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THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

At the meeting of the Executive Committee (members present, Roger Adams, O. W. Caldwell, A. J. Carlson, *chairman*, B. E. Livingston, Kirtley F. Mather, Walter R. Miles, F. R. Moulton and E. C. Stakman) held on June 24, 1945, the following actions were taken:

1. The Association will take over the editorship of SCIENCE January 1, 1946.

2. The nominees for consideration in connection with the editorship of SCIENCE secured by the Special Committee (Drs. George A. Baitsell, Philip Bard, Howard P. Barss, W. F. G. Swann) from the canvass of the members of the Council and submitted to the Executive Committee, were subjected to a preferential ballot and the chairman of the Executive Committee was authorized to contact

these nominees in the order of the preference ballot, with reference to availability, and to report to the Executive Committee.

3. The chairman and the Permanent Secretary were authorized to submit the names of nominees for editorial advisers for SCIENCE (two nominees from each section, one to be elected), which were presented to the Executive Committee by the SCIENCE Policy Committee (Malcolm H. Soule, Roger Adams, Walter R. Miles), to the members of the Council for election.

4. The chairman was authorized to appoint a committee to study and make proposals for the acquisition of adequate housing facilities for the growing activities of the Association, and this committee was authorized to proceed immediately to secure funds for a permanent home for the Association.

5. The Philosophy of Science Society (membership 237, of whom 101 are members and 73 are fellows of the Association) was accepted as an affiliated society.

6. In compliance with the ruling of the ODT, the Association plans for no general meetings prior to the summer of 1946. However, the committee authorized: (a) the Permanent Secretary to arrange for two conferences of secretaries of sections and of principal affiliated societies, one conference to be held in the East, and one in the Midwest in the coming autumn or winter; (b) a committee (F. R. Moulton, Howard A. Meyerhoff, O. W. Caldwell, W. E. Wrather and Sam Woodley) to cooperate with appropriate local scientific organizations in holding meetings in localities throughout the United States during the academic year 1945-46. This committee was instructed to arrange at such meetings, wherever possible, at least one session devoted to consideration of the problems of organization of science and scientists in the years immediately following the war.

7. The Chairman, the General Secretary, and the Permanent Secretary were authorized to appoint a managing committee and to secure funds for an Annual Science Writers Award.

8. A plan was approved for a survey of local amateur science societies under the direction of the Permanent Secretary.

F. R. MOULTON,
Permanent Secretary

MEETINGS DURING 1945-1946

ON June 24, the Executive Committee unanimously adopted a report by Kirtley F. Mather on meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science during 1945 and 1946. The text of the report is of interest to all scientists and is herewith printed in full. The three motions which conclude Dr. Mather's statement were passed without a dissenting vote.

(Report by Kirtley F. Mather, June 24, 1945)

There is no reason to expect any relaxation of the ODT restrictions on travel before the spring of 1946 at best. The Executive Committee might well decide now that no general sessions of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held either in September, 1945, or December-January, 1945-46, and announce this decision to the members of the Association. This will clear the way for the planning of several regional meetings during the period between September, 1945, and May, 1946.

Such regional meetings should be on a "catch as catch can" basis, organized in cooperation with appropriate and available local societies. Where possible, meetings should be arranged by a regional association such as a State Academy of Science that has a broad coverage of many scientific fields. [The American Academy of Arts and Sciences (an organization that for all practical purposes takes the place of a hypothetical Massachusetts-Rhode Island Academy of Science) is already prepared to assist in or-

ganizing a joint meeting in Boston.] In certain regions the local sponsorship might be a specialized society, the secretary of which could serve as the key man for making local arrangements and the special field of which might be emphasized, but not to the exclusion of other disciplines, at the meeting.

Plans should include the objective of having a retiring vice-president for some appropriate section deliver his customary address at some one meeting. It should be the aim to cover all the sections and retiring vice-presidents during the year. Presumably in most cases the retiring vice-president would deliver his address at the meeting held in or very near his own place of residence.

The address of the retiring president should be delivered at a meeting held in cooperation with an inclusive organization. Possibilities are: in Boston, cooperating with the American Academy; in New York, cooperating with the New York Academy of Science; in Washington, Philadelphia or Chicago, cooperating with the local academy.

In announcing each meeting, attention should be specifically drawn to the ODT regulations limiting attendance to not more than 50 persons from beyond the regular commuting area surrounding the place of meeting. Ordinarily, only persons scheduled to appear upon the program should be permitted to come to meetings from beyond the commuting area and the number of such persons should be kept well below 50.

The American Association should appropriate money to cover the expenses of such meetings, and the national officers should accept a large share of responsibility for planning and organizing the meetings. Allotments should be made in advance by the office of the Permanent Secretary.

The following motions are proposed:

Moved, that, in accordance with the rulings of the Office of Defense Transportation, the American Association for the Advancement of Science make no plans for general meetings prior to the summer of 1946.

Moved, that the AAAS cooperate with appropriate local scientific organizations in holding regional meetings at several localities throughout the United States during the academic year 1945-46. To facilitate the organization of such meetings, a committee on regional meetings, consisting of the Permanent Secretary (Dr. Moulton), the Executive Secretary (Dr. Meyerhoff), the General Secretary (Dr. Caldwell), the Executive Assistant (Mr. Woodley) and the Treasurer (Dr. Wrather), be and hereby is appointed. This committee is hereby authorized to allot and expend funds totalling in the aggregate not more than \$2,500.00 toward the expenses of such meetings.

Moved, that wherever possible the regional meetings include at least one session to be devoted to the consideration of problems pertaining to the role and organization of science and scientists in the years immediately following the termination of the war.