



desk is a plaque given him when he left the NASA program; it's inscribed, in appreciation, with the more than 300 signatures of those who worked with him at the Facility, and of the personnel of the contracting agency as well.

Already a Leasco Vice President, he left the NASA program in 1968 to become Vice President for Information Management in the company's Bethesda offices. In the spring of 1970, he left Leasco to join ISI, where he is now our Senior Vice President for Operations and Administration.

As I've noted, Herb White is well-known in professional circles. Currently he's Chairman of the Delaware Valley Chapter of the American Society for Information Science; he's a past National President of the Special Libraries Association, and has served on numerous state and federal advisory bodies set up to study and promote the practice of library science. He has taught and lectured at a number of universities, and continues to do so whenever he can find the time.

Above all, however, Herb White is a manager, and as such he has in a short time done much to improve ISI's ability to deliver reliable, effective, and current information services at an acceptable cost, always of course with an eye on increasing both quality and cost effectiveness. ISI and our customers alike are already beneficiaries of that watchful eye. Herb White personifies antagonism of inefficiency and excess; every busted budget and scotched schedule is accepted as a personal af-

front. Indeed, he seems to have set out to smash once and for all an axiom--sacred if unspoken--about library and information work to which more of us may have once subscribed than we like to admit: that information work in science is its own justification, or in other words, that whatever resources of time, money, and people such work can absorb, it is justified in absorbing, without question. Herb White can express himself quite volubly on that attitude.

Away from the job and professional activities, he is still a very busy man; he's a member of the Singing City Chorus of Philadelphia, an experienced little theater player, a dogged violinist, and, as often as he can get there, a fireball on the tennis court. Everywhere else in sports he is an avid spectator, when he has not been successful in corralling friends and guests into table tennis, soccer, and basketball competitions.

Herb White has himself best summed up his role at ISI: "What we're trying to do is to bridge the gap between fundamental management concepts and the information sciences, where despite the strength of scholarship, there's been too little operating discipline. ISI is one of the largest private operations of its kind, and we mean to show, in a field where huge deficits and government subsidies have too long been assumed necessary and taken for granted, that good management and good products spell out the same formula for success and customer satisfaction as they do in any other field."

1. Garfield, E. A.E. Cawkell, Information detective--and ISI's man in the U.K. *Current Contents* No. 40, p. 5-6, October 6, 1971.