

From these data it is seen that freezing, drying, thorough disintegration of the chloroplasts, or precipitation by ammonium sulfate results in preparations that still retain considerable activity. In conclusion, we may say that these experiments show that the ability to produce oxygen is a property not only of intact chloroplasts but also of material which has been exposed to some of the conditions that would be necessary in attempts to fractionate the enzymes involved in the reaction by which oxygen is produced.

Addendum: The papers of Warburg and Lüttgens (9), announcing the discovery of a similar reaction of chloroplasts which form oxygen and hydroquinone with an energy uptake of 52,000 calories, supplied by light, have recently become available to us. The qui-

none reaction appears even more promising than the one here described as a means of investigating the mechanism of photosynthetic oxygen evolution in green plants.

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Association Affairs

The One Hundred Twelfth Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

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THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH MEETING of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was held in St. Louis, Missouri, 27-31 March 1946, inclusive. At this meeting, the fifth held in St. Louis, a completely revised constitution of the Association was formally adopted by the Council. The preceding constitution of the Association was adopted at the third St. Louis meeting, held in December of 1919.

Never before has the Association held an annual meeting under such trying conditions. The prohibition on the holding of meetings by the Office of Defense Transportation was removed so late in the year that only three months were available for preparations for the St. Louis meeting. An obvious suggestion would be that it should have been held later or in some other city. The answers to this suggestion are that there was no other city which would undertake to provide even limited accommodations for such a large meeting and that there were no other four consecutive days in which some other convention had not been scheduled for St. Louis. Since only one meeting of the Association had been held in the preceding four years, and since the next available time for a meet-

ing would be a year later (in December 1946), it was decided to proceed with plans in spite of difficulties.

The St. Louis meeting was not a simple convention but a joint meeting of 41 independent societies and 13 sections of the Association. All meeting arrangements for these 54 organizations, including rooms and facilities for 229 sessions, were made by the staff of the Association. In order to provide accommodations for them it was necessary to have 58 different meeting rooms, many of which had to be equipped with projection apparatus. At times as many as 40 sessions were held simultaneously, necessitating the use of practically all suitable meeting rooms throughout the city. The most difficult problem, however, was that of providing living accommodations for those attending the meeting. The St. Louis Convention and Publicity Bureau gave the Association unfailing cooperation and assistance in obtaining rooms in all possible places, including hotels, local educational institutions, and private homes. Written appeals for assistance were sent by the Association to its 300 members in St. Louis, and they generously extended it up to the limits of their capacities to accept temporary guests in their homes. Despite these efforts it was

necessary to send notices to several hundred applicants for accommodations that rooms would not be available. The serious shortages in accommodations were indirect consequences of the war and were almost invariably accepted by scientists with the same fortitude exhibited by them in meeting hardships throughout the war.

REGISTRATION

A much large number of scientists attended the meeting than was expected under the existing unfavorable conditions, with the result that copies of the General Program were exhausted on the second day, at which time the registration was far from complete. Nevertheless, 2,649 persons from 46 states, the District of Columbia, and 14 foreign countries registered as follows: Alabama, 19; Arkansas, 24; California, 49; Colorado, 22; Connecticut, 37; Delaware, 8; District of Columbia, 53; Florida, 15; Georgia, 23; Illinois, 436; Indiana, 120; Iowa, 111; Kansas, 60; Kentucky, 16; Louisiana, 23; Maine, 6; Maryland, 56; Massachusetts, 48; Michigan, 132; Minnesota, 80; Mississippi, 17; Missouri, 530; Montana, 2; Nebraska, 47; Nevada, 2; New Hampshire, 1; New Jersey, 37; New Mexico, 5; New York, 182; North Carolina, 15; North Dakota, 11; Ohio, 115; Oklahoma, 61; Oregon, 1; Pennsylvania, 65; Rhode Island, 3; South Carolina, 12; South Dakota, 7; Tennessee, 35; Texas, 58; Utah, 6; Vermont, 1; Virginia, 39; Washington, 7; West Virginia, 10; Wisconsin, 100; Wyoming, 5; Argentina, 2; Belgium, 1; Brazil, 1; Canada, 13; China, 1; Cuba, 1; England, 2; Hawaii, 4; India, 3; Mexico, 4; Panama, 1; Puerto Rico, 3; Siam, 1; Venezuela, 1.

The distribution of the registrants proves that the St. Louis meeting was national, and even international to a considerable degree; the general program and the reports which follow show that the papers presented ranged widely over the numerous fields of the natural and the social sciences. After a long dearth of scientific meetings scientists could well afford to endure

some inconveniences for such opportunities for conferring with their fellow scientists.

GENERAL SESSIONS

Four general sessions open to the public were held. On Wednesday evening, 27 March, the retiring president of the Association, Dr. Anton J. Carlson, delivered an address before a large and appreciative audience on: "Is There 'a Standard to Which the Wise and the Honest Can Repair?'" Dr. James B. Conant, president of the Association for 1946, presided. Dr. Carlson's address was printed in full in *Science*, 1946, 103, 377-382.

On Thursday evening, 28 March, the twenty-second Annual Lecture under the joint auspices of the Association and the Society of the Sigma Xi was delivered by Dr. E. C. Stakman, of the University of Minnesota, whose topic was: "Progress and Problems in Controlling Diseases of Crop Plants." This session, of which Dr. Conant was chairman, was well attended and enthusiastically received.

At the third general session, held on Friday evening, 28 March, Dr. Irwin Edman delivered the ninth Annual Lecture sponsored jointly by the Association and the United Chapters of the Phi Beta Kappa. Dr. Edman's address, on "Science and the Dream of Happiness," was listened to with much pleasure by an exceptionally large and distinguished audience. Dr. Arthur H. Compton, a former president of the Association and recently elected chancellor of Washington University, presided at the meeting and introduced Dr. Edman.

The illustrated lecture sponsored jointly by the National Geographic Society and the Association drew an audience that filled to overflowing the large opera house of the Kiel Auditorium. Mr. Luis Marden, staff photographer and writer of the National Geographic Magazine, delivered an address on "Seeing Costa Rica," which was illustrated by colored motion pictures.

Meeting of the Council of the AAAS

Hotel Jefferson, St. Louis, Missouri, 27 March 1946, 2:00 P.M.

Otis W. Caldwell

General Secretary, AAAS

The presiding officer, A. J. Carlson, chairman of the Executive Committee, asked Secretaries Moulton and Meyerhoff to present items of business recommended by the Executive Committee.

1. It was moved by B. E. Livingston that the official year of the AAAS shall be the same as the calendar year. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. It was moved by B. E. Livingston that the Cleve-