cide effects in Southeast Asia. The academy hopes to release its study in September.

For some, the council meeting's most momentous decision, if not its most dramatic, was the completion of an important phase in a long process of democratizing the association's internal affairs. At the 1971 meeting in Philadelphia the council adopted a new constitution that now allows the general membership to elect the AAAS president and the board of directors. The newly adopted bylaws put the constitution fully in force and extend

Briefing

Another "Populist" President-Elect for ACS

The populist uprising that emerged 2 years ago from the staid body politic of the American Chemical Society seems to have acquired a life of its own. For the second year in a row the ACS has chosen a dark horse president-elect who got himself on the ballot by popular petition and unabashedly campaigned for the job on a platform of "professionalism," vowing to turn the society's energy and influence more toward the employment problems of the industrial chemist.

The new president-elect is Bernard S. Friedman, 65, an organic chemist who spent most of his career with Sinclair Research Laboratories, Inc., before moving to the University of Chicago in 1969. A tally of mail ballots gave Friedman 45 percent of the 38,000 votes cast by the society's 100,000 members. The balance of the vote was split by the two candidates picked by the traditional nominating committee; they were Milton Harris, a widely known independent consultant, and Henry Hill, president of Riverside Research Laboratories, Inc., in Haverhill, Massachusetts. Ironically, Hill also ran on a professionalism platform. Friedman's lopsided margin may be attributed to his endorsement by the incumbent president, Alan C. Nixon, the progenitor of the populist movement (*Science*, 21 April 1972).

In a postelection statement, Friedman said he intended to carry out a "mandate" from the society's membership to increase ACS professional relations activities while keeping it "strong and progressive as a learned society."

More than 70 percent of the ACS's members are industrial chemists and several thousand of them have lost their jobs as one corporation after another pared its scientific staff during the past 2 years. Nixon (no relation to the President) says the industrial layoffs are continuing, though seemingly at a slower pace than in the recent past.

As unemployment rose it produced sharp divisions within the ACS between those who felt the society could do much more than it was doing to protect the livelihood of its members and those who regarded the task as both futile and inappropriate for a learned society.

It appears, however, that the professionalism movement that rallied around Alan Nixon—and that Friedman will inherit at the end of 1973—has now gained the upper hand. In addition to the president-elect, all four of the new ACS directors elected by the membership have indicated a strong interest in professional relations activities, and Nixon counts a majority of the 15-member board in his camp.

Votes aren't everything though. The ACS is having trouble scraping together enough money to carry out Nixon's ambitious Professional Enhancement Program (PEP), a combination of several efforts to connect unemployed chemists with vacant jobs and to compile a "blue book" of information on job security and working conditions in industry. Last April the ACS sent out a mail solicitation to its members in hopes of bringing in as much as $1 million for PEP. So far the take has barely topped $60,000 and may not reach $250,000. Professional fund raisers have since advised the ACS that it can't expect much more than that from a random solicitation, and Nixon is now looking to a proposed dues increase to inject some vigor into PEP.—R.G.

Back at NIH, Marston's Firing Prompts Mild Protest

President Nixon's dismissal of Robert Q. Marston as director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has drawn a rather circumspect protest from an organization of NIH researchers whose personal fears about the implications of the firing run far deeper than the tone of their protest suggests.

In a letter to the President, the members of the NIH Assemblies of Scientists said they regretted the "unprecedented forced resignation" of Marston, whose leadership, they said, has allowed the NIH to continue to lead the world in basic and clinical research. They urged the President to select a replacement who is not only administratively adept, but who has stature in the fields of basic and clinical research as well. The assemblies is an organization of clinicians and researchers that is independent of the NIH administration. Formed to discuss both scientific and social issues, it has been likened to an unofficial faculty club. About 1000 of the 2200 physicians and scientists at the NIH belong.

In another attempt to cope with Marston's surprise firing and the possible changes in NIH's administrative hierarchy that might ensue, a band of NIH scientists of no official coalition have written to Robert W. Berliner, urging him not to resign. Berliner, who, as deputy director for science, was one of Marston's two top aides, is seen by some NIH researchers as the man who stands between them and the utter collapse of support for basic research. Berliner is the one to whom many now look to defend the value of basic research to a new director, who they fear may lack what they consider the proper respect for that enterprise.

In firing Marston, the President made it perfectly clear that the directorship of the NIH will no longer be set apart from other positions that fall in the category of political appointments. NIH scientists and those in the biomedical community at large have consistently believed that the head of the NIH should be chosen on purely scientific grounds, untainted by political considerations. Understandably, they are having a hard time coming to grips with the possibility that this special privilege, long enjoyed, may no longer prevail. (Technically, the NIH directorship be-

the privileges of the membership to include election of the council, which is the association's chief policy-making body.

The bylaws' leading feature is a system of proportional representation of the membership, arranged along lines of scientific discipline. During the past year, the system has evolved considerably from its original conception.

As initially proposed, the bylaws would have clustered the AAAS's 21 scientific sections, ranging from astronomy to zoology, into five to ten "electorates" for the purposes of

came a presidential appointment under the cancer act of 1971.)

Now, as never before, the President is running the show at NIH, and it has left biomedical researchers somewhat confused because they do not know how, or even whether, they can have any input in the process of choosing a successor to Marston. Apparently, that accounts, in part, for the mild nature of the protest letter. "We know the President is going to call the shots, and it is not to our benefit to antagonize him and it wouldn't be to the benefit of health either," Robert Adelstein has been quoted as saying. Adelstein is a leader of the assemblies.

The process of finding a replacement for Marston, whose ouster came as a particular surprise in view of his reputation for being a team player (*Science*, 22 December 1972), is under way, but no one knows how long it will take. The search is being conducted out of the office of Frederic V. Malek in the White House, Malek being the man who has been the Administration's chief recruiter for the last couple of years. Within the next few weeks, however, Malek may transfer to a new position as second in command in the Office of Management and Budget.

Given the President's avowed intent of reorganizing and streamlining the government, there is every reason to believe that the person who takes Marston's place will have to be long on managerial talent. It is also likely that his loyalty to the President will be a matter of no small importance. One theory offered to explain the President's dismissal of Marston is that he wants the leaders of federal agencies to be loyal to him first and foremost, rather than to their constituents. If that reasoning is correct, Nixon will be looking for a man whose allegiance to the White House is greater than his allegiance to science.

Various women's organizations have seized the opportunity to try to get a woman in the NIH post by submitting to the President the names of women who have both an M.D. and a Ph.D. to their credit. One list, for example, sent to Nixon by Julia T. Apter, M.D., Ph.D., of Rush Medical College in Chicago, is 18 names long.

If Malek's team follows the course it has taken in recruiting for other federal jobs, it will range widely for names of candidates before picking the winner. The pool, therefore, may not be limited to members of the scientific establishment. On the other hand, it is unlikely that Malek's people will go out of their way to pick somebody thoroughly unacceptable to the establishment. Two people who almost certainly will be proposed to the recruiters, however, do come from that group: Donald S. Frederickson, scientific director of the National Heart and Lung Institute, and Ivan Bennett, Jr., vice president for health of the New York University School of Medicine. According to Washington insiders, either man is a plausible choice. But, as has been pointed out before, there are few Washington insiders these days, and the real answer to speculation about Marston's successor is that nobody knows.—B.J.C.

A. D. Little, Inc., Wants to Grant Degrees

It seems safe to say that the system of higher education in the United States is going to have to change somewhat if it is going to satisfy everybody's needs. Certainly Arthur D. Little, Inc. (ADL), the Cambridge management consultant and research outfit, thinks so. A year ago, ADL, a private, profit-making organization, petitioned the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for authority to become a degree-granting institution. Specifically, ADL wants to award a master's in management sciences. By the end of this month, it should know whether or not it can.

As far as could be determined, ADL is the first proprietary organization in the country to seek graduate degree–granting privileges on its own—there are university-affiliated programs here and there—and if its petition is accepted, it may be quite a precedent-setting document.

According to Arthur Corozini, vice chancellor of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, if ADL is permitted to grant a higher degree, other proprietary institutions, such as 2-year business and technical schools, will also seek degree-granting status. At present, these schools give certificates.

As Corozini explained it, ADL's petition to the state was turned over to the board of higher education for action. In keeping with usual procedure, he then named a visiting committee to investigate the matter. It took into consideration such factors as the quality of the education program at ADL and its fiscal resources. The committee's report, more than 6 months in preparation, is about to be submitted to the board. If it is favorable to ADL, as is anticipated in some quarters, there will be a public hearing before final, favorable action is taken.

Complex questions are raised by the prospect of proprietary institutions awarding higher degrees. How, or should, such degree programs be monitored by the state? Must they include general as well as specialized courses? What, if any, mechanisms must be set up to protect students from schools going out of business. What about academic freedom and tenure for faculty members? Obviously, none of these issues will be easy to reslove, but at least some considered opinions will come to light when the committee's report and the board's reaction to it come into full public view within the next few weeks.—B.J.C.