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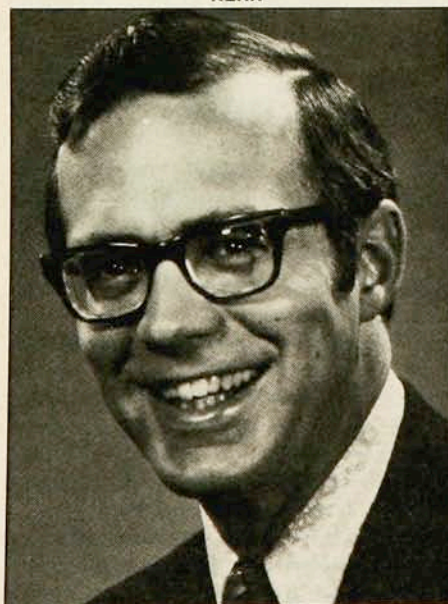
assessment of the DOE's R&D programs and the formation of the Energy Research Advisory Board. Bateman holds a PhD in economics from Harvard University, which he received in 1963.

Kerr replaces Agnew as Los Alamos head

Donald M. Kerr Jr recently became director of Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, replacing Harold Agnew, whose resignation from the post became effective in March (PHYSICS TODAY, May, page 116). Kerr was Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Technology at the Department of Energy, where he was responsible for the office of nuclear waste management, fossil energy programs, field operations management, solar and geothermal energy programs, nuclear energy programs and fusion energy.

Kerr has also served within the DOE as Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Office of Defense Programs and deputy manager

KERR



of the Nevada operations office. In that position he directed activities at the Nevada Test Site and other locations involving full-scale nuclear testing, the Nuclear Emergency Search Team and a variety of energy and environmental programs.

Prior to joining the DOE staff in 1976, Kerr was at Los Alamos for 10 years, most recently as Alternate Energy Division Leader. Kerr holds three degrees from Cornell University, including a PhD in plasma physics, which he received in 1966.

Thomas Mutch to head NASA space science

Thomas A. Mutch has been appointed NASA Associate Administrator for Space Science, replacing Noel W. Hinners, who is now director of the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum.

Mutch received his PhD in geology from Princeton University in 1960. He soon joined the faculty of Brown University and has remained there for the last 19 years, serving as associate dean of the graduate school and chairman of the department of geological sciences. His last position was as professor of geological sciences.

Mutch has been a contributor to NASA science programs since 1969 as a member of the Lunar Science Review Board (1969-73), as leader of the Lander Imaging Science Team for the Viking Project (1969-77) and in other activities. In 1977 he was given the NASA Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement.

Walter Massey is new director of Argonne

Walter E. Massey became director of Argonne National Laboratory last month. He has also been appointed as professor of physics at the University of Chicago. Massey succeeds Robert G. Sachs, who resigned last October to return to research and teaching at the University of Chicago (PHYSICS TODAY, July 1978, page 64).

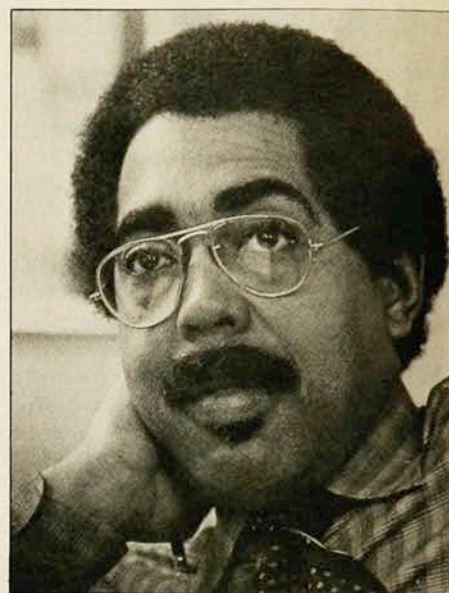
Massey was a postdoctoral appointee at Argonne from 1966 to 1968 and a consultant from 1968 to 1975. He graduated from Morehouse College in 1958. After serving for a year as a physics instructor at Morehouse, Massey was awarded a National Defense Act Fellowship and spent a year at Howard University. He then attended Washington University in St. Louis, receiving a PhD in 1966.

After his postdoctoral appointment at Argonne, he became an assistant professor at the University of Illinois. He was appointed associate professor of physics at Brown University in 1970, was promoted to professor in 1975 and later that

year assumed the position of Dean of the College.

Massey's research interest is in the theory of strongly interacting systems of many particles, with particular emphasis on low-temperature properties of quantum liquids and solids.

While at Brown, Massey headed an interdepartmental program preparing high-school science teachers for inner-city schools (PHYSICS TODAY, February 1971,



MASSEY

page 63). During 1974-75 he was an American Council of Education Fellow in Academic Administration at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He was recently appointed by President Carter to the National Science Board. Massey is currently chairman of the American Physical Society Committee on Minorities.

Research Corp seeks to fund more physics

The Research Corporation, a foundation dedicated to supporting research in the natural sciences and speeding the utilization of useful scientific developments, is seeking to increase its involvement with the physics community, according to Kendall King, vice-president for grants there.

Physicists are eligible for two grant programs run by the Research Corporation: Cottrell College Science Grants, for undergraduate academic research programs in the natural sciences, and Cottrell Research Grants for basic research in the physical sciences at universities. The latter grants are directed mainly toward younger faculty members because these unproven scientists generally have the most difficulty finding funding for their research.

Physicists have been receiving a disproportionately small percentage of the

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Research Corp

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available funds for several years. For example, of 77 Cottrell Research Grants awarded so far this year for work in the physical sciences, only 19, or about one-fourth, went to physicists. King feels that an important explanation for this is the fact that physicists, more than any other research group, work primarily under the so-called "umbrella grant" system, whereby grants go to senior researchers under whom work many younger physicists. Because of this established structure at many universities, young researchers are reluctant to apply for grants for their own research proposals.

Further information about the Research Corporation and its grant programs may be obtained by writing Kendall W. King, Vice President—Grants Program, Research Corporation, 405 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

Branscomb puts his tongue in his cheek

Appalled by outrageous statements in the press and outrageous actions being advocated by well-meaning groups, Lewis Branscomb recently came up with his own set of outrageous proposals. Speaking to an audience of science-policy experts gathered at New York University, Branscomb, chief scientist at IBM and president of APS this year, evoked gales of laughter with the following ten principles for US science policy:

- ▶ Cut the US Federal science budget. Now that the NSF budget exceeds \$1 billion, it is tough to sell it to Congress, and tougher to concentrate the support to the best qualified investigators.
- ▶ Award grants only after the research has been published, thus removing the last vestige of risk and assuring availability of research results to users.
- ▶ Encourage the mismanagement or dismemberment of large, high-technology companies. After all, he explained, although about 70% of industrial research is done by 50 companies, it is widely believed that only small companies do genuine innovation.
- ▶ Bar the introduction of all new products and services until technology assessment catches up.
- ▶ Transfer the HEW budget to NASA so that innovative social programs can be wrapped in a protective layer of high technology.
- ▶ Require each grantee to file weekly time cards, allocating the number of hours spent on applied research, basic research and overhead. That would enrich the value of the data base on the amount of applied and basic research being done in the US.
- ▶ Allocate available electrical energy to

the individual consumer on the basis of which forms of production are approved of by the consumer. Thus, if he approves of coal, oil or nuclear energy he gets electricity produced that way. If the consumer only approves of electricity supplied by solar or fusion energy, he only gets electricity from those sources.

▶ Provide an automatic salary of \$30 000/year for any science PhD recipient, thus closing the funding gap and removing the problems with peer review.

▶ Permit the government to add strychnine to marginally carcinogenic foods. This toxic substance will kill the test mice before the suspected carcinogen can produce tumors.

▶ Ask the United Nations to select each year at random one industrial country to be called "science and technology leader of the world." During that year, all the other nations would be able to provide solid arguments for additional funds for basic research and subsidies for industry. In addition, the arms race would be slowed and every society would be assured of a chance to be first.

In the discussion period Branscomb noted that his talk had been silly to emphasize a serious point: Our technical elite has been saying that our technical leadership has been lost—that we've killed the goose laying golden eggs. "That's hogwash. We say that because we think that will get us more money. We should say that the goose is still laying golden eggs. But you've got to treat it right to keep it laying golden eggs."

Branscomb spoke at an International Conference on Science and Technology Policy in late March, sponsored by the new NYU Center for Science and Technology Policy. —GBL

Cobb: break down barriers to women entering science

Jewel Plummer Cobb, dean of Douglass College at Rutgers University, called for action to be taken to break down the "filters" studies have shown women must pass through on their way to science careers. Cobb, a biologist and member of the National Science Board, spoke at the January APS-AAPT Annual Meeting in New York.

Cobb urged women scientists to form committees and planning groups to devise new ways to influence the course of young women who are looking toward a career in science. On the personal level, she sees a number of things that women scientists could do. Cobb noted that research has determined that role models tend to have more influence on women than men. It is clear, she said, that women scientists should make an effort to act as role models for young women. She suggested that parents and friends should refrain from choosing toys for young girls that reinforce the notion of passivity and that de-

velop little aptitude for manipulative skills.

In social interaction with other women, women scientists and mothers should stress the fact that proficiency in mathematics is not a sex-linked characteristic. Cobb urged women scientists to push for the introduction of mathematics skills programs in community organizations such as the Y or the Girl Scouts, and to help institute counseling programs for high school and college women that would counteract social pressures that mediate against science careers. They could also press colleges and universities to start remedial mathematics courses for women with science ability but insufficient mathematics preparation. Cobb said that though these are all long-term remedies, it would appear that only special emphasis on these specific problems would help increase women's participation in science.

New group studies Federal academic research support

Accountability in Federally sponsored research is being examined by the National Commission on Research, a non-profit corporation established last year to "examine the process by which the Federal government supports academic research, and to propose changes designed to improve that process."

A report on accountability will be the first of the Commission's studies, covering scientific, administrative and fiscal accountability in government-sponsored research. Among the other investigations now under way are the peer-review process and alternative funding criteria, alternative funding mechanisms and university-industry relationships.

Among those volunteering their time to the Commission are physicists Dale Corson (Cornell University), Edward David Jr (Exxon Research and Engineering Co.) and Donald Langenberg (University of Pennsylvania). William Sewell, a professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, is chairman of NCR.

in brief

A detailed analysis of Federal funding for research and development programs during fiscal years 1976-1978 is now available in *Federal Funds for Research, Development and Other Scientific Activities*, Volume XXVI, a new National Science Foundation publication. Copies are available from the Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 at \$2.50 per copy. Request stock number 038-000-00367-4. □