
News and Notes

About People

O. J. R. Howarth is retiring from his position as secretary of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, which office he has held since 1909. His successor will be D. N. Lowe, who served as assistant secretary before the war and who has only recently returned from government service.

Alfred S. Romer, curator of Vertebrate Paleontology and director of the Biological Laboratories, Harvard University, will become director of the University's Museum of Comparative Zoology on 1 September. Prof. Romer will succeed the late Thomas Barbour. Henry B. Bigelow has served as acting director since last January.

Loren C. Eiseley, professor and head of the Department of Sociology, Oberlin College, is visiting professor of anthropology at Columbia University during the summer session.

Mildred Trotter has been promoted to professor of gross anatomy at Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis.

Thomas Scott Sutton, of the Department of Animal Husbandry at Ohio State University, has been appointed director of the newly-established Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology to be operated by the University and the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station at Wooster, Ohio.

William Lee Hart, medical director of the Eighth Service Command, U. S. Army, during the war, was awarded a L.H.D. degree by the Southwestern Medical Foundation at the commencement exercises of its Medical School on 10 June.

Joseph F. Sadusk, Jr., formerly executive officer of the United States of America Typhus Commission, is returning to the Department of Internal Medicine, Yale University.

Charles N. Frey, director of Scientific Relations, Standard Brands, Inc., New York City, received the Doctor of Science degree from Michigan State College on 8 June.

R. T. Crawford, of the Berkeley Astronomical Department, University of California, retired from astronomical service and became professor of astronomy emeritus and director emeritus of the Students' Observatory on 1 July 1946.

Raymond D. Mindlin, associate professor of civil engineering at Columbia University, where he has been a member of the staff since 1932, has recently been awarded the Medal for Merit for his wartime work in the development of the radio proximity fuse.

Prof. Mindlin was largely responsible for the mechanical design of the radio tubes in the proximity fuse. Following completion of this development in 1943, he became head of a mathematics group which participated in the design of an electromechanical director for the control of naval anti-aircraft fire. In addition, he made special investigations and reports for the Bureau of Ordnance, Navy Department.

Roy G. Bossert will return to the faculty of the Chemistry Department, Ohio Wesleyan University, as an associate professor in September. Dr. Bossert taught at Ohio Wesleyan from 1937 until 1944, but has been stationed at Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh, for the past two years.

Clyde Eyster, head of the Botany Department, University of South Dakota, has been appointed research plant physiologist at Kettering Foundation for the Study of Chlorophyll and Photosynthesis and associate professor of plant physiology at Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, effective 1 September 1946.

Announcements

The McNeeley-Pepper Bill to provide \$100,000,000 for cancer control was defeated by a vote of 139 to 126 in the House Saturday, 27 July. Opponents of the measure said that in general they approved of the objectives set forth, but they thought that it was too loosely drawn to accomplish its goal. Several said that the present program of the National Cancer Institute and the United States Public Health Service should be expanded since their programs are already under way.

The Agricultural Institute of Canada held its 26th annual meeting at Macdonald College, Quebec, on 24-27 June. The scientific sessions covered the Agricultural Engineering, Horticulture, and Soils Groups of the Institute together with the Canadian Societies of Animal Production, Agricultural Economics, and Phytopathology. S. B. Fracker, research coordinator, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, spoke on "The Organization of

Agricultural Research," and J. E. Carrigan, dean of the College of Agriculture, University of Vermont, spoke on "The Organization of Agricultural Extension" at the General Open Session.

Numerous openings are available in the Naval Ordnance Laboratory for physicists, mathematicians, engineers, and technicians, both in Washington and at other stations. The classifications range widely from P-1, at \$2,644.80 per annum, to P-8, at \$9,975.00 per annum under the new Federal pay scales. Complete job descriptions are contained in *Scientific Personnel Bulletin*, Employment Series No. 2, dated 1 June 1946. Applicants should submit Form 57 to: Navy Department, Certification Unit, Building L, Room 2209, Washington, D. C. (for positions in Washington); and U. S. Navy Office of Research and Inventions, Branch Office, 150 Causeway Street, Boston, Massachusetts; 1 Park Avenue, New York 16, New York; America-Fore Building, 844 Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois; or 616 Mission Street, San Francisco 5, California (for positions outside of Washington, D. C.).

Since 1920 the Naval Ordnance Laboratory has grown from a small research group of 14 or 15 scientists to an organization which now employs over 1,500 persons. The new \$16,000,000 plant at White Oak, Maryland, northeast of Silver Spring, will be occupied sometime during the summer. Many of the best residential areas of the Washington suburbs are within five miles of the 938-acre site at White Oak.

The *Genetics Society of America*, through its Committee on Aid to Geneticists Abroad, has recently called attention to the plight of Prof. Wiczeslaw Savicki (sometimes transliterated Savitsky) and his wife, E. I. Haretekhko-Savitzkaya, who are at present interned in the Displaced Persons' Camp operated by UNRRA at Oberammergau, Germany. According to information in the hands of the Genetics Society, Prof. Savicki, who was formerly employed at the University of Kiev as professor of genetics, is in danger of being returned to the Ukraine where, according to him, they would be executed "because they hold the views of Western World geneticists." Prof. Savicki is appealing for help to get to the United States. His address is: Oberammergau, Bavaria, Germany, UNRRA Team 568, Ausländerlager.

The *British Association for the Advancement of Science* met for only one day this year on 20 July in the hall of the British Medical Association, Tavistock Square, where the president, Sir Richard Gregory, delivered his address, "Civilization and the Pursuit of Knowledge." Next year when the Association meets at Dundee, it is hoped that attendance will again approximate the prewar level of 1,500.

Tracerlab, Inc., 55 Oliver Street, Boston, has been organized by a group of young physicists and engineers, some of whom were associated with the Radiation Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to develop and manufacture instruments, to make radioactivity analyses, and to offer consultation services in various phases of radioactive tracer research. The premises in Boston house complete, modern research and analytical laboratories, together with manufacturing facilities and offices.

The *Department of Chemistry, University of Pittsburgh*, has published its history, which now extends over a period of 80 years. More than 550 publications emanating from the Department are listed. There are 525 graduates in all, and during the period of 1913 on, 164 Ph.D.'s have been granted. The publication lists the names of the candidates and the titles of the theses. The compiler of the work is Alexander Silverman, professor of inorganic chemistry and head of the Department, who has served in the department for 40 years.

A world-wide exchange of views among scientists on the problems of atomic energy control has been initiated by the Federation of American Scientists through its Committee for Foreign Correspondence. The Federation is undertaking to establish direct contact by mail between scientists in this country and those in all parts of the world. By this means the Federation aims not only to strengthen bonds of friendship but also to encourage the development of a concerted attack on the difficulties which stand in the way of peaceful, international control of atomic energy.

The present lack of mutual understanding on this question may, the Federation believes, "dangerously strengthen national isolationism at a time when world peace and security depend upon a rapid extension of international cooperation." They hope to send published material abroad which will reflect the thinking and feeling of American scientists. In this way, they say, "we can convince scientists of other nations that their colleagues in America have joined forces to promote international cooperation and that they are determined in particular to avoid an atomic armament race. We can show what has been accomplished in this country toward this goal and can give hope that a constructive solution, acceptable to all peoples, is possible. The extent to which literature can be sent for these purposes depends on the support of all interested persons."

The Federation reports that more than 7,000 letters and questionnaires have been sent to American scientists, and in return the names and addresses of over 1,000 foreign scientists from about 40 countries have been submitted to the Committee.

The Federation points out that the success of its program depends on the participation of the numerous scientists in all fields, both inside and outside the Federation, who have not yet been contacted by the Committee. Individuals are urged to give their much needed help by: (1) sending to the Committee, preferably on the standard questionnaire form obtainable by sending a postcard to the Committee, a list of foreign scientists to whom they would be willing to write; (2) sending to the Committee the names and addresses of American friends who know foreign scientists; (3) sending contributions for the support of the Committee's work. The cost of republishing the required material and mailing it abroad will overtax the funds of the Federation. Address A. S. Bishop, chairman, or Oliver Johnson, treasurer, The Committee for Foreign Correspondence, Box 615, Berkeley, California.

"Magnetism and the Structure of Catalytically Active Solids" will be the subject of a series of lectures and discussions by Pierce W. Selwood on 3-7 September, according to an announcement by the Chemistry Department, Northwestern University. This series is designed especially for research workers interested in the structure of catalytically active inorganic solids and in related problems. The lectures will emphasize the part played by magnetic susceptibility measurements in modern structural inorganic chemistry.

Registrants are invited to bring their own samples for measurement, in which case they are urged to communicate with Prof. Selwood in advance. Standard samples such as gamma-alumina, chromia-alumina, nickel-kieselguhr, copper, chromite, etc. will be on hand.

Topics to be covered include the following:

Tuesday, 3 September, 2:00 P. M.—General Principles of Magnetochemistry; *Wednesday*, 4 September, 10:00 A. M.—Instrumentation; *Thursday*, 5 September, 10:00 A. M.—Free Radicals and Complex Compounds; *Friday*, 6 September, 10:00 A. M.—Susceptibility Isotherms; *Saturday*, 7 September, 10:00 A. M.—Curie Point Diagrams.

Northwestern University will provide housing for registrants, the number of which will be limited. The registration fee, including housing, is \$125. Inquiries should be addressed to Robert K. Summerbell, Chairman, Chemistry Department, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

The AAF School of Aviation Medicine, Randolph Field, Texas, has been affiliated with the AAF Air University, Maxwell Field, Alabama, according to an announcement from the Headquarters of the Army Air Forces. Recent and contemplated developments in extremely high-altitude, high-speed flight, with

their concomitant increased stress and high degree of specialization, and renewed emphasis on the importance of research in the services, have increased the responsibilities of the School and widened the scope of its interests. To provide more adequate facilities to meet these increased problems in aviation medicine, research will be conducted in the following basic and clinical sciences: biophysics, pathology, pharmacology and biochemistry, physical fitness, physiology, psychology, statistics, dentistry, medicine, neuropsychiatry, ophthalmology, and otolaryngology.

Inquiries regarding civilian or military positions are invited and should be addressed to the Commandant, AAF School of Aviation Medicine, Randolph Field, Texas.

A technical committee of the American Standards Association, working to set up an American Standard Practice for the basic procedures used in certifying products to the public, met on 26 April in New York City to work out a final draft of the standard. Increasing use of such procedures is being made in the marketing of consumer goods. The development of a standard practice for the protection of the public was proposed to the ASA by the Association of Consulting Chemists and Chemical Engineers after the latter had studied the problem of public pronouncements of approval of commodities and found practices to vary from valid to invalid with no means of assuring the public of validity.

Among those present at the meeting were representatives of the ACCCE, the National Bureau of Standards, the American Society for Testing Materials, the Federal Trade Commission, the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, the National Association of Purchasing Agents, and the American Council of Commercial Laboratories.

Discussion centered on the criticisms of, and comments on, a previously circulated, tentative standard that had been received from groups concerned with the certification of industrial and consumer goods and services. In general these letters showed widespread approval of the project. They included constructive criticisms received from members of the legal and advertising professions and from trade associations representing the electrical, gas, lumber, and other industries. They also furnished valuable suggestions for clarifying the statement of its purpose and for certain changes in the provisions.

The committee will meet during the summer for a final check on modifications before the standard goes to the ASA Council for approval as an American Standard. It will welcome further suggestions at this time, particularly from advertising and consumer groups. Those wishing to review the present draft

may obtain a copy of it in its uncorrected form by writing to the American Standards Association, 70 East 45th Street, New York 17, New York.

The American Book Center for War Devastated Libraries, Inc., has been organized in the combined interests of library and educational organizations, government agencies, and many other official and non-official bodies to coordinate action and pool resources for restocking the damaged or destroyed libraries in Europe and the Orient. The Center cannot purchase books and periodicals but must depend upon gifts from individuals or organizations. Each state will be organized to participate in the program through the leadership of a state chairman. Other chairmen will organize interest in the principal subject fields.

The scarcity of shipping space demands that all materials be carefully selected. Most urgently needed are books or periodicals (preferably those published within the last decade) that will be useful in research and necessary for the physical, economic, social, and industrial rehabilitation of Europe and the Far East. Although scientific and technological works are especially needed, important contributions and distinguished work in the fields of history, social science, music, fine arts, and literature are also desired.

The following types of literature cannot be used at this time: textbooks, out-dated monographs, recreational reading or materials of localized interest (such as may be found in popular magazines), and popular fiction or nonfiction of temporary significance. Only carefully selected federal or local documents are needed; donors are asked to write direct to the Center in regard to these.

Books and periodicals (tied together by volume with any missing issues listed) should be sent *prepaid* to: The American Book Center, c/o The Library of Congress, Washington 25, D.C. The Center cannot accept material which is sent collect, but if it should be impossible for the donor to assume the costs of transportation, he should notify the Center by card or letter and reimbursement will be made.

A *Committee on Physiology Under Natural Conditions* was proposed and approved at a Conference on Physiological Research on Animals in Their Natural Environments, held in Washington, D. C., 26 April, under the auspices of the National Research Council. Under the chairmanship of Laurence Irving, a program of papers by the following interested biologists was presented at the Conference: Laurence Irving and P. F. Scholander, Swarthmore College; Sir Hubert Wilkins; Alfred C. Redfield, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution; A. E. Parr, American Museum of Natural History; W. H. Forbes, Fatigue Labora-

tory, Harvard University; and August Krogh, University of Copenhagen.

Because of the complexity of physiological methods and recent needs for more practical work, it was felt that research in comparative physiology and physiological studies under truly natural conditions had not received adequate attention. Availability of physiological methods suitable for the field, especially those developed by Dr. Scholander and his colleagues, has increased the scope of projects and sizes of animals that can be studied. It was felt that this type of investigation would refresh the educational system and stimulate interest among young physiologists.

An early meeting of the above-mentioned Committee has been scheduled. Communications upon the subject are invited and may be addressed to Dr. Laurence Irving, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.

"The Use of Radioactive and Stable Isotopes in Biological Research" will be the topic of a symposium at the University of Wisconsin soon. The date has not been announced because security releases have not yet been cleared. It is hoped that all groups using radioactive and stable isotopes in carrying on research can be invited to participate formally in the symposium. Every phase of biological research will be represented on the program. Further announcements will be made when a definite date can be set.

Recent Deaths

Ulric Dahlgren, 65, professor emeritus of biology, Princeton University, died on 30 May.

Howard W. Starkweather, 55, director of research in the fields of elastomers and fine chemicals at the Jackson Laboratory of E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, died on 18 May.

Ali A. Hassan, 86, geologist and mining engineer, died on 7 June. He was educated at the Universities of Vienna, Cracow, and Leopole, and was a member of the International Geological Congress.

Benjamin Freeman Kingsbury, 73, professor emeritus of histology and embryology, Cornell University, and since 1941 guest professor of anatomy, University of North Carolina, died on 8 July in Chapel Hill, following an illness of several weeks.

Alexander Alexandrovich Bogomolets, 65, dean of the Institute of Experimental Biology and Pathology, Kiev, died on 20 July. Dr. Bogomolets was the president of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and the discoverer of the antireticular cytotoxic serum, known as ACS.