

## Expanding to the practical

Since its establishment in 1950, the basic authority of the National Science Foundation has undergone only minor change. A possible exception was the transfer in 1962 of some of its Government-wide policy-making and program-evaluation functions to the President's Office of Science and Technology.

Even that was done less to overhaul the foundation than to relieve it of power it was physically unable to exercise. In an environment in which the muscle necessary to coordinate broad programs is inextricably bound to ability to spend money, the little NSF just never has been in the same league as the military and space agencies. Up to now, in fact, NSF Director Leland J. Haworth has not even been formally on a par with the more prestigious agency heads.

It is against this background, and in an effort to keep his subcommittee and its ward in the main stream, that Representative Emilio Q. Daddario (D-Conn.), chairman of the research subcommittee of the House Committee on Science and Astronautics, has finally succeeded in moving a fairly basic Science Foundation reorganization bill through the Congress.

The reorganization, on the President's desk for signature last week, attempts to do two key things:

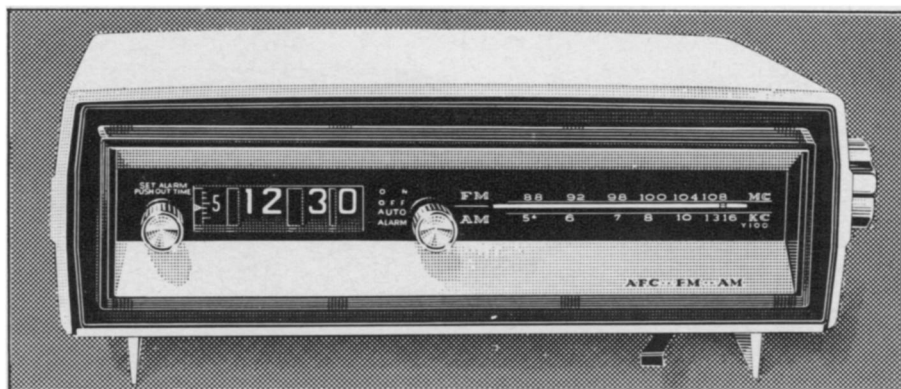
It would put the lagging foundation's fortunes where the action is today by authorizing NSF to support work in the applied, as well as the basic sciences. These, according to existing thinking in the subcommittee and the foundation, could be research projects of considerable social relevance.

It would also make the foundation more responsive to the demands of the Congress and the House Science Committee by requiring Dr. Haworth to renew his authority to spend money on an annual basis.

Until now, NSF has been, with few exceptions, able to spend money appropriated to it as it sees fit, under the 1950 law creating NSF to foster basic research. Under the new legislation, the specific programs for which funds will be awarded have to be approved before appropriations can be made.

The short-range spending authority may be a mixed blessing on the plus side, annual exposure to science in yet another set of authorization hearings may convince otherwise indifferent Congressmen and Senators of the worth of a program. Nevertheless, it makes funding of research projects by NSF much more susceptible to the whims of Congressmen.

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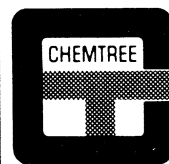


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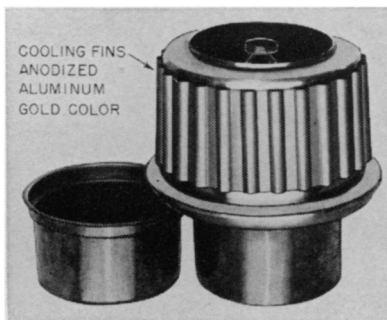
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WRITE FOR 4 PAGE BULLETIN 68-SW

## RESEARCH PRODUCTS CO., INC.

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Calif.) of the House Science and Astronautics Committee told the House that, in view of the new applied research responsibilities given NSF, the "annual authorization is necessary in order to provide an in-depth review of the foundation's programs."

Congressman Daddario believes the reorganization will allow NSF "to modernize and restructure its organization in order to meet the needs everyone acknowledges are going to come up in the next decade." But the legislation is not intended to change the foundation's central mission of fostering basic science and research; the applied research authority is permissive, not mandatory.

The foundation is now specifically required to give support to the social as well as the natural sciences. Although authority for such support had existed, it is spelled out more directly in the new law. The intent is to insure that an adequate effort is made to permit advancement in scientific areas considered important to human welfare.

**Two new tasks** have been added to the foundation's long list. One is to "foster and support the development and use of computers and other scientific methods and technologies, primarily for research and education in the sciences."

The other is to keep tabs on the migrations of research funds. This requirement is intended to make it possible for Congress or the executive branch to determine quickly how much Federal money finds its way to what educational institutions and nonprofit organizations, and from what agencies this money arrives.

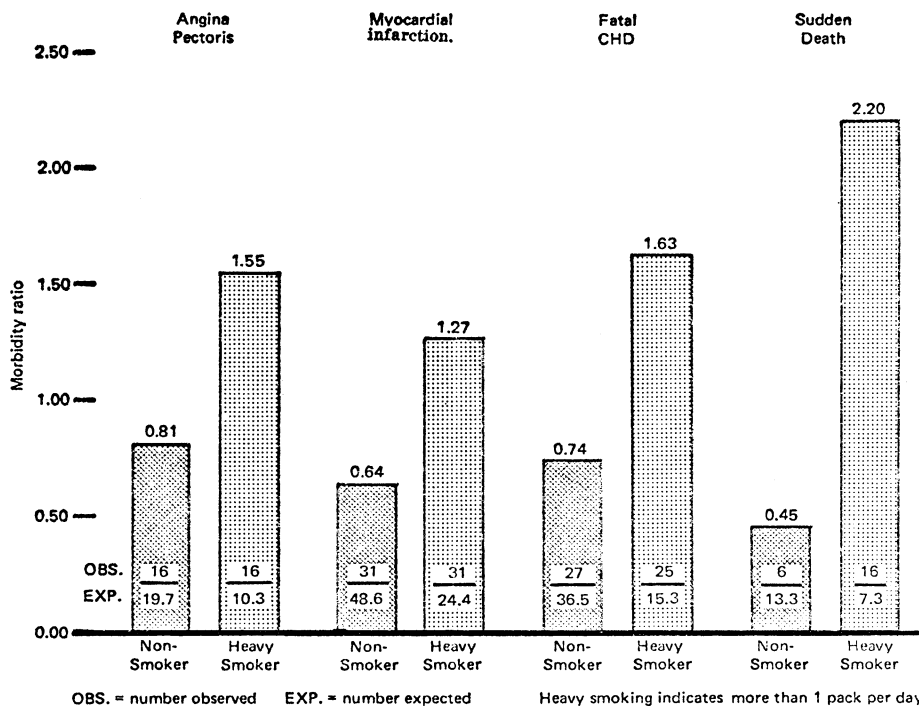
NSF has been required to collect and collate data on national scientific and technical resources. In addition, it will now analyze and interpret this data, an essential input to the decision-making processes both of Congress and the executive arm.

**One prestige-building** facet of the new law is the elevation of Director Hawthorn from level III to level II, thus placing him on a par with the heads of most other independent agencies. This is an important move, since NSF's missions are often Government-wide. Level I positions are held by heads of departments such as State, Defense and Treasury.

The NSF director will now have four assistant directors, who will also be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. These positions are expected to be used in a manner to relieve the director and deputy director from details of internal administration, allowing them to concentrate on the formulation of programs conforming to NSF policy as defined by the foundation's 24-member National Science Board.

FTC, HEW

## Government vs. cigarettes



PHS

*Fatal and severe forms of coronary disease are linked with heavy smoking.*

Weasel words cautioning that "cigarette smoking may be hazardous to your health" will be replaced by a definite warning of danger, including death from cancer and other diseases, if Congress heeds a recommendation from the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare on revision of cigarette labeling.

**Moreover,** advertising could be banned from the airwaves, if Congress or the Federal Communications Commission will listen to three of five members of the Federal Trade Commission, who came out in favor of such a move but lack the power to implement it.

Those were the developments last week, as the FTC reported to Congress and a new report on the health consequences of smoking was issued by HEW Secretary Wilbur J. Cohen. The new report makes the strongest statements against the cigarette habit since the early indictments of cigarettes as a cause of lung cancer.

Evidence is presented to show that for heavy smokers, those who smoke over two packs a day, life expectancy among young men is reduced by an average of eight years. The reduction averages four years for light cigarette smokers, those who smoke less than one-half pack per day.

The link between smoking and coronary heart disease is further reinforced.

The report outlines evidence that smoking causes fatal heart disease by adversely affecting the interaction between the demand of the heart for oxygen and other nutrients and their supply.

Secretary Cohen says the proposed change in labeling should appear not only on the cigarette package but on cigarette vending machines and in all advertisements; also that levels of tar and nicotine in cigarette smoke should be similarly given. He wants authorization to add other harmful substances to this listing.

**Although** it is too late in the Congressional year to expect any direct action on these recommendations before 1969, Senator Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) is expected to re-introduce his bill directed at revised labeling as soon as possible.

The Federal Trade Commission last tried to get a stiff warning on cigarette packs and into cigarette advertising three years ago. At that time the Congress enacted the compromise warning that now stands, exempted advertising from having to carry it, and prohibited the FTC from making any further advertising and labeling demands. That restriction expires a year from now.

Cigarette advertising on television, the FTC told the Congress, has grown from \$170 million in 1964 to \$226 million last year.