

NEWS and Notes

The secretaries of all societies planning to participate in the Chicago meeting of the AAAS next December have been sent a letter in which financial problems of the Association and its affiliated societies are outlined. It is estimated that the total expense of the meeting will be about \$35,000 and the net deficit about \$14,000, \$7,000 of which will result from session room charges levied against the AAAS for the first time by the Chicago hotels. In the past deficits have been paid from AAAS reserves, but the Association no longer has these reserves. Consequently, it was requested that the executive committee of each cooperating society pass a resolution that, when meeting with the AAAS, attendance at sessions be restricted to those registering with the Association.

A number of facts concerning the financing of the AAAS meetings were pointed out: that the affiliated and associated societies do not contribute to the financial support of the Association in any way; that fewer than half of the persons who attend the meetings register, and most of those who register are AAAS members; and that local committees for meetings assume financial burdens of \$4,000–\$5,000 and contribute nearly as much again from their time.

Quoting further from the letter, "While one of the major aims of the AAAS is to facilitate cooperation among scientists, as it does through its meetings, the dues of 35,000 public-spirited members scarcely meet the present costs of operation and publishing its journals, let alone the needs of nonmember participants. . . . The payment of a registration fee of \$2.00 or \$3.00 represents only a small fraction of the total expenses of the average individual attending a convention, and it does not seem unreasonable to expect that meeting expenses be paid in part on a pro rata basis by those who

benefit from the convention. If publication of the *General program* were the only service provided by the Association and the local committees, it would not be reasonable to ask members of societies that publish their own programs to register with the AAAS. However, the services are many and, as evidence of appreciation, the cooperative spirit of the local committees might well be reciprocated through the registration of all the conventioners. Both at Boston and Chicago the committee chairmen unanimously recommended that registration be made mandatory in order that the annual convention be placed on a sound financial basis. No other major meeting of scientists has as low a registration fee, and it is difficult to believe that payment of it would work a serious hardship on the members of the cooperating societies."

In a questionnaire the secretaries of those societies which met with the AAAS in Boston were asked if the registration fee should be made mandatory. Of those who replied, over two-thirds said "yes." The problem of increasing registration has been discussed in detail with society secretaries who have visited the Washington office, and all have agreed that general registration is essential to the support of the meetings.

The reactions to the letter were not as varied as anticipated, there being an almost unanimous expression favoring the registration of all conventioners. Typically some of the comments are as follows:

"I personally believe that: (1) registration should be required for attendance at any of the activities or meetings of the Association or affiliated societies; (2) the registration fee for nonmembers should be \$8.00; and (3) that a nonmember, by joining the society, may register at the regular fee for members, namely, \$5.00."

"Your moving letter of May 21 on Annual Meeting costs and registration fees has been carefully read. You put the situation in a somewhat different light than I have had and I would now retreat somewhat from my stand of a few months ago. You will remember I wrote you then in an unsympathetic vein about registration fees."

"In addition to a registration fee, a fee (should) be charged for the reception and for all smokers. . . . scientific sessions (should) be proctored and no one admitted who does not show evidence of having registered."

"I have at hand your memo of May

21st to Secretaries of the Societies meeting with the AAAS in Chicago. I think you are perfectly justified in bringing the question of finances to their attention, and I am completely in agreement with any policy of required registration."

"I am unable to understand the attitude of those who deliberately fail to register and at the same time are willing to avail themselves of the advantages of the meetings at the expense of others. I suspect and hope that a good deal of this neglect is due to thoughtlessness and failure to think of the implications of such an attitude. Even so, it is a significant criticism of the supposed capacity of scientists to carry over into the field of social relationships the kind of thinking which is alleged to be implicit in the scientific approach."

"I have your memo relative to expenses of meetings. I think the two dollar registration fee is all right, but I would be opposed to making it any more than this. I know that many people are a little bit restive about having to pay a fee at all, particularly if they only want to go to a couple of sessions. However, I believe it is very necessary and should be followed."

"The headache back of all of the endeavor is the fact that the Association is top heavy with affiliated societies which have their own annual meetings and which are the first love of the members. . . . I am all out for increasing the annual membership fee to \$10.00. But I also incline to the view that the annual meeting should be self-liquidating."

"... it is the unanimous opinion of our Executive Committee that a mandatory registration fee should be charged at all AAAS meetings. A fee of two dollars might cover the costs if the fee is mandatory. If it will not cover the costs, the fee should be increased to three dollars."

So far, not one letter has been received in opposition to general registration. However, legislative machinery is slow moving and, in lieu of a final decision by the various executive committees, the administrative officers of the Association have adopted the following course of action: Each society meeting in the hotels in Chicago will pay the charges for the session rooms it uses. When all the operating costs of the convention have been met by the Association, any surplus from registration will be distributed on a proportional basis among the cooperating societies to help cover the costs assessed them for the use of session rooms.

The AAAS is a federation of scientific societies with no binding ties other than a desire to maintain a centralized organization, representative of all fields of science, that can speak for American science and, through inter-society cooperation, broaden the intellectual horizons of its members. The governing body of this federation is its Council, more than two-thirds of which is elected by the affiliated societies, and which, in turn, elects all general officers of the AAAS, including its Executive Committee. The policies and plans of the administrative officers of the AAAS are, therefore, those determined by the affiliated societies.

About People

Donald F. Jones, chief geneticist, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from Kansas State College June 1, in recognition of his outstanding work in genetics and his origination of the method by which hybrid seed corn is produced commercially.

Louis N. Ridenour, formerly assistant professor of physics, University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed dean of the Graduate School, University of Illinois. During the war Dr. Ridenour directed the development of new types of radar at the Radiation Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and later served as special consultant to Gen. Carl A. Spaatz.

Colin G. Fink, professor of electrochemistry, Columbia University, has resigned his position as secretary and editor, Electrochemical Society, after 26 years of continuous service. Dr. Fink, now "secretary emeritus," is succeeded by R. M. Burns, chemical director, Bell Telephone Laboratories.

George B. Barbour, dean, College of Liberal Arts, University of Cincinnati, leaves this month for Johannesburg to join the University of California African expedition as geologist and physiographer. The group, under the leadership of Charles L. Camp, director of the Museum of Paleontology, will spend the early part of the field season excavating cave deposits of the type where fossil anthropoids closely related to primitive man have been found.

B. S. Pickett, head, Department of Horticulture, Iowa State College, will spend a year in Syria as horticultural adviser to the Syrian Government. Prof. Pickett, who has been granted a year's leave of absence, expects to plan and begin research work in fruit growing, promote better processing of Syrian fruits, and encourage government support of research and promotional work in fruit growing.

Willis E. Pequegnat, assistant professor, and head, Department of Zoology, Pomona College, has been promoted to associate professor.

Curt Stern, professor of zoology, and chairman, Department of Zoology, University of Rochester, has been appointed professor of zoology at the University of California, Berkeley. He will assume his duties there in the fall.

Frank Kerekes, professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Iowa State College Engineering Experiment Station, has been appointed assistant dean of the Division of Engineering. **J. D. Ryder**, Department of Electrical Engineering, has been appointed assistant director of the Engineering Experiment Station.

Frank T. Knapp, University of Toronto, has been appointed assistant in the Limnological Research Program, Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

E. Richard Dichter, consultant, Schenley Distilling Corporation, and formerly special assistant to the vice-president in charge of research and development, General Foods Corporation, has been appointed to the staff of Schering Corporation.

E. Lucy Braun, professor of plant ecology, University of Cincinnati Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, is leading a party of scientists from eastern United States and Canada into remote sections of the Kentucky mountains to study fast-disappearing virgin forest tracts there. The 5-day field expedition, centering near Pineville, in southeastern Kentucky, and sponsored by the Ecological Society of America, started June 9 from Clear Creek, Kentucky, for daily excursions to Kentucky Ridge Forest on Pine and Log Mountains, Natural Bridge, and the Red River Gorge.

Herbert E. Wright, Jr., Brown University, has been appointed assistant professor of geomorphology, Department of Geology, University of Minnesota. Dr. Wright will assume his new duties there in September.

Forrest F. Cleveland, chairman, Department of Physics and Mathematics, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Virginia, will be visiting professor of physics at Ohio State University during the summer semester, and will return in September to his former position as professor of physics, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago.

Henricus J. Stander, professor and head, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, New York Hospital, will receive the degree of Doctor in Medicine, *honoris causa*, from Trinity College, Dublin, Eire, at the Commencement Exercises of the College on July 2. While in Dublin, Dr. Stander will speak at the International Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, to be held July 7-11.

Visitors to U. S.

Sir Edward Mellanby, secretary-director of the British Medical Research Council, who recently completed a visiting lectureship appointment at Vanderbilt University, spoke at the auditorium of the Children's Fund of Michigan, Detroit, on May 7 and at the Yale University Medical School on May 19 on "Nutrition in Relation to Bone Growth and the Nervous System." Sir Edward and Mrs. Mellanby took passage for England shortly thereafter.

Georg v. Békésy has been granted leave of absence by the Pázmány Péter University, Budapest, to spend a year on the staff of the Psycho-Acoustic Laboratory, Harvard University. Prof. Békésy is internationally known for his work in physiological acoustics, especially his investigations of the dynamics of the auditory mechanism.

Douglas H. K. Lee, professor of physiology, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia, will be in Washington, D. C., from June through September making a survey of animal climatology with Ralph W. Phillips for the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization. On October 1 Dr. Lee will join the staff at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore,

where he will spend four months working on human climatology.

Jacques Maton, who recently received his doctorate from the University of Ghent, is studying phases of plant nutrition at the University of California, Berkeley, on a Belgian-American Research Foundation fellowship.

Grants and Awards

The Association for the Study of internal Secretions has recently announced the following awards: the Squibb Award for 1947, to Carl F. and Gerty T. Cori, Washington University, St. Louis, for their outstanding contributions on the role of the hormones in metabolism; the Ciba Award, to Choh Hao Li, University of California, for his significant contributions in the separation and study of hormones of protein nature and the isolation of the growth and adrenocorticotrophic hormones in homogeneous and highly purified form; the Ayerst, McKenna and Harrison Fellowship, to Samuel Dvoskin, Columbia University, to enable him to continue his studies on the thyroid gland and thyroid hormone assays at Columbia under the direction of Robert Loeb.

Syracuse University has announced the establishment of two fellowships in organic chemistry by the Bristol Laboratories, Inc. The two Bristol Fellows recently appointed are John L. Biester and Robert C. Scott, who are working toward the Ph.D. degree under the direction of P. M. Ruoff, associate professor of chemistry.

Colleges and Universities

Carnegie Institute of Technology has received additional financial support for its 200,000,000-volt synchrocyclotron project in the form of a contract from the U. S. Office of Naval Research and an offer of equipment at special prices from the Westinghouse Electric Corporation. The total value of these two contributions is \$280,000, or enough to fulfill the conditions of the \$300,000 appropriation received by Carnegie Tech from the Buhl Foundation of Pittsburgh last December. The Foundation stipulated that its grant be supplemented by subscription of at least \$250,000 toward the cyclotron from other sources.

Robert E. Doherty, president of the Carnegie Institute, expressed the hope that between \$350,000 and \$420,000 more may be raised so that Carnegie may build a synchrocyclotron having 130-inch magnet poles, instead of the 110-inch size projected last year. Total cost of the larger machine may reach \$1,000,000.

Yale University has established the Ross Granville Harrison professorship in experimental zoology, named in honor of Ross G. Harrison, professor emeritus, who joined the Yale faculty in 1907, according to an announcement by President Charles Seymour. Edgar J. Boell, professor of biology, has been appointed the first incumbent of the new chair. The appointment is effective July 1.

Elections

The Iowa Academy of Science, at its 59th annual meeting in Cedar Falls, Iowa, April 18-19, elected the following officers: J. Allen Baker, president; William Kadesch, vice-president; F. G. Brooks, editor; and Cornelius Gouwens, secretary-treasurer.

Nine sections of the Academy held sessions which were attended by about 350 and during which 101 papers were presented. A joint symposium was held with the Iowa Medical Society. The guest speaker of the Academy, A. C. Trowbridge, gave an address on "A Geological Expedition to Norway."

The Association of American Physicians, at the closing session of its 60th annual meeting, Atlantic City, May 7, elected the following officers for the coming year: A. H. Gordon, Montreal, president; Francis G. Blake, New Haven, Connecticut, vice-president; Walter Bauer, Boston, treasurer; Cecil J. Watson, Minneapolis, recorder; Henry M. Thomas, Jr., Baltimore, secretary; and Joseph T. Wearn, Cleveland, Ohio, counselor.

The American Oil Chemists' Society, at its 38th annual meeting in New Orleans, May 22, elected the following officers: Reid T. Milner, Northern Regional Research Laboratory, president; C. P. Long, Proctor and Gamble, first vice-president; E. M. James, Lever Brothers Company, second vice-president; V. C. Mehlenbacher, Swift and Company, third vice-president; L. B.

Parsons, Lever Brothers Company, fourth vice-president in charge of the soap section of the Society; H. L. Roschen, Swift and Company, secretary; and J. J. Vollertson, Armour and Company, treasurer.

The New York State Geological Association, at its meeting in New York City, May 9, elected the following officers for the coming year: Nelson C. Dale, Hamilton College, president; and Robert H. Arndt, Hamilton College, secretary.

NRC News

The Prevention of Deterioration Center, Room 204, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C., now offers the "Prevention of Deterioration Abstracts" on a yearly subscription basis. The Abstracts are set up under the following headings: Electrical and electronic equipment; Finished assemblies; Fungicides; Lacquers, paints, and varnishes; Leather; Lubricants; Metals; Microorganisms; Optical instruments; Packaging; Paper; Plastics, resins, rubbers, and waxes; Storage; Textiles; and Wood. Abstracted items include journal articles, patents, specifications, unpublished reports prepared by various Army, Navy, and other governmental groups, and unpublished British, Australian, and Canadian reports.

There will be approximately 1,500 pages of the Abstracts per year. The individual Abstracts are in loose-leaf form, so that they may be arranged in the manner desired. However, all Abstracts classified under any one heading will be numbered consecutively throughout the calendar year.

The Abstracts may also include comments made by the personnel of the Prevention of Deterioration Center. The price, including two binders and index guides, is \$37.50 per year (July 1-June 30). Back issues for 1946 will be supplied.

The Subcommittee on Ophthalmology, Division of Medical Sciences, met in executive session in Chicago on April 27. The meeting was devoted to a discussion of ophthalmological problems encountered in the military services. The Subcommittee is also taking an active interest in the establishment of a national

institution for the training and rehabilitation of the blind, fashioned after the famous St. Dunstan's School in England. A proposal has been made by the Subcommittee that the Federal Government take over the facilities of the Army's rehabilitation center at Avon, Connecticut, where outstanding work has been done with those blinded in the war.

The Subcommittee includes the following members: Alan C. Woods, chairman; Edwin Dunphy, Trygve Gundersen, Lawrence Post, Algernon B. Reese, and Derrick T. Vail.

Recent Deaths

E. Granville Crabtree, 65, urologist, New England Baptist Hospital and Beth Israel Hospital, died in Sharon, Vermont, May 30. Dr. Crabtree was president-elect of the American Urological Association.

Walter T. Garfield, 65, dermatologist and professor emeritus, Tufts College Medical School, died May 31 at the Boston City Hospital after a brief illness.

Charles A. Kofoid, 81, professor emeritus of zoology, and formerly chairman, Department of Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, died May 30.

Walter J. Crocker, 61, former professor of pathology and bacteriology at the Veterinary School, University of Pennsylvania, died May 14, in Philadelphia.

H. E. Wells, 73, professor emeritus of chemistry at Smith College, died May 24 in Hartford, Connecticut.

G. A. Millikan, 41, head of the Department of Physiology, Vanderbilt University, died May 26 in Spencer, Tennessee, as a result of injuries received on a mountain-climbing trip.

Thomas T. Read, 67, Vinton professor emeritus of mining engineering, Columbia University School of Mines, died of a heart ailment at the White Plains Hospital, New York, May 29.

The reprint collection of the late **S. O. Mast** is available for donation. The collection consists of some 15,000 separates, mostly in the field of general physiology and covering the past 50

years. Since the collection is especially rich in papers in invertebrate behavior and protozoan physiology, it would be appropriate to make it available to the library of an institution or department specializing in such work, and particularly to one in a devastated European center. Donation to an individual will not be considered. Suggestions for the disposal of this collection will be gratefully received by Dr. John B. Buck, National Institute of Health, Bethesda 14, Maryland.

The California-at-Davis Chapter of Sigma Xi was installed on the Davis campus of the University of California May 10. Carl D. Anderson, president-elect of the National Society, was the installing officer. Officers of the new Chapter for 1947-1948 are: Tracy I. Storer, president; Coit A. Suneson, vice-president; and Harold G. Reiber, secretary.

The University of Pennsylvania Press intends to publish in the near future an annual, *Chymia*, each volume of which will consist of about a dozen articles in the field of the history of chemistry. Papers on a variety of subjects will be included, and publication may be in French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, and English. This publication, which is being sponsored by the Edgar F. Smith Memorial Collection at the University, will be under the direction of a board of American editors, with a large group of consulting editors of international prominence. Further information may be obtained from Eva V. Armstrong, Secretary of the Board of Editors, Edgar F. Smith Collection, Harrison Laboratory, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 4.

The National Registry of Rare Chemicals, Armour Research Foundation, 35 West 33rd Street, Chicago 16, Illinois, lists the following wanted chemicals: trimethyl aluminum, cholinesterase, decamethylenediamine, 1,2,3,4,5,6-hexachlorocyclohexylpentachloroethane, p - (β -dimethylaminoethyl)phenol, methylphenylbarbituric acid, 3,4-dihydroxynorephedrine, stevioside, creatine phosphate, hexacosane, phenyldimethylphosphine, citronellic acid, cellotetraose, glyoxylic acid, corynanthine, dihydro-myrcene, kephalin, d-quercitol, quebrachitol, and indoxyl potassium sulfate.

The Medicinal Division, American Chemical Society, will publish its first monograph early next year. The monograph will be a complete progress report on world-wide advances in medicinal research. C. M. Suter, associate research director, Sterling-Winthrop Research Institute, Rensselaer, New York, has been appointed editor-in-chief. Dr. Suter will be assisted by the following editorial board: Walter H. Hartung, professor of pharmaceutical chemistry, School of Pharmacy, University of Maryland, Baltimore; Richard Roblin, director of chemotherapeutic research, American Cyanamid Company, Stamford, Connecticut; Peter K. Knoefek, professor of pharmacology, University of Kentucky School of Medicine, Louisville; Edward F. Degering, professor of organic chemistry, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana; Maurice L. Moore, assistant director of research, Frederick Stearns & Company Division, Sterling Drug, Inc., and chairman of the Medicinal Division (*ex officio*); and L. A. Sweet, Parke, Davis & Company, secretary of the Medicinal Division (*ex officio*).

The Chicago Natural History Museum has announced the following appointments: Emmet R. Blake, associate curator of birds; Loren P. Woods, curator of fishes; John W. Winn, assistant curator of fishes; and John W. Moyer, chief of the new motion-picture division of the Museum.

Make Plans for—

Meteoritical Society, 10th meeting, June 18-19, San Diego, California.

American Association of Physics Teachers, June 18-21, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

American Physical Society, June 19-21, Montreal, Canada.

American Society of Agricultural Engineers, June 22-25, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

American Society for X-Ray and Electron Diffraction, June 23-25, Montreal, Canada.

American Association of Dental Schools, June 23-25, Chicago, Illinois.

American Dairy Science Association, June 24-26, Ontario, Canada.