
News and Notes

Boston Meeting, Corrections and Additions

General Sessions—The principal general session, at which the address of the retiring president, Charles F. Kettering, will be delivered, is to be held on Friday evening, 27 December, instead of on 26 December, as previously announced.

At the General Technical Session, Friday morning and afternoon, 27 December, Rear Admiral William S. Parsons, Director of Atomic Defense, U. S. Navy, will replace Vice-Admiral W. H. P. Blandy, previously scheduled to speak.

The National Association of Science Writers—The symposium on "The Quality of Science Writing Now Being Presented to the American Public," in which members of the Association have been invited to participate, is to be held at 8:00 P.M. on 28 December, 46 Dunster Street, Cambridge.

Sigma Delta Epsilon—The luncheon for all women in science will be in the Monaco Room of the Lenox Hotel on Sunday, 29 December.

Press Room—The Press Room for the Boston meeting will be in Parlor F of the Hotel Statler. The Association's representative in charge of press relations will be Sidney S. Negus, professor of chemistry, Medical College of Virginia, Richmond.

About People

All of the American Nobel Prize winners received their awards in Stockholm on 10 December. H. J. Muller, P. W. Bridgman, and J. B. Sumner left New York by plane on 5 December; Wendell M. Stanley and John Howard Northrop had left earlier. All of them will remain in Sweden for some time and will address the sections of the Nobel Committee on Physiology and Medicine, Physics, and Chemistry, on dates not yet announced.

A \$1,000 prize will be presented to James Graham Chesnutt, winner of the 1946 AAAS-George Westinghouse Science Writing Award, at a luncheon at the Hotel Statler, Boston, on 27 December. Mr. Chesnutt received the prize for a story entitled, "Bubonic Plague Preventive Proven in Animal Tests Here," dated 6 September 1946, published in the *San Francisco Call-Bulletin*. The article describes work conducted by Karl F. Meyer, director of the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research of the University of California, in developing a vaccine to be used

against the bacillus which causes bubonic, septicemic, and pneumonic plagues, all commonly known as "Black Death."

The judges recommended that two other writers be given honorable mention: Herbert A. Shaw, Jr., of the *Dayton Daily News*, for his story, "Pollinosis Isn't Something 'To Be Sneezed At'!"; and Stephen White, of the *New York Herald Tribune*, for his story, "Radar Contact With the Moon Is Made at Army Laboratory."

The selection of the winning entry was made on 4 December by a committee appointed by AAAS and headed by Morris Meister, president of the National Association of Science Teachers. The other judges were: Wilbur Forrest of the *New York Herald Tribune*; W. S. Gilmore of the *Detroit News*; Sally Butler, president of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.; Elbert D. Thomas, senator from Utah; A. J. Carlson, past president of AAAS; and James B. Conant, president of Harvard and president of AAAS for 1946.

In this first year of the contest there were 137 entries. Dr. Meister said that the following criteria were used in the judging process: (1) Does the story meet the usual standards of newspaper writing?; (2) does the writer show originality and initiative in getting the story and in his method of presenting it?; (3) does it meet the standards of scientific accuracy expected for the general reader?; (4) does it show the viewpoint of science, dramatizing the process by which scientific achievements are made, as well as the end products of that process?; and (5) does the reader gain facts, information, and better understanding about important ideas in science?

One feature of the contest, which will be conducted again next year, was that the judges had only the masked stories before them; they were not aware, until after the final selections had been made, who wrote the stories or in what newspapers they were published.

Charles J. Willard is now acting chairman of the Department of Agronomy at The Ohio State University, succeeding R. Donald Lewis, who resigned last summer to become director of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Dr. Willard has been associated with Ohio State since 1917 and has also served for some years with the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station.

William H. Adolph, during the war acting professor of nutrition and biochemistry at Cornell University,

is returning to his prewar post as professor of biochemistry and chairman of the Department of Chemistry at Yenching University, Peiping, and expects to leave for the Far East this month. Dr. Adolph was interned by the Japanese during the early months of the war and was repatriated to this country on the *Gripsholm*.

Cyrus O. Guss, of the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin, has been appointed assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Southern California.

G. R. Mandels, formerly of the Department of Botany, Cornell University, has been made assistant mycologist at the Biological Laboratories, Quartermaster Depot, Philadelphia.

Announcements

The American Institute of Nutrition is requesting nominations for the Borden Award in Nutrition, given in recognition of distinctive research by investigators in the United States and Canada which has emphasized the nutritive significance of the components of milk or of dairy products. The award will be made primarily for the publication of specific papers, but the judges may recommend that it be given for important contributions over an extended period of time. The award may be divided between two or more investigators. Employees of the Borden Company are not eligible for the honor. The formal presentation will be made at the annual meeting of the Institute in Chicago, 18-22 May 1947. To be considered for the award, nominations must be in the hands of the chairman of the Nominating Committee by 15 January. The nominations, accompanied by such data relative to the nominee and his research as will facilitate consideration for the award, should be sent to: Genevieve Stearns, Chairman, Nominating Committee, College of Medicine, State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.

Pacific Science, an illustrated quarterly devoted to the biological and physical sciences of the Pacific area, will be published by the University of Hawaii beginning in January 1947. This magazine offers an opportunity for scientists to publish research papers and notes dealing with the Pacific region. The editorial board, consisting of specialists from the University of Hawaii and other Island institutions, includes: A. Grove Day, editor-in-chief; E. H. Bramhall, Vernon E. Brock, Harry F. Clements, Robert B. Dean, Charles H. Edmondson, Harvey I. Fisher, F. G. Holdaway, M. B. Linford, A. J. Mangelsdorf, Harold St. John, and Chester K. Wentworth.

The first issue of *Pacific Science* will contain an illustrated paper on the "tidal wave," or tsunami, of

1 April 1946, by G. A. MacDonald, F. P. Shepard, and D. C. Cox, and a study by Harold St. John pointing out the fact that, contrary to local opinion, sandalwood is still abundant on the Waianae and Koolau mountains of Oahu. Other material of local interest includes notes on the red-billed Leiothrix (hill robin) in Hawaii, and an article on dolomitization in semiarid Hawaiian soils. *Pacific Science* will be issued in January, April, July, and October of each year. Contributions should be addressed to A. Grove Day at the University, and subscriptions (\$3.00 a year) may be placed through the University's Office of Publications.

The chemistry and physics of high polymers is the topic of a series of lectures being given at the National Bureau of Standards, according to an announcement by E. U. Condon, director. The lectures, arranged by Robert Simha, of the Division of Organic and Fibrous Materials, are being held from 7:00-9:00 P.M. in Room 214 of the Chemistry Building, National Bureau of Standards, and are open to the public without charge. The first lecture was held on 22 November, and the remainder of the program is as follows: 13 December, "Visco-Elastic Properties of Polymer Solutions," J. D. Ferry, University of Wisconsin; 22 January, "On Quantum Mechanisms of a Macroscopic Scale," F. W. London, Duke University; 30 January, "Applications of Magnetochemistry to Polymers and Polymerization," P. W. Selwood, Northwestern University; 27 February, "Physical Chemistry of Collagen," J. H. Highberger, General Dyestuff Corporation; 6 March, "Solution Properties of Cellulose Derivatives—Correlation With Physical Properties," H. M. Spurlin, Hercules Powder Company; 28 March, "Effects of Low Temperature on High Elasticity of Rubbers," S. D. Gehman, The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company; 24 April, "Elasticity and Plasticity of High Polymers," H. Leaderman, The Firestone Tire and Rubber Company; 8 May, "Electrical Properties of Polymers," R. M. Fuoss, Yale University; 29 May, "Polar Coordination in Solid Polymers," W. O. Baker, Bell Telephone Laboratories; 5 June, "Optical Investigations on Polymers," W. Heller, Wayne University; and 12 June, "Discoloration of Polymers," R. F. Boyer, The Dow Chemical Company.

The 38th annual field trip of the New England Geologists' Conference, the first since 1940, was held in the Mount Washington area of the White Mountains on 5-6 October and was attended by more than 125 geologists, representing 24 colleges and universities. Marland P. Billings, Harvard University, and Katharine Fowler-Billings and Randolph W. Chapman, The Johns Hopkins University, were the leaders of the trips. Three trips were conducted on Saturday,

5 October. Two of the groups ascended Mt. Washington, while the other group visited points of geological interest in the Percy, New Hampshire, quadrangle. On Saturday evening, the assembled geologists held an informal meeting at the Glen House. The meeting was under the charge of Lloyd W. Fisher, executive officer of the Conference. Guy Shorey, commercial photographer, Gorham, New Hampshire, entertained the group with natural color slides of the area in which the trips were taken. Discussions on the field trips were conducted by the three leaders. It was voted by the group to hold their 1947 field excursion in the Boston area under the direction of Robert L. Nichols, of Tufts College.

The fifth botanical expedition of Chicago Natural History Museum to Central America got under way recently when Paul C. Standley, curator of the herbarium, went to New Orleans to embark on the steamship *Junior* of the United Fruit Company. Dr. Standley will remain in the field through the greater part of 1947. He will make comprehensive collections of the flora from the Pacific Slope in Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. Four previous expeditions by Dr. Standley and Julian A. Steyermark, assistant curator, explored the 22 departments of Guatemala in prewar years.

The Medical College of Alabama announces the receipt of two grants made to J. K. Cline, associate professor of biochemistry. Distillation Products, Inc., awarded him \$2,500 for research in Vitamin E therapy, and a grant of \$7,500 by the Research Corporation for a study of antianemic substance was made last month. Dr. Cline, formerly director of the laboratory of the Nutrition Clinic at the Hillman Hospital, was appointed to the faculty of the Medical College in March 1946.

Additions to the faculty at the Utah State Agricultural College are Delbert A. Greenwood, professor of chemistry, formerly research associate in pharmacology at the University of Chicago; Clyde Biddulph, assistant professor of physiology, formerly postdoctorate fellow at the University of Wisconsin; and Winslow W. Smith, professor and head of the Department of Bacteriology and Public Health, formerly professor of bacteriology, University of Southern California.

The University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Memphis, announces the following appointments: Victor C. Myers, Western Reserve University, visiting professor of chemistry; Joseph A. Brady, fellow in neurosurgery, Mayo Clinic, visiting instructor in anatomy; John L. Wood, formerly of Cornell University Medical School, associate professor of chem-

istry; J. B. Walker, instructor in chemistry; Edwin D. Murphy, formerly of Yale University, instructor in pathology; R. R. Overman, assistant professor of physiology; Rulin Bruesch, professor of anatomy; R. H. Alden, associate professor of anatomy; W. L. Whittemore, recently discharged from the Navy, and J. H. Bushart, released from the Army, instructors in anatomy.

The University of Miami Marine Laboratory at Coral Gables, Florida, has announced the appointment of the following to membership on an advisory committee: Paul S. Galtsoff, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Daniel Merriman, Bingham Oceanographic Laboratory; Albert Eide Parr, American Museum of Natural History; and Waldo Schmitt, Smithsonian Institution. The committee will work in collaboration with the director, F. G. Walton Smith, to promote the development of tropical marine biology and oceanography and to ensure cooperation and integration of the research program with that of other institutions.

A Conference on "The Mechanics of Development" will be held by the New York Academy of Sciences at the American Museum of Natural History on 10–11 January 1947 under the chairmanship of Roberts Rugh, New York University. The program follows: 10 January, 9:30 A.M.—“The Egg in Maturation, Fertilization, and Early Cleavage,” L. G. Barth, Columbia University, presiding, with papers by Donald P. Costello, University of North Carolina, G. Fankhauser, Princeton University, and J. Holtfreter, University of Rochester; 1:30 P.M.—“Gastrulation, Determination, and Localization,” E. G. Conklin, Princeton University, presiding, with papers by D. Rudnick, E. J. Boell, and J. S. Nicholas, Yale University; 11 January, 9:30 A.M.—“Regeneration,” Ross G. Harrison, Yale University, presiding, with papers by S. M. Rose, Smith College, S. R. Detwiler, Columbia University, and L. S. Stone, Yale University. Embryologists who are interested in attending this symposium may arrange for admission tickets by sending their requests to: Mrs. Eunice Miner, New York Academy of Science, American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

Elections

At the seventh annual meeting of the Sigma Xi Club of Hawaii, on 28 October, the following officers were installed: president, W. H. Eller; vice-president, M. B. Linford; and secretary-treasurer, R. W. Hiatt. The retiring president, C. E. Pemberton, presented the address of the evening, entitled “A Study in Insect Ecology Within the Nests of the Mud-Dauber, *Sceliphron cementarium*.”

Frederick R. Lack, vice-president and a director of the Western Electric Company in charge of its Radio Division, was elected president of the American Standards Association at its 28th annual meeting, held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on 21-22 November.

The Carolina Geological Society, at its seventh annual meeting held at Shelby, North Carolina, on 16 November, elected the following officers: president, J. L. Stuckey, State College, Raleigh, North Carolina; and vice-president, W. B. Cormack, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Recent Deaths

Robert Edward Lyons, 77, died on 25 November in Bloomington, Indiana. Dr. Lyons, who became professor emeritus in 1938, took over the Chemistry Department of the University of Indiana at the age of 25 and headed it for 43 years.

David Hunt Linder, 47, member of the Department of Biology, Harvard University, since 1931, died at the Baker Memorial Hospital, Boston, on 10 November following a heart attack. Dr. Linder was also curator of the Farlow Herbarium and Library and during the war aided the Quartermaster Corps in its investigations of tropical molds.

Nellie E. Goldthwaite, 83, head of the Chemistry Department of Mount Holyoke College from 1897-1905, died on 25 November in South Hadley, Massachusetts. After leaving Mt. Holyoke, Dr. Goldthwaite taught at the Universities of Illinois and New Hampshire and at the Colorado College of Agriculture, from which she retired in 1925.

Otway H. Brown, 69, died on 31 October at Cape May, New Jersey. At the time of his death he was curator of the Cape May Geographic Society and had recently completed his private herbarium of 5,000 specimens of Cape May County.

Lawrence V. Redman, 66, plastics chemist, died in Toronto on 25 November. In 1931 he was elected president of the American Chemical Society, serving in the Chicago section and later in the New Jersey section.

Lorene Teegarden, 50, psychologist for the Vocational Rehabilitation Service, Washington, D. C., died on 2 November.

Charles F. Hindle, 71, inventor of an electrocardiograph which has been used for the last 30 years for the recording of heart beats, died on 23 November in River Forest, Illinois. A portable cardiograph, which he designed in 1932, is now made by the Beck-

Lee Corporation of Chicago, of which his son, Frederick, is superintendent.

The Ninth Washington Conference on Theoretical Physics

"The Physics of Living Matter" was the subject of discussion by a group of investigators in biology and theoretical physics in a series of informal meetings at the Ninth Washington Conference on Theoretical Physics, held on 31 October and 1-2 November in Washington, D. C., under the joint auspices of George Washington University and the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

Previous to the Eighth Conference on Theoretical Physics, held in April 1942, these meetings were annual events and were devoted to such subjects as "The Theory of Fundamental Particles," "Astrophysics," and "The Interior of the Earth."

The subject of the current Conference was chosen in response to widespread interest among theoretical physicists in biological problems. The main objective of the meeting was to bring together leaders in biology and physics, giving them ample opportunity to know each other and to exchange ideas, with a view to the possibility of closer collaboration in the future.

Among the fields touched upon were the action and reduplication of genes and chromosomes, the tobacco mosaic virus, the mutant strains of coli bacteriophage, the energy-rich phosphate bonds, the extranuclear hereditary factors as links in the genetic control of enzymatic action, and the problem of photosynthesis.

The biologists participating in the meetings generously contributed by presenting at length a number of fundamental biological facts. The physicists expressed their interest in the situations outlined to them by asking specific questions, and making comments and tentative suggestions. At the conclusion of the Conference many of the physicists indicated their interest in considering further the "Physics of Living Matter," while others chose particular topics which they intend to study.

Representatives from 24 universities, research organizations, and governmental bureaus took part in the Conference. Among those attending from outside Washington were: G. W. Beadle, Jesse W. Beams, Niels Bohr, C. F. Cori, Max Delbruck, M. Demerec, John T. Edsall, James Franck, S. Karrer, Walter J. Kauzmann, John G. Kirkwood, F. W. London, H. J. Muller, E. O. Salant, F. O. Schmitt, S. Spiegelmann, W. M. Stanley, Leo Szilard, Edward Teller, John von Neumann, and H. Weyl.—*G. Gamow and P. H. Abelson.*