

Call for Nominations: 1981 General Election

The Committee on Nominations will meet this fall to select candidates for the 1981 general election. The Committee invites AAAS members to submit nominations, including self-nominations, for the positions of President-Elect and members of the Board of Directors for consideration at that meeting.

A list of current Board members is given on the contents page of *Science*. Candidates for terms to start on 9 January are listed in the 22 August issue.

Nominations should be sent to the Executive Officer, at the AAAS address, no later than 8 October 1980. Each nomination must be accompanied by a curriculum vitae of the proposed candidate.

as high Andean tubers, tree legumes, and American bamboo, or on specific problems such as the biological fixation of nitrogen.

Presentations on the final day concentrated on information and experience which could be helpful in formulation of a proposed IA regional network for co-operation in research and development for underutilized biological resources. Richard Evans Schultes, director of the Harvard Botanical Museum, was leader of the U.S. component. Selected papers from the meeting will be published in *Interciencia*.

At an officers' meeting following the seminar, IA made plans for future regional scientific meetings, including a workshop on materials from renewable resources, to be co-sponsored with the Jamaican Society of Scientists and Technologists in November 1980 at Kingston. IA and the Association of the Scientific, Engineering and Technological Community of Canada (SCITEC) will cosponsor two symposia at the AAAS Annual Meeting in Toronto in January. Other symposia in the planning stage are "Participation of the National Scientific Community in the Development Process" (Caracas, March 1981) and "Liquid Fuels from Biomass" (Brazil, late 1981).

IA, which was founded 6 years ago, also publishes a bimonthly trilingual journal, *Interciencia*, edited and published in Caracas under the direction of Marcel Roche. The president of IA is Leonard M. Rieser, vice president of Dartmouth College, and past president, AAAS.

ANZAAS Holds Jubilee Congress

The 50th Congress of the Australia/New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science (ANZAAS) was held at Adelaide, South Australia, 12 to 16 May, on the theme "Science for a

Sustainable Society for Us by 2000 A.D. Why? How?" To mark this Jubilee Congress, AAAS sent a delegation headed by Edward E. David, Jr., president, Exxon Research and Engineering Co., Inc., and past president, AAAS. Other AAAS representatives were John A. Behnke, editor of *BioScience*, Marist College, Poughkeepsie, New York; J. Ernest Flack, Department of Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering, University of Colorado, Boulder; Gerald Holton, Department of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts; and Bartholomew J. Tortella, intern, Beth Israel Hospital, Boston.

Problems and opportunities specific to Australia were emphasized throughout the Congress. Australia is in a somewhat special position vis-à-vis questions of development, with vast natural resources on the one hand and a rather isolated position in terms of world geography on the other. The Congress, therefore, was used as a sounding board where participants voiced plans and concerns about the future.

Multiple concurrent sessions were organized on a variety of topics. While all the traditional branches of science were represented in section symposia, a number of new experimental sections were organized in subjects such as musicology, and history, philosophy, and sociology of science, these trial sections met with great success.

The connections between science and politics were explored by several Congress symposia, one of which dealt with the high cost of health care technology. Australia, like the United States, is immersed in the matter of determining appropriate levels of federal support and/or control of the health care system. Speakers from the government and organized medicine presented disparate viewpoints and agreed only that a clear, comprehensive health care policy is needed.

In a country where drought is far

more common than an oversupply of water, sessions on water sources, supply, and management were well received. Flack made a contribution to one of the sessions, presenting the American experience with urban water conservation and how it might apply to Australia.

Energy sessions included contributions by David and by Melvin and Gene Elle Calvin. The Calvins described a new mechanical model for duplicating the photosynthetic process without plants.

Other sessions dealt with the possible effects of the increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere; genetic engineering; land use, especially the development and management of arid lands; and the development of new major food and feed crops such as cassava, chick peas, beans, and soybeans.

Proposals and Resolutions Invited for 1981 Council Meeting

The AAAS Council will hold its next meeting on 7 January 1981 during the Association's Annual Meeting in Toronto. Organizations or individuals who wish to present proposals or resolutions for possible inclusion in the meeting agenda should send them in writing to the Executive Officer at the AAAS address, *for receipt no later than 5 November 1980*, so that they may be considered by the Committee on Council Affairs at its fall meeting. The Committee asks that the following guidelines be observed:

- 1) All proposals and resolutions should be consistent with the objectives of the Association and deal with matters appropriate for consideration by the council of a scientific organization.
- 2) Resolutions should be written in the traditional format, beginning with one or more "whereas" statement-of-fact clauses and concluding with a "therefore be it resolved" paragraph which presents a position that follows logically from the stated premises.
- 3) Proposals and resolutions that deal with technical matters must be accompanied by substantive supporting data and references.
- 4) Any proposal involving substantial expenditure of AAAS funds—such as a recommendation for the establishment of a study or investigative committee—should be presented in the form of a research proposal, with budget included, so that the financial implications of positive action are clearly stated.
- 5) All proposals and resolutions adopted by Council at its forthcoming meeting will be published in the Proceedings Issue of *Science*. Proponents who wish the AAAS to undertake any wider distribu-

tion are requested to submit with their proposals or resolutions the names and addresses of individuals, organizations, or publications to which they would like to have copies sent.

An open hearing will be held by the Committee on Council Affairs at 2:30 p.m. on 4 January in the Kent Room, Sheraton Centre, to give interested persons an opportunity to speak for or against duly submitted resolutions or proposals.

At a meeting immediately following the hearings, the Committee will consider for possible inclusion in the Council agenda any late proposals or resolutions delivered to the Executive Officer in advance of the hearing, provided they deal with urgent matters and are accompanied by a written explanation of why submission was not made on or before 5 November. The Committee also will review and take appropriate action on requests from persons who wish to address the Council on particular agenda items. Such requests must be delivered to the Executive Officer, William D. Carey, or to the Committee Chairperson, D. Allan Bromley, in advance of the 4 January meeting.

Summaries of the Council meeting agenda will be available at the AAAS Information Desks in the Sheraton Centre and Royal York. Copies of the full agenda may be inspected, upon request, in the AAAS offices in both hotels.

AAAS Membership Recruitment Concerns

For the past 4 years, AAAS has had an aggressive membership recruitment program. This was instituted to reverse the declining membership, which stood at 113,000 in 1976. The activities have been successful, as demonstrated by the current membership of about 130,000. However, they have not been without their problems, the most serious of which has been the receipt by AAAS members of AAAS membership promotion materials.

This happens for several reasons. With a current retention rate of approximately 85 percent, some 20,000 new members must be recruited annually just to have the AAAS membership stay constant. Although various recruitment techniques are used, direct mail is still the only cost-effective way to recruit the large numbers of new members needed.

Approximately 1 million promotion pieces are mailed annually to prospective members on some 100 lists the

CSFR Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility (CSFR) is scheduled to be held at the AAAS offices on 26 and 27 September. The Committee meetings are open to the public, and interested persons should contact the Committee office at the AAAS address for additional information.

Association rents. Half of these lists are obtained on computer tape, but the other half are available only on labels in zip code sequence. All of the lists on computer tape are checked against each other and the AAAS membership list to eliminate duplicates. However, even allowing for a one percent margin of error, which is considered quite good in the industry, this merge-purge procedure could be expected to miss 5,000 duplicates out of 500,000 names involved.

Unfortunately, there is no way to mechanically eliminate duplicates from the lists received on labels. A manual check against the AAAS membership file would be much too time-consuming and costly. Putting these names into the computer to permit a mechanical merge-purge likewise would be quite time-consuming and costly. Also, because the Association is permitted to use a list only once when it is rented, it would be necessary to repeat this procedure each time the list was rented.

To minimize this problem, the Office of Membership Recruitment constantly attempts to get more lists on computer tape and regularly monitors the merge-purge process. It also is utilizing other recruitment methods, such as the cards that appear in *Science* each week. Thus far, however, no procedure other than direct mail provides the large number of new members the Association needs to recruit each year.

The problem of duplicate receipt of membership promotion materials by AAAS members is not unique to the Association. It is, however, disturbing to the members and to the AAAS officers and staff. To keep the AAAS a growing and vital organization an active member recruitment campaign is essential. The continued understanding and patience of the membership as the Association seeks to minimize the problems associated with this growth are greatly appreciated.

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*Membership Recruitment and
Public Information*

Science and the Public of Interest to Chinese Delegation

The AAAS hosted a four-member popularization of science delegation from the People's Republic of China, 15 to 30 June. (See *Science*, page 264, 11 July 1980, for details about the AAAS popularization of science delegation which visited China last May.)

Wang Mailin, deputy director of the Department of Science Popularization in the China Association for Science and Technology (CAST), was delegation head. She is also secretary-general of the China Association for Popular Science Writing. The other members were Xie Chu, associate chief editor of *Aerospace Knowledge Magazine*; Tao Shilong, deputy director of the Wuhan Institute of Geology's Pedagogical Office; and Yu Qiyu of CAST's Department of International Affairs.

During an intensive 2-week stay, the group toured six museums, seven media sites (radio, television, magazines, and newspapers), and a variety of other institutions involved in science education and the public understanding of science. Four cities were visited—Washington, D.C., New York, Boston, and San Francisco.

Because CAST is responsible for planning and constructing a new museum of science and technology in Beijing, the delegation was especially interested in the diversity of science centers they saw here. They noted the differing philosophies, use of space, educational programs, and administration. CAST has expressed the desire to send an observer to the United States to study museum methods.

Editors of *Science* and *Science 80* participated in a briefing on science writing prior to the delegation's tours of magazine and newspaper facilities. While the expertise of members of this group was primarily in print media, they were fascinated by the sophistication of American television and radio. Commercial and public broadcast facilities were visited, and requests to film in both countries were exchanged.

For more information about the activities and publications described in "AAAS News," write to the appropriate office, AAAS, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, unless otherwise indicated.