

NEWS

and Notes

Edmund E. Day, president of Cornell University and chairman of the Inter-Society Committee on Science Legislation created at the instigation of AAAS, appeared by invitation before the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee of the House of Representatives on March 6. The other members of the Executive Committee of the new group—**Harlow Shapley**, vice-chairman; **Dael Wolfe**, secretary-treasurer; **R. G. Gustavson**, chancellor, University of Nebraska; **Ralph W. Gerard**, University of Chicago; and **Douglas M. Whitaker**, Stanford University—also attended the hearings after holding the first meeting of the Executive Committee on March 5.

In presenting the opinion of the Inter-Society Committee, Chairman Day said in part:

... We need a National Science Foundation to help provide facilities and to help train scientific workers to use them.

There is no thought that a National Science Foundation will interfere with the excellent work being done by the private foundations and institutions, or the government agencies that are now active in research.

The private foundations, for a long time the major source of support for basic research and scholarships, welcome the relief provided their inadequate resources and have gone on record saying so.

The private colleges and universities as **Dr. Conant**, among others, has said, see no spectre of government control in accepting money for research and scholarships (*Science*, January 3). The research agencies in the government see the new Foundation as supplementing their restricted efforts. . . .

These views led to the introduction into the 79th Congress of two Science Foundation bills in the House of Representatives, H.R. 6448 by Representative **Mills** and H.R. 6672 by Representative **Celler**. Several bills were introduced into

the Senate which were eventually combined in S. 1850, the Senate counterpart of the Celler bill. The Senate passed this bill (*Science*, May 10, 1946).

In July 1946 the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce considered the two bills, but in view of the many honest differences of opinion over details of these bills, wisely decided to defer action in order to allow fuller discussion of so important a matter in the 80th Congress (*Science*, July 26 and August 2, 1946).

That action allowed scientists themselves, and members of Congress, an opportunity to discuss and to consider the characteristics of a bill which will create the most effective National Science Foundation. The Inter-Society Committee of scientists, which I represent, was formed for the purpose of ascertaining, coordinating, and reporting the attitudes of American scientists toward the various issues involved in the creation of a National Science Foundation. The Committee held its first meeting in Washington on February 23.

There was complete unanimity at that meeting on the very great importance of establishing a National Science Foundation. The large attendance, the wide range of scientific societies represented, and the high competence of the scientists who attended, were impressive proof of the importance given to securing effective action on the problem. . . .

The issue before this Committee is so important that we urge more extended study and further consideration of these bills. We expect to prepare a more definitive statement which will represent the best judgment of scientific opinion. We would like an opportunity to present it before this Committee at a later time.

About People

Harlow B. Mills, professor and head, Department of Zoology and Entomology, Montana State College, has been appointed chief, Illinois State Natural History Survey, to succeed the late **Theodore H. Frison**. **Dr. Mills** will assume his duties March 1.

Charles William Huntley, dean of Adelbert College, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, became dean of Union College, Schenectady, New York, February 1, succeeding **Charles F. Garis**, who retired after 44 years at

the college. **Dr. Huntley**, a psychologist, was a former student of **Dr. Garis**.

Lewis Hanford Tiffany, William Deering professor of botany and chairman, Department of Botany, Northwestern University, has been appointed to the Illinois State Board of Natural Resources and Conservation to succeed **E. J. Kraus**, University of Chicago.

Harold Schlosberg, Department of Psychology, Brown University, has been promoted to the rank of full professor. **Prof. Schlosberg**, who this past year has set up laboratory facilities for a new Distribution course in psychology, during the war wrote the monthly "Psychology News Letter" for distribution to foreign scientists by the Office of War Information.

William A. Hamor, Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, University of Pittsburgh, received the honorary LL.D. degree at the commencement of the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida, January 30.

Freeman S. Howlett has been made professor and acting chairman of the Department of Horticulture and Forestry, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

Chester Peterson, former director of the Inspection Division, Philadelphia Signal Corps Procurement District, has been appointed physicist in the Resistance Measurements Section, National Bureau of Standards. He will work with other members of the Bureau Staff on completion of an Absolute Measurement of Resistance, investigation of which was interrupted by the war.

Byron T. Shaw has been appointed assistant administrator of agricultural research, U. S. Department of Agriculture, to succeed **W. V. Lambert**, who became administrator last October. **Dr. Shaw**, a soils physicist, has been in charge of research in this subject in the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering since 1943. His new appointment begins March 10.

J. McDunnough, recently retired chief of the Systematic Unit, Division of Entomology, Canadian Department of Agriculture, has accepted a research associateship at the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, where he will continue studies on North American Lepidoptera.

Robert E. Campbell, Lt., Chemical Corps, has been made chief meteorologist for the Test Division, Technical Command, Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland.

F. L. Wynd, formerly of the University of Illinois, has been appointed professor of plant physiology and biochemistry at Michigan State College, East Lansing, and head of the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology to succeed E. A. Bessey.

George M. Stanley, associate professor of geology, University of Michigan, has been granted a sabbatical leave of absence for the university year 1947-48 to conduct research on the shorelines of extinct Pleistocene Lake Lahonton in western Nevada to determine recent crustal movements among the mountain ranges and intermontane basins occupied by various arms of this former large body of water. A similar study may be undertaken around Yellowstone Lake.

Paul S. Nicholes, formerly with the U. S. Biological Warfare Division, Camp Detrick, Maryland, has been named assistant professor of bacteriology, University of Utah School of Medicine, Salt Lake City, to replace W. E. Clapper, who recently accepted a position at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Visitors to U. S.

Australian scientists visiting this country include: S. M. Sykes, research officer, Division of Horticulture, New South Wales Department of Agriculture, who will attend the convention of the National Association of Frozen Food Packers to be held in San Francisco and will remain in this country about six months to study fruit and vegetable freezing; D. R. Ziedler, senior research officer, Division of Industrial Chemistry, Australian Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, who is spending several months at the Chemical Engineering Department, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; N. A. Esserman, chief, Division of Metrology, National Standards Laboratory, Sydney, Australia; and Ian Langlands, officer in charge of the Building Materials Research Division, Australian Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, who expects to remain in the United States for two months.

All of the above may be contacted through the British Commonwealth Scientific Office, Room 505, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. (Attention: Mrs. V. Connell.)

B. Wasserstein, senior mineralogist, Geological Survey of the Union of South Africa, on study-leave in the United States, is taking courses at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Kathleen Lonsdale, Royal Institution and University College, London, is conducting research at the National Institute of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, under a special research fellowship until the end of July. Dr. Lonsdale, one of the first two women elected to Fellowship of the Royal Society, will be at the California Institute of Technology during March. She is available to lecture on her work in X-ray crystallography while in this country.

Grants and Awards

The 11th Oberly Memorial Award, given by the University of South Carolina every two years for the outstanding bibliography in the field of agriculture or related sciences, will be made in the spring of 1947. Persons interested in competing for the prize should send four copies of their bibliography to W. P. Kellam, Chairman, Oberly Award Committee, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

The University of Illinois has accepted a grant of \$6,400 a year for five to six years from the Herman Frasch Foundation, New York City, for investigating possibilities of increasing organic matter of soils under practical crop conditions and determining the role of organic matter in production of exceptionally high yields of corn and other crops.

Investigation will be conducted in the Soil Fertility Division, Department of Agronomy, under Roger H. Bray, Ernest E. DeTurk, and O. H. Sears.

Lyla Tupper Bradin is recipient of a \$1,200 Ciba grant-in-aid to the Department of Biology, Johns Hopkins University, and the Department of Embryology, Carnegie Institution of Washington. The grant is to aid in a study of fetal maturity at birth as related to the maternal uterine environment before

birth, with special reference to sensitivity of the respiratory center to anoxia and respiratory stimulant drugs.

The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, has received an initial grant of \$500 from J. B. Nail and alumni associates of Wichita Falls, Texas, for establishment of a research fund for the study of deafness. Dr. Nail indicated that the alumni of the Wichita Falls area will maintain this research fund by annual grants.

Western Reserve University has been granted \$112,000 by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis to finance a five-year study of the effect of the polio virus on nerve and brain tissue. The following members of the Department of Biochemistry, School of Medicine, will participate: Harland G. Wood, head of the Department; Merton F. Utter, associate professor; John A. Muntz and Thomas P. Singer, assistant professors; and G. Robert Greenberg, instructor. These men will work with mice and cotton rats which have been infected by the Lansing strain of the polio virus.

Colleges and Universities

The University of Michigan has appointed Robert Travers, chief examiner, and Clyde Coombs, research psychologist, in the Bureau of Psychological Services, Institute for Human Adjustment, effective February 1.

The Utah State Agricultural College, Logan, Utah, has appointed E. L. Waldee, associate professor of plant pathology, and R. K. Gerber, assistant professor of horticulture. Dr. Waldee was on the staff of Iowa State College before entering the service, and Mr. Gerber had done government research in plant pathology.

The Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Michigan State College, East Lansing, announces the following recent appointments: C. J. Alexopoulos, formerly deputy director of UNRRA in Greece, associate professor of mycology; W. B. Drew, University of Missouri, associate professor of ecology and taxonomy; G. W. Prescott, Albion College, associate professor of morphology and phycology; G. P. Steinbauer, University of Maine, associate professor of physiology and biochemistry; L. C.

Knorr, Cornell University, assistant professor of plant pathology; R. Lowry, University of Michigan, assistant professor of cytology and genetics; P. W. Dennis, Independence Junior College, assistant professor of botany; and J. Elliott, Coldwater, Michigan, High School, instructor of botany.

Summer Programs

The Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Salsbury Cove, Maine, is inaugurating a new summer laboratory for study of problems in aseptic cultivation and nutrition of organisms and tissues. The laboratory, for independent investigators and advanced students, will be under Philip R. White, general physiologist, Institute for Cancer Research, Philadelphia.

Some of the problems now visualized are in vitro cultivation of invertebrate and vertebrate tissues; meristematic tissues of algae, mosses, ferns, and spermatophytes; excised embryos of ferns, mosses, marine algae, and flowering plants; embryonic stages of invertebrate animals such as the brine shrimp and of carnivorous invertebrates such as hydroids; and slime molds. Questions of nutrition, and control and manipulation of morphogenesis will have an important place in the studies.

The fee will be \$100 for the season extending from June 15 to September 15 or for any part of the season. Applications should be sent to Philip R. White, Institute for Cancer Research, Girard and Corinthian Avenues, Philadelphia 30, before March 15.

Meetings

The Centennial Celebration of the New York Academy of Medicine was inaugurated March 6 with a dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel at which John A. Ryle, professor of social medicine, Oxford University, England, gave the principal address, "Social Pathology and the New Era in Medicine." William O'Dwyer, mayor of the city of New York, and George Baehr, president of the Academy, also spoke.

Throughout the celebration a series of meetings and conferences will be held by sections of the Academy and affiliated organizations, and a number of

exhibitions will be placed on view. The following five Institutes will also be held: Library Methods and Problems, March 11-12; Social Medicine, March 19-21; Public Health, April 1-3; Medical Education, April 16-18; and Hospitals, April 21-23.

All meetings except the first day of the New York Academy of Sciences Conference, March 21, will be held at the Academy of Medicine Building, 2 East 103rd Street, New York. Exhibits will be at the Academy building, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York Historical Society, Museum of the City of New York, and the New York Public Library.

Elections

The California Academy of Sciences has elected the following men as Fellows in recognition of distinction in scientific work: L. H. Brown, G. F. Ferris, J. W. MacBain, and C. B. van Niel, Stanford University; F. A. Jenkins, Harold Kirby, and E. G. Linsley, University of California, Berkeley; Peter Frendsen, University of Nevada; H. U. Sverdrup, director, Scripps Institution of Oceanography; and S. B. Show, who recently resigned as regional forester of the Forest Service, San Francisco, to accept a post with UNESCO.

The American Astronomical Society has elected the following foreign astronomers to honorary membership in the Society: Megh Nad Saha, University of Calcutta, India; Gavril A. Tikhov, U.S.S.R.; Bertil Lindblad, Stockholm Observatory, Saltsjobaden, Sweden; Jan H. Oort, Sterrewacht, Leiden, Netherlands; E. A. Milne, Oxford, England; and Bernard Lyot, Observatoire de Meudon, France.

Recent Deaths

Sir John Flett, 77, director of the Geological Survey of Great Britain and the Museum of Practical Geology between 1920 and 1935, died January 26.

Kurt Lewin, 56, director of the Research Center of Group Dynamics, Department of Economics and Social Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, died February 12 at Cambridge, Massachusetts. He was formerly professor of child psychology at the

Child Welfare Research Station, University of Iowa, Iowa City.

Walter Ivan Lillie, 55, head of the Department of Ophthalmology, Temple University Medical School, died February 21 in Philadelphia.

Henry Beaumont, professor of psychology and director of the Bureau of Industrial Psychology, University of Kentucky, died at his home in Lexington February 21.

Horace A. Shonle, 55, director, Organic Chemistry Division, Eli Lilly and Company, died February 24 after a brief illness from pneumonia.

NRC News

A grant of \$10,000 has been received from the Viking Fund to aid anthropological research in the Pacific area under the Pacific Science Board of the NRC. The Board, in cooperation with the Council's Pacific Committee on the Anthropological Sciences and the Navy Department, is engaged in developing plans for a coordinated program of anthropological and associated research in Micronesia. The Council has also received a grant of \$5,000 from the Coolidge Foundation for the general fund of the Pacific Science Board.

Make Plans for—

Crystallographic Society, 2nd annual meeting, March 19-21, U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland.

Western Metal Congress and Exposition, fifth, March 22-27, Civic Auditoriums, Oakland, California.

World Health Organization Interim Commission, March 31, Geneva, Switzerland.

Midwest Power Conference, March 31-April 2, Palmer House, Chicago.

American Association of Anatomists, annual meeting, April 3-5, Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, Canada.

Institute of Mathematical Statistics, meeting on stochastic processes and noise, April 24-25, New York City.

National Academy of Sciences, annual meeting, April 28-30, Academy Building, Washington, D. C.