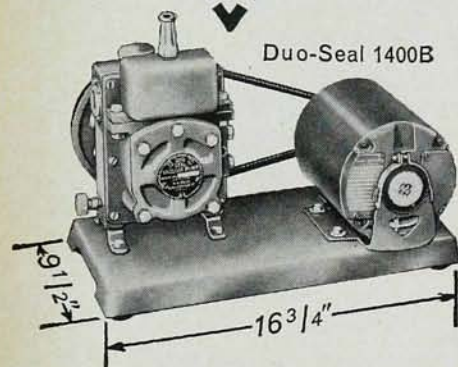


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fective administration, but such hopes have been defeated. A further reason, according to others, lies in the rather minimal concern of American physicists for international interdisciplinary scientific activities. Physicists who have been active in the International Geophysical Year and other such undertakings have mainly served as representatives of other unions and not directly with those projects. Bringing about greater US participation in these areas, they say, will require dynamic leadership in the US national commission to IUPAP as well as the union.

They also suggest that the IUPAP leadership is restricted in its scope by the very modest budgets (approximately \$30 000 yearly) provided IUPAP through the membership and UNESCO. And low budget levels have persisted over the last two decades. But without adequate support, IUPAP cannot organize effective meetings; conversely, without effective meetings, more funds are not likely to be forthcoming from UNESCO and the membership. "IUPAP never had sufficient vitality behind it," says one observer, "to gain more support from the physics community and put a request in for any substantial increase in its budget."

This is why the principal suggestion offered by members of the American commission concerns the immediate strengthening of the union's meetings structure. To this end, the US delegates to the IUPAP general assembly in Basel (Robert F. Bacher, Walter H. Brattain, William W. Havens Jr, William V. Houston, Hugh C. Wolfe) may urge formation of an IUPAP committee on meetings, preferably with an American chairman. But there is a difference of opinion among the Americans on the kinds of IUPAP meetings such a committee would strengthen. Some would transform the big general congresses into scientific meetings and improve the programming of the small topical meetings. Others believe that organizing gigantic congresses for all of physics would be of questionable value. They point out that the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and other unions are beginning to doubt the usefulness of their big general congresses and to wonder how they could be altered. Thus IUPAP, through its executive committee, could

be much more effective in limiting its concern to topical meeting programs.

If the name of an American is advanced for IUPAP first vice-president, the move would be somewhat unusual. The American, if elected, would then be in line to succeed the current IUPAP president Dimitri I. Blokhintsev of the USSR in 1969 rather than having to work his way slowly up the ladder of IUPAP officialdom as is general for future union presidents. But with a dynamic American as president, the US delegation believes that IUPAP would have a very good chance to become a vigorous organization. The US delegation would also like to offer the names of other Americans to posts within the executive committee but they will probably defer such action rather than be accused of "packing" the organization.

In any event, the US will have to achieve its objectives in IUPAP with a great measure of patience and discretion. As one physicist close to the US delegation says, "In such organizations, the wheels of the gods grind slowly and any attempt to introduce a step function may trigger a reaction ... gradual moves are often the most effective moves."

Urge education department

Representative Gale Schisler (D-Ill.) is the most recent of many congressmen to offer a bill calling for establishment of an independent department of education. While total federal spending on education during the last fiscal year amounted to some \$7 billion distributed by over 40 agencies and departments, only \$1.5 billion was administered by the US Office of Education. Many in Congress agree with Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (another education department partisan) that the USOE "simply does not have the status, authority, or responsibility to deal with the multifaceted federal education program. And that program is multiplying every day." But Health, Education and Welfare secretary John W. Gardner believes that the broad responsibilities of his department are inseparably related. Gardner has made it clear that he will not tolerate dismemberment of HEW. Washington observers suggest that a compromise be-

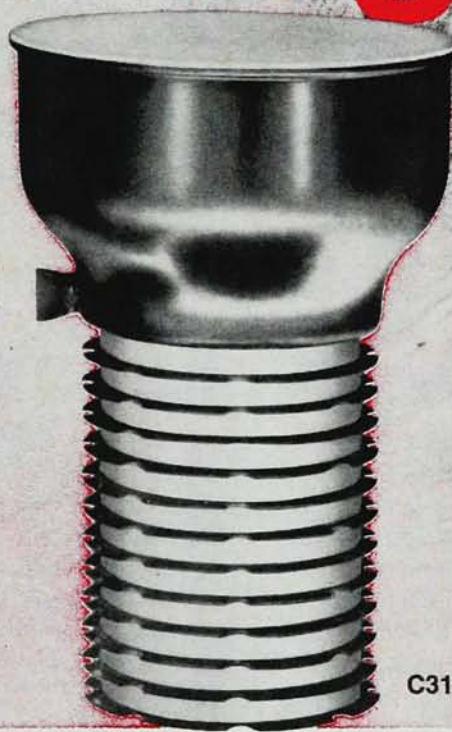
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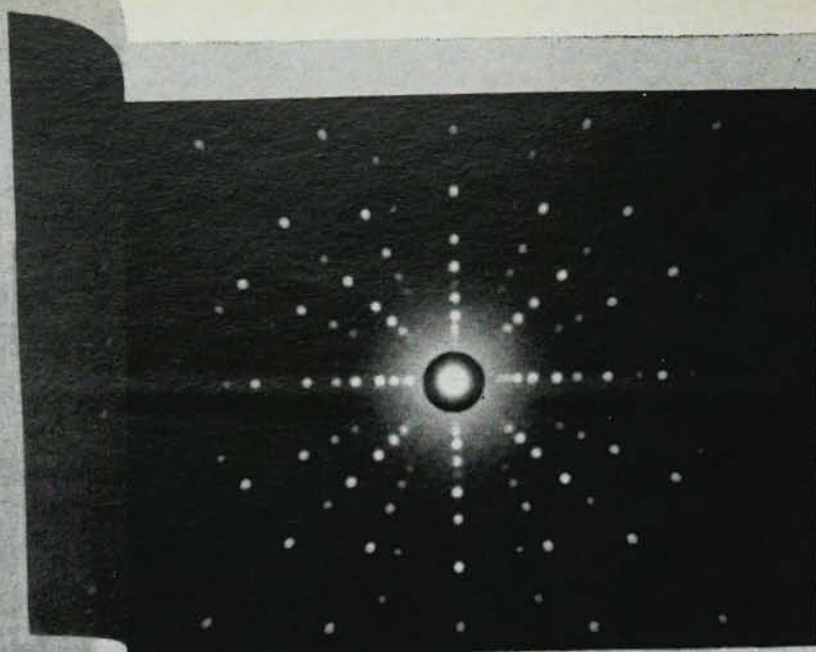
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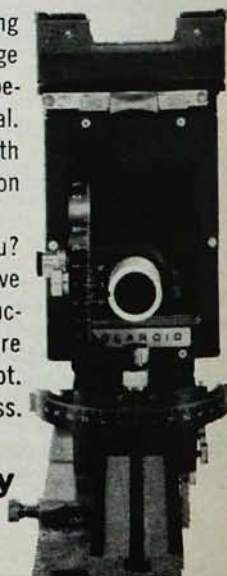
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tween these two viewpoints may be in the offing, with HEW assuming a structure similar to the Defense Department (one top secretary and three subordinate secretaries).

Draft news

Drafting men over 26, expected to come at any moment, will not appreciably ease the plight of PhD candidates currently vulnerable to reclassification from IIS to IA (PHYSICS TODAY, August, page 65). Washington sources indicate that draft boards around the country are rapidly depleting their manpower pools and that selective service director General Lewis Hershey believes selective service may be forced to enter the over-26 category by December. It is estimated, however, that only about one third of approximately 75 000 men in this category will be eligible for the draft. Hence even if local boards begin drafting the over-26 group, the boards will still be reluctant to continue a student's deferment much past his 26th birthday. Draft calls are rising, Defense Secretary Robert McNamara has announced a buildup, and pressure on selective service manpower rapidly increases.

Europe's future accelerators

It is of the utmost importance to keep Europe in the forefront of high-energy physics, and the 300-GeV project remains its primary objective, says CERN's European Committee for Future Accelerators. Reviewing the 1963 Amaldi report, the committee still agreed with proposals for a 300-GeV machine and intersecting storage rings, national or regional projects for meson factories, and a high-energy electron machine. But to proceed with its program, Europe needs the support of powerful schools of high-energy physics spread over CERN's 13 member states, working in contact with universities and having adequate research tools "as is the case in the United States." To this end, says the committee, countries should spend as much money internally on high-energy physics as they contribute annually to CERN. Otherwise European physicists will not be able to "avail themselves efficiently of opportunities offered by

CERN and other large laboratories."

On the burning question of the 300-GeV site, CERN reports that 12 sites in nine states are under active study and that it will further limit the list to one site in each member state. The current schedule projects a site selection by December 1967 and start of construction by 1969.

Congress science committees

A joint committee on congressional organization has urged that Congress put its scientific house in order and concentrate its review of federal science in fewer committees. Under the plan the House Science and Astronautics Committee and Senate Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee would be granted broader and roughly parallel jurisdiction over several federal programs. The Senate committee would be renamed the Science and Astronautics Committee and would extend its jurisdiction to include the National Science Foundation, the Bureau of Standards and the Environmental Science Services Administration (ESSA). The House Science and Astronautics Committee would broaden its review to include ESSA.

With equivalent jurisdiction, conference work and joint hearings would be facilitated and the two committees would have the same factual information from which to work. Critics charge that the recommendations would do little to cure the fragmentation of congressional science review among many committees and subcommittees. What is needed, they say, is a broad overview of federal science by a single group in Congress. They also point out the need for a congressional science advisory group, independent of and having no conflicts of interest with the administration point of view. Political realities what they are, with committee members and chairmen jealous of each morsel of jurisdiction, it has been exceedingly difficult to consolidate reviews of R&D.

Some observers suggest that Congress, despite the wish of many members to rationalize its review of federal science programs, prefers to leave such review to the executive rather than any group in Congress. As Don K. Price says in *The Scientific Estate*,

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