

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

Science serves its readers as a forum for the presentation and discussion of important issues related to the advancement of science, including the presentation of minority or conflicting points of view, rather than by publishing only material on which a consensus has been reached. Accordingly, all articles published in *Science*—including editorials, news and comment, and book reviews—are signed and reflect the individual views of the authors and not official points of view adopted by the AAAS or the institutions with which the authors are affiliated.

Editorial Board 1974

ALFRED BROWN	FRANK W. PUTNAM
JAMES F. CROW	MAXINE F. SINGER
SEYMOUR S. KEY	GORDON WOLMAN
FRANK PRESS	

1975

HERBERT S. GUTOWSKY	DONALD LINDSLEY
N. BRUCE HANNAY	RUTH PATRICK
DONALD KENNEDY	RAYMOND H. THOMPSON
DANIEL E. KOSHLAND, JR.	

Editorial Staff

Editor

PHILIP H. ABELSON

<i>Publisher</i>	<i>Business Manager</i>
WILLIAM BEVAN	HANS NUSSBAUM

Managing Editor: ROBERT V. ORMES

Assistant Editors: ELLEN E. MURPHY, JOHN E. RINGLE

Assistants to the Editors: NANCY TEIMOURIAN, PATRICIA ROWE

News and Comment: JOHN WALSH, LUTHER J. CARTER, DEBORAH SHAPLEY, ROBERT GILLETTE, NICHOLAS WADE, CONSTANCE HOLDEN, BARBARA J. CULLITON, SCHERRAINE MACK

Research News: ALLEN L. HAMMOND, WILLIAM D. MEIZ, THOMAS H. MAUGH II, JEAN L. MARX, ARTHUR L. ROBINSON, GINA BARI KOLATA

Book Reviews: KATHERINE LIVINGSTON, ANN O'BRIEN

Cover Editor: GRAYCE FINGER

Editorial Assistants: MARGARET ALLEN, ISABELLA BOULDIN, ELEANORE BUTZ, MARY DORFMAN, SYLVIA EBERHART, JUDITH GIVELBER, CORRINE HARRIS, NANCY HARTNAGEL, OLIVER HEATWOLE, CHRISTINE KARLIK, MARGARET LLOYD, ERIC POGGENPOHL, JEAN ROCKWOOD, LEAH RYAN, LOIS SCHMITT, MICHAEL SCHWARTZ, RICHARD SEMIKLOSE, YA LI SWIGART, ELEANOR WARNER

Guide to Scientific Instruments: RICHARD SOMMER

Membership Recruitment: GWENDOLYN HUDDLE;
Subscription Records and Member Records: ANN RAGLAND

Advertising Staff

<i>Director</i>	<i>Production Manager</i>
EARL J. SCHERAGO	MARGARET STERLING

Advertising Sales Manager: RICHARD L. CHARLES

Sales: NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036: Herbert L. Burkland, 11 W. 42 St. (212-PE-6-1858); SCOTCH PLAINS, N.J. 07076: C. Richard Callis, 12 Unami Lane (201-889-4873); CHICAGO, ILL. 60611: Jack Ryan, Room 2107, 919 N. Michigan Ave. (312-DE-7-4973); BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. 90211: Winn Nance, 111 N. La Cienega Blvd. (213-657-2772); DORSET, VT. 05251: Fred W. Diefenbach, Kent Hill Rd. (802-867-5581)

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE: 1515 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20005. Phones: (Area code 202) Central Office: 467-4350; Book Reviews: 467-4367; Business Office: 467-4411; Circulation: 467-4417; Guide to Scientific Instruments: 467-4480; News and Comment: 467-4430; Reprints and Permissions: 467-4483; Research News: 467-4321; Reviewing: 467-4440. Cable: Advancesci, Washington. Copies of "Instructions for Contributors" can be obtained from the editorial office. See also page xv. *Science*, 28 June 1974. ADVERTISING CORRESPONDENCE: Room 1740, 11 W. 42 St., New York, N.Y. 10036. Phone: 212-PE-6-1858.

AAAS: Retrospect and Prospect

When I was approached by the search committee of the Board of Directors early in the spring of 1970 about the possibility of joining AAAS, I was infected by their enthusiasm for the roles AAAS could play in increasing the public understanding of science and in educating scientists to their responsibilities as citizens.

Shortly after I came to AAAS, I expressed my conviction that the Association must seek to reach out to five populations: the scientific community, youth, teachers and education administrators, leaders in government, and science journalists.

Scientists have become increasingly conscious of parochialism within the scientific enterprise. *Science* has evolved as a counterforce for the broader education of scientists. I take pride in having served as its publisher and in having shared the responsibility for answering the irate letters that are an indicator of a lively journal.

In the field of science education, *Science—A Process Approach* has had a major impact upon instruction at the elementary school level. Similarly, the AAAS-developed curriculum guidelines have been models for education and planning at both the elementary and secondary levels.

The Congressional Seminars conducted for many years jointly with the Brookings Institution and expanded 2 years ago are an effective educational instrument for decision-makers. The program of Congressional Science Fellowships, inaugurated last fall, is among the three or four most important things that the Association has engaged in during its recent history. These fellowships offer scientists and engineers—particularly young scientists and engineers—exciting new career opportunities.

Communications with the public through science journalists have been rather limited. But with our recent participation with the Corporation for Public Broadcasting in science television, our audiotape program, and our community seminars on energy held this year in six cities around the country, there is a glimpse of what is possible.

A sixth audience that I should have included in my earlier list are the artists and writers of our country. The two cultures gap is as broad now as it was when C. P. Snow wrote about it in the late 1950's. Everyone will agree that science profoundly affects our life and times, but we scientists have failed to have a significant impact upon the general scheme of American values.

The artist, in contrast to the scientist, immerses himself in the everyday experiences of people, reflects what society is, and ultimately has a powerful role in shaping what it will become. If we are truly to achieve Bacon's vision of science as the enlightened servant of man, we must take science and, as one great humanist of an earlier day urged upon the artist, "assimilate it to human needs, color it with human passion, transform it into the blood and bone of human nature." Sir William Osler is reported to have said not too many years ago that we are in "yet the childhood of the world, and a supine credulity is still the most charming characteristic of man." If such is the case, it is high time that we got on with the job of teaching society at large that science and technology—as the companion approaches to solving problems that combine logic with observation—are, in the general case, simple, straightforward, and even beautiful in their conceptualization.

My life and times at AAAS have been exhilarating. I've formed many friendships. I've had a great learning experience. As I leave my present post, I look forward to participation in Association affairs as a life member. My enthusiasm and affection for AAAS will long continue.—WILLIAM BEVAN

Science

AAAS: Retrospect and Prospect

William Bevan

Science **185** (4146), 107.
DOI: 10.1126/science.185.4146.107

ARTICLE TOOLS <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/185/4146/107.citation>

PERMISSIONS <http://www.sciencemag.org/help/reprints-and-permissions>

Use of this article is subject to the [Terms of Service](#)

Science (print ISSN 0036-8075; online ISSN 1095-9203) is published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1200 New York Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20005. 2017 © The Authors, some rights reserved; exclusive licensee American Association for the Advancement of Science. No claim to original U.S. Government Works. The title *Science* is a registered trademark of AAAS.