influenza, ranks fifth among the leading causes of death in the United States.

### ● STIPENDS TO CUBA:

U.S. academic research in Cuba, severely restricted since Fidel Castro came to power in 1959, may be expanded in the coming year. Noting an "increased willingness" by Cuban authorities to allow academic exchanges with the United States, the Ford Foundation announced a total of \$125,000 in full grants for research in Cuba, including travel expenses, and a number of short-term awards, for scholars who can obtain approval for their studies from the Cuban government and the U.S. State Department. The grants are open to scholars in all disciplines, particularly in the agricultural and social sciences, and in education. The State Department denied any noticeable increased willingness on the part of Cuban authorities to cooperate with U.S. academic exchange proposals.

### ● MIAMI SCIENCES GIFT:

A gift of \$12 million to the University of Miami—the largest single gift in its 43-year history—has been provided by Lewis Rosenstiel, retiring chairman of Schenley Industries Corporation; the gift will be used for continuing programs at Miami's Institute of Marine Sciences and for construction of a medical sciences building. Earlier this year, Rosenstiel announced a \$19-million gift to Brandeis University for a medical center.

### ● NEW PUBLICATIONS:

*Government Patent Policy Study*, Final Report, Vol. 1, which contains the main findings of an 18-month study prepared by Harbridge House, Inc. for the Federal Council for Science and Technology, may be obtained for 50 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. Volumes 2-4, which contain supplementary data, will be available soon.