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# Association Affairs

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## Housing Arrangements in St. Louis

St. Louis promises to be an ideal place for the first large-scale convention held by the AAAS for the past four years. Its hotels will provide 54 meeting rooms, while the St. Louis Municipal Auditorium or Kiel Memorial, engaged for the Association's exhibitions, will furnish an additional 16 meeting halls, 12 of which have a seating capacity of 250 or more.

Even so, our tentative program shows that as many as 40 to 60 meetings may be in progress at one time, and since most of these consist of groups of 100 or more, the necessity of housing the sessions of some societies apart from their headquarters hotel is apparent. This is even more true this year than in prewar years.

Reservations for sleeping quarters in St. Louis should be arranged through the Housing Bureau, 910 Syndicate Trust Building, St. Louis 1, Missouri, and must be made not later than 17 March. Requests for rooms to be occupied by two or more are more likely to be honored than those for single rooms.

Even with the best cooperation between the membership and the Housing Bureau, it is clear at this time that sleeping quarters in hotels are going to be completely inadequate. Every agency is now being used to track down every available room in private residences. These rooms will be comfortable, but not distinguished—they will be in homes whose families have on other occasions "rented a room for a night" to tourists or to conventioners. When these resources are exhausted there will still be an acute room shortage. The officers and the committee on local arrangements need to have access to the homes of professional people where under ordinary circumstances to rent an extra room would be an unheard of practice. This note is a direct appeal to the membership and their friends in and around St. Louis to open their homes to their colleagues from out of town. In cases where it is possible at all, a person going to St. Louis for the meetings should make his own arrangements.

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## News and Notes

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*Dr. Morris B. Jacobs*, senior chemist, Department of Health of the City of New York, has been designated chief of the Chemical Laboratory of the Department of Health.

*Dr. Elmer L. Sevringhaus*, professor of medicine at the University of Wisconsin, has accepted an appointment as director of clinical research for Hoffman-La Roche, Inc., and will assume his new post on 15 March at the laboratories in Nutley, New Jersey. The research and clinical program in endocrine, metabolic, and nutritional problems at the Wisconsin General Hospital will be carried on by Dr. Edgar S. Gordon, who has been associated with Dr. Sevringhaus for several years and who returned from military duty in January 1946.

*Dr. Victor T. Allen* has been appointed director of the Department of Geology at Saint Louis University. He has been on wartime leave of absence from his position as professor of geology at Saint Louis University since 1942, serving as commodity geologist for

clay minerals in the U. S. Geological Survey. He will take over his new duties at the beginning of the first summer session on 13 May 1946.

*Joseph A. Volk*, radio engineer and graduate of the Technical University of Stuttgart, Germany, has been appointed instructor in engineering in the Institute of Geophysical Technology of Saint Louis University.

*Dr. Howard de Forest*, professor of botany at the University of Southern California for the past 23 years, retired in November 1945. Dr. de Forest is president of the chapter of Sigma Xi at the University for 1945-1946.

*Dr. Harrison Davies*, appearing before the Senate Committee on the control of atomic energy on 28 January, representing the Federation of Atomic Scientists, took the position that military men should not hold policy-making positions on any board or control commission. He said that it was "in the best tradition" of American Government that policy be set by civilians. "A subject fraught with such tremendous

significance to our foreign policy as the development of atomic energy in this country must certainly be freed from every vestige of military control."

*Dr. Woodrow W. Middlekauff*, Cornell University, has recently been appointed assistant professor of entomology and assistant entomologist in the Agricultural Experiment Station, Division of Entomology and Parasitology, University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Middlekauff has recently left the army.

*Professor Charles C. Grove*, of the CCNY Mathematics Department, retired on 1 February after 25 years of service.

*Capt. Alexander B. Klots*, Sn.C., assistant professor of biology, College of the City of New York, delivered an address on 14 January on "Aeroplane Spraying and the New Uses of DDT" to the staff of the Servicio Especial de Saude Publico in Belem, Para, Brazil.

*Dr. Hallowell Davis*, associate professor of physiology at Harvard Medical School, will join the staff of Central Institute for the Deaf, St. Louis, as director of research. In collaboration with other members of the staff he will direct the expansion of the research and clinical program dealing with all phases of deafness, hearing, and speech defects.

*Lt. Col. Francis E. Colien*, Sn.C., who has served as executive officer, chief of Laboratory Service, and medical inspector, will resume his duties as associate professor of bacteriology and public health and preventive medicine at Creighton University School of Medicine and as director of laboratories, City Health Department, Omaha, Nebraska.

*Dr. James N. DeLamater* has recently been appointed assistant professor of tropical medicine and parasitology in the School of Medicine of the University of Southern California. Before joining the staff of the University Dr. DeLamater was executive officer of the Department of Epidemiology at the Naval Medical School, Bethesda, Maryland.

*Dr. Eric T. B. Gross* has been appointed professor of electric power system engineering at Illinois Institute of Technology.

## Announcements

*Mr. C. N. Davies*, of the Industrial Health Research Board, London School of Hygiene, has reported an observation to *Nature* (1945, 156, 666) which will be of interest to readers in the United States:

In his book "Essays on the Floating-Matter of the Air" (1881), the physicist John Tyndall describes experiments which he carried out in 1876 refuting the

doctrine of spontaneous generation of life. In the course of these experiments tubes of organic infusions were infected with organisms after exposure to the atmosphere. A number of cases occurred when such tubes, which were turbid and swarming with bacteria, became covered with *Penicillium glaucum*, three unspecified kinds being noticed. The bacteria in these tubes lost their translatory power and fell to the bottom, leaving the liquid between them and the superficial layer clear. Tyndall ascribes this to the success of the moulds in the struggle for existence and notes that access of oxygen to the body of fluid must have been hindered. He did not, however, test the clear liquid for its capacity to support newly implanted bacterial life. It is interesting to speculate upon what the consequences might have been had Tyndall allowed himself to be drawn from his main investigation.

*Radio amateurs have made contacts over a range of 31 miles in the first use of super-high-frequency microwave bands outside the military and commercial tests.*

A. E. Harrison, W6BMS, and Reuben Merchant, W2LGF, both of the Sperry Corporation, New York, using the 5,250- to 5,650-megacycle band, made contact at 5 miles and later reached 31 miles.

Microwaves, used in wartime radar, are found in super-high frequencies that have not been open to amateur radio operators before. Limited in distance, microwave beams are narrower than ordinary waves and permit use of smaller antennae and directional equipment not practical at lower frequencies—*Science Service*.

*The Givaudan-Delawanna Corporation* has granted to Dr. P. B. Price, professor of surgery, University of Utah, \$5,250 for the investigation of skin disinfection.

*The Armored Medical Research Laboratory*, Fort Knox, Kentucky, is being reorganized by Col. Conn L. Milburn, Jr., MC, utilizing primarily civilian instead of military personnel. Tentatively the Laboratory is planning to continue its basic investigations into the physiological relationships of man to his environment and to the equipment that he uses in warfare. Somewhat greater emphasis will be placed on certain psychological aspects of these problems than was previously possible. Individuals interested in research work pertaining to the fields of biochemistry, physics, physiology, and psychology should write to Col. Milburn, Armored Medical Research Laboratory, Fort Knox, Kentucky.

*Sixty-five members of the scientific faculty* of Rutgers University have addressed a petition to President Truman and their Congressional representatives urging international control of atomic energy and free

interchange of scientific ideas. The Rutgers faculty members stated their belief that the security of the United States can be achieved only through international cooperation for the joint control of atomic energy and atomic weapons. "We believe," their petition said, "that a policy of secret research and exclusive national control can only result in a ruinous competitive armaments race in which all the nations of the world will join, leading to the danger of a new and catastrophic world war. From such a war no people will emerge free, if indeed, they survive at all." They urged that the United States immediately invite Great Britain and the Soviet Union to a conference to prevent competitive armaments and to take up the problems arising from the development of atomic energy.

Stating further their belief that any legislation which stifles free and open scientific investigation and public surveillance and criticism of the application of atomic energy will hamper scientific progress, undermine peace, and thereby harm the national interest, the petitioners urged Congressional action to prevent it. They further urged that "security regulations be limited to direct military application of atomic power and that free research and right of publication be immediately resumed in the field of atomic physics."

## Elections

*The Rochester Academy of Science* announces the following officers for 1946: Dr. Sherman C. Bishop, Department of Biology, University of Rochester, president; Dr. Gordon M. Meade, Medical School, University of Rochester, vice-president; Milroy N. Stewart, 172 Roosevelt Road, Rochester 10, secretary; William S. Cornwell, 109 Titus Avenue, Rochester 5, treasurer; and Mrs. David E. Jensen, Pittsford, New York, corresponding secretary. The Section chairmen are: Botany, Dr. Grace A. B. Carter, 30 Vassar Street, Rochester 7; Mineralogy, Robert C. Vance, Pittsford; Photography, H. Lou Gibson, 5274 St. Paul Street, Rochester 12; Astronomy, Paul W. Stevens, 2322 Westfall Road, Rochester, 10; Meteorology, Emil Raab, U. S. Weather Bureau, Municipal Airport, Rochester 11.

W. W. Horner, St. Louis consulting engineer was elected president of the American Society of Civil Engineers for 1946. The new vice-presidents are Arthur W. Harrington, district engineer, U. S. Geological Survey, Albany, and J. T. L. McNew, vice-president of Agricultural and Mechanical College, Texas.

Dr. Louis B. Howard, assistant chief of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry, has

been elected chairman of the California Section of the American Chemical Society.

Dr. M. Rocha e Silva has been elected president of the São Paulo branch of the Brazilian Biological Society, for the period January–December 1946. Dr. Rocha e Silva is head of the Department of Biochemistry and Pharmacodynamics at the Biological Institute of São Paulo.

*The Genetics Society of America* has elected the following officers for 1946: Dr. G. W. Beadle, president; Dr. Karl Sax, vice-president. Dr. L. H. Snyder is serving the third year of a three-year term as secretary-treasurer.

*The Society of American Bacteriologists* announces the election of the following officers to serve in 1946: Dr. James Craigie, Toronto, president; Dr. Thomas Francis, Jr., Ann Arbor, vice-president; Dr. Leland W. Parr, Washington, D. C., secretary-treasurer; Dr. M. J. Rosenau, Chapel Hill, and Dr. Frederick Smith, Montreal, councilors.

*The Emory University Chapter* of the Society of Sigma Xi has elected the following as officers for 1946: Dr. Evangeline Papageorge, president; Dr. W. B. Redmond, vice-president; Dr. L. W. Blitch, treasurer; Dr. A. C. Munyan, custodian; and Dr. R. T. Lagemann, secretary.

*The Philosophical Society of Washington* has announced the following officers for 1946: Francis M. Defandorf, president; Fred L. Mohler and Walter Ramberg, vice-presidents; Francis E. Johnston, corresponding secretary; Kenneth L. Sherman, recording secretary; and Frank C. Kracek, treasurer. On 5 January, George Ray Wait, retiring president, addressed the 1258th meeting of the Society on "Some Experiments Relating to the Electrical Conductivity of the Lower Atmosphere."

*The Western Society of Naturalists* held its Fifteenth Annual Winter Meeting at Mills College, Oakland, California, on 27–29 December. The following officers were elected for 1946: Laurence M. Klauber, Natural History Museum, San Diego, president; Gordon F. Ferris, Stanford University, vice-president; Herbert W. Graham, Mills College, secretary-treasurer; Boris Krichesky, University of California at Los Angeles, and Herbert L. Mason, University of California, Berkeley, members at large on the Executive Committee.

## Meetings

*The Southwestern Allergy Forum* will meet in Houston, Texas, on 8–9 April under the chairmanship of Dr. Owen, Jackson, Mississippi. Dean C. D. Leake,

University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, will address the evening meeting on 8 April on the subject: "Drugs in Allergy."

The 1946 annual meeting of the American Leather Chemists Association is scheduled to be held at the Hotel Sagamore, Lake George, on 19-21 June.

### Conditions Abroad

*Dr. N. Voronikhin* (Woronichin), of the Komarov Botanical Institute, Academy of Sciences, writes to Dr. William Randolph Taylor: "I and my comrades in the same specialty, except Dr. A. Elenkin, who died, are in good health and are working successfully. The Department of Sporogenous Plants of our Institute, including the phycological collections, are in splendid shape." Dr. Voronikhin has published extensively on freshwater algae. The late Dr. Elenkin was a foremost authority on the myxophycean algae.

*Dr. Gregorio Velasquez*, of the University of the Philippines, writes to Dr. William Randolph Taylor that the Department of Botany is resuming its work under the greatest difficulties but is making progress and is anxious to resume the marine algal survey of the islands begun before the war in conjunction with the University of Michigan. Dr. Eduardo Quisumbing, chief of the Natural History Museum, offers cooperation also. He reports the loss of Dr. José B. Juliano, a plant cytologist, during the war.

*Dr. Julius Zweibaum*, professor of histology at the University of Warsaw, Poland, has communicated recently with Dr. Ludwik Anigstein, of the University of Texas School of Medicine. After being arrested by the Gestapo and having escaped from jail, he was confined to the Warsaw ghetto, where he was wounded during the uprising and rescued from the ruins. With astonishing energy and determination Prof. Zweibaum is now rebuilding the Department of Histology, which has been completely destroyed by the Germans. All the laboratory equipment as well as the library have perished. There is an urgent need for microscopes, microtomes, incubators, glassware, and reagents. In view of complete lack of textbooks, J. Zweibaum is writing a new manual of histology. He is seriously handicapped by the lack of literature, a fountain pen, and typewriter.

*L. B. Uichanco*, dean, University of the Philippines College of Agriculture, Los Banos, Laguna, Philippines, has written to Dean William D. Funkhouser, University of Kentucky, Lexington, as follows:

I am certainly happy to be able to get in touch with you again after the Japanese had isolated us for three years from the rest of the world. The campus of my college is very different now from what it was when you

and the late Richard C. McGregor paid me a visit several years ago. The retreating Japanese systematically set fire to most of the buildings. At present, we are almost starting again from the very beginning, with all of our collections, library, laboratory equipment, and records destroyed. Even our pedigreed farm animals and selected seeds are gone. I myself was under sentence of death in 1943, but I fortunately escaped with a dislocated left arm resulting from a severe and prolonged torture by the Japanese, and I cheated death for the second time last February when the Japanese massacred the Filipinos wholesale. I have recovered completely, however, and I am again at work with my colleagues on the faculty who nearly all fortunately escaped being murdered.

### Recent Deaths

*Dr. Waller Smith Leathers*, 71, emeritus dean of Vanderbilt University's School of Medicine died at Nashville on 26 January.

*Dr. Adriaan Van Maanen*, 61, Mount Wilson Observatory astronomer, died on 26 January in Pasadena.

*Prof. Leon Marchlewski*, 80, Polish chemist and former rector of Jagellonian University, Cracow, has died in Cracow according to the Polish Press Agency.

*Dr. Mazyck Porcher Ravenel*, 84, first bacteriologist of the Pennsylvania State Livestock Sanitary Board, died of pneumonia on 14 January at Columbia, Missouri.

*Dr. Ernest Noble Pattee*, 81, founder and until his retirement head of the Syracuse University Chemistry Department for 51 years, died on 17 January.

*Dr. George D. McLaughlin*, 58, Director of B. D. Eisendrath Memorial Laboratory, Racine, Wisconsin, former professor of leather research and director of Tanners' Council Laboratory, University of Cincinnati, Ohio, died 15 October 1945.

*Dr. T. A. Tengwall*, Swedish botanist and agronomist, formerly vice-director of the Experiment Station, West Java, Buitenzorg; sometime director of the Institute for Tropical Agriculture, Antalya, Turkey, and director of the Research Department, Firestone Plantation Company, Liberia; and lately, rubber adviser to the Board for the Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao, New York City, died suddenly in New York City on 19 January.

*Prof. Harry Bateman*, 63, of the California Institute of Technology, died in Utah on 21 January while on his way to New York.

*Dr. E. B. Holt*, 72, an early behaviorist, died on 25 January in Rockland, Maine. He was a visiting professor of psychology at Princeton University from 1926 to 1936.