

letters

contradicted by AID's record, open to anybody who wishes to make a study of it. My own impression (integrated over various areas of the world) is that AID's record is not at all a bad one, though, in my opinion, it has certain characteristics that I consider unfortunate. The two most striking of these is AID's almost exclusive concern with short-term projects (defined as programs showing conspicuous results within about five years), and AID's very marked preference to deal with large projects at the neglect of small and perhaps more experimental programs. I believe, in agreement with the Peterson report¹ on international assistance, that these shortcomings could be greatly remedied² by the creation of the independent International Development Institute. A proposal to this effect was submitted by the President to Congress over two years ago,³ and has been languishing there ever since.

I do agree with Green, by the way, that the total amount of international assistance offered by the United States is much too small, a sin the US shares with all other more advanced countries in the world, regardless of race, religion, color or politics. This was mentioned in my original article.

Finally, let me comment on Green's discussion of Maurice Bazin's article. Indeed, the sentence at the end of which reference was given to the Bazin article is not a direct quote from Bazin. In my original manuscript submitted to *PHYSICS TODAY*, there were, in fact, no quotation marks around that sentence. They were added in the editorial office, and I missed catching them when the proofs reached me. Since an author is responsible for his article, however, I want to apologize for this slip, and state explicitly that the sentence does not appear in that form in the Bazin article.

The particular sentence is, however, (contrary to Green's feeling), a reasonable paraphrase of Bazin's point of view, as I ascertained not only from the article but also from private correspondence with Bazin. I am strengthened in this belief by the fact that neither Green nor Bazin suggest an alternative, specific, program for science development. This, in fact, is my main worry about comments like those of Bazin or Green: They are completely negativistic in tone, and as such it is difficult to see how they can be construed as a contribution to the development of science in less developed countries. Science development is not a science, and hardly even an art yet. Experience in it is limited, and therefore views might diverge as to what the best road to salvation may be. The aim,

therefore, is to involve as many people as possible, with as divergent views as possible, each having an opportunity to work on the implementation of his particular approach, but none simply obstructing other people's efforts. It was with this in mind that I wrote the original article. Its two aims were (a) to offer some examples for efforts which, in my opinion, would be useful steps independently of what particular view of science development you take, but, (b) in case you disagree with my particular suggestions, to induce you to get personally involved yourself and devise and implement your own ideas and programs for science development.

References

1. "US Foreign Assistance in the 1970's: A New Approach" (Report To The President From The Task Force On International Development, March 4, 1970. US Government Printing Office, 1970-0-402-378).
2. M. J. Moravcsik, *Scientific and Technical Assistance in the Seventies* (to be published; preprints available on request).
3. "Foreign Assistance for the Seventies," President Nixon's Message to the Congress, September 15, 1970. Obtain from the Agency for International Development, Washington, D. C. 20533.

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More Gibbs

That the desire to memorialize Gibbs antedates that of H. Cassell and W. Giauque and others (October, page 67, and J. Chem. Phys. 42, 3, 1965) is suggested by the following definition of the "Gibbs" from Jerrard & McNeill's "Dictionary of Scientific Units" (Chapman & Hall London, 1963):

Gibbs

A unit of adsorption suggested by Dean¹³ in 1951. A surface concentration of 10^{-12} mole cm^{-2} is equal to one Gibbs. The name commemorates J. Willard Gibbs (1839-1903), famous for his work on the phase rule.

¹³ Dean, R. B., J. Phys. Coll. Chem. (LSA) 55, 611 (1951).

This little dictionary probably ought always to be consulted before laying a name on something. Besides, it contains a certain amount of dry commentary that makes it interesting and amusing to read for its own sake.

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