light on the origin of the orders of mammals and would also have a bearing on some fundamental geological problems involving the history and nature of the continents. In any case, the early appearance of *Meniscotherium* and the unique combination in it of some very primitive and some very precocious characters involve several important aspects of general evolutionary theory.

Thus, the detailed study of this one genus is likely to have broad ramifications in biology and in geology, and it seems extraordinary that no one has seriously undertaken such a study during the 74 years that the genus has been known. Although, as noted above, some fairly good specimens have been in museum collections all this time, and although many paleontologists have referred to *Meniscotherium* or speculated about it, there has not even been an adequate published account of the available materials. We are now in a position to supply this need, and we hope to do so.

The more general program, to which *Meniscotherium* and *Coelophysis,* for all their individual importance, are merely incidental, involves intensive and thorough investigation of the geology and paleontology of the early Tertiary and of the Triassic in the Southwest. Concentration on this area and these ages was decided on because of the evidently crucial character of the data and problems involved and the inadequacy of current knowledge of them, as suggested in the preceding account. The American Museum's current campaign here began with field work under Colbert in Arizona and under me in New Mexico in 1946 and was continued by the work in 1947 here summarized. It will continue, in field and laboratory, for several years. This plan is integrated, in a still broader way, with numerous other current studies of the history of the earth and of its life—for instance, with work by Camp, Welles, and others for the University of California on the Triassic of Arizona; with that by Patterson (Chicago Natural History Museum) on the early Tertiary of Colorado, by Jepsen (Princeton University) on the early Tertiary of Wyoming, and by Gazin (National Museum) on the early Tertiary of Utah; with work by Schaeffer (American Museum) on Triassic and, with Dunkle (National Museum), on early Tertiary fishes; with a large cooperative program of work on marine fossils of the Southwest by Newell (American Museum) and others; and with my own work on the early Tertiary of South America.

Association Affairs

Itinerary, First Annual International Photography-in-Science Salon

Following the exhibition of these pictures at the AAAS Meeting in Chicago in December, they were displayed at the Buhl Planetarium and Institute of Popular Science, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (January 10–24) and are now at the Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan (February 2–28). They will continue to be exhibited as follows:

Cleveland Health Museum, Cleveland, Ohio	March 8–29
Science Illustrated, New York City	April 6–16
Brown University and Providence Engineering Society, Providence, Rhode Island	April 22–May 6
Gamma Sigma Epsilon, University of Florida, Gainesville	May 13–June 1
The John Crerar Library, Chicago, Illinois	June 8–21
Auburn Camera Club, Bureau of Animal Industry, USDA, Auburn, Alabama	June 28–July 12
American Osteopathic Association Annual Convention, Boston, Massachusetts	July 19–23

This photographic contest, sponsored by *The Scientific Monthly* and the Smithsonian Institution, will be held again this year. Reservations for showing the 1948 Salon pictures may be made now by writing to *The Scientific Monthly.* No dates are available prior to February 1949. The 1947 Salon pictures will also be available after July 30 of this year.

Section on Psychology (I)

Members of the psychological profession give greater support to the September meeting of the American Psychological Association in terms of attendance, offering of papers, and transaction of official business. Consequently, Section I of the AAAS always has a modest program. This year the program involved three sessions, on December 29 and 30, for the presentation of papers. About 100 members were in attendance. The session devoted to *Learning,* over which Kenneth W. Spence, of the University of Iowa, presided, included 5 papers deal-

ing mostly with laboratory studies at the human level. Four papers were presented in the session concerned with *Physiological Psychology,* over which Edna Heidbreder, of Wellesley College, presided. Some consideration was given to brain waves and effects of shock treatment. R. H. Seashore, of Northwestern University, presided at the third session, which dealt with *Personnel and Educational Psychology.* Some of the 6 papers given under this category used data based on psychological work in the military. On Monday evening the usual joint session with Section Q (Education) was held. The program consisted of two addresses by retiring vice-presidents, that by William A. Brownell (Section Q), who spoke on "Criteria of Learning in Educational Research," and that by Edna Heidbreder (Section I), whose subject was "The Work of Our Hands." (HAROLD E. BURTT, *Secretary.*)

Section on Mathematics (A)

Section A met in the West Room of the Hotel Sherman at 2:00 P.M. on Monday, December 29, R. W. Brink, of the University of Minnesota, presiding. About 60 persons attended.

The following program was presented:

(1) "On the Boundary Layer Motion Along a Periodically Oscillating Plane in a Compressible Viscous Fluid," M. Z. Krzywoblocki, University of Illinois.

(2) "Variations of the Probability of Unfair Election Results (Preliminary Report)," Kenneth May, Carleton College.

(3) "Normal Equations With Nearly Vanishing Determinants," M. Herzberger and R. Morris, Eastman Kodak Company.

(4) "Composition of Binary Quadratic Forms," Gordon Pall, Illinois Institute of Technology.

(5) "A Proof of the Asymptotic Analogue of the Theorem of Cramèr and Rao," Herman Rubin, Institute for Advanced Study.

Papers 1 to 4 are counted as having been read before the American Mathematical Society, and abstracts will appear in the *Bulletin* of that Society. Paper 5 is considered as having been presented to the Institute of Mathematical Statistics.

After a recess, R. E. Langer, of the University of Wisconsin, retiring vice-president and chairman of Section A, delivered his vice-presidential address on "The Solutions of Differential Equations in the Presence of Turning Points."

After this session, a large number of the mathematicians present had an informal dinner at a nearby restaurant, where reservations had been made by Haim Reingold, of the Illinois Institute of Technology.

At 1:30 P.M. on Tuesday, December 30, Section A and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics held a joint session in the Crystal Room of the Hotel Sherman. Dean Walter Bartky, of the University of Chicago, presided. The program had been arranged by a committee of the Institute, of which Allen Wallis, of the University of Chicago, was chairman. The program consisted of invited addresses by P. R. Halmos and L. J. Savage, of the University of Chicago, on "Application of the Radon-Nikodym Theorem to the Theory of Sufficient Statistics," and by David Blackwell, of Howard University, on "Unbiased Sequential Estimation." (R. W. BRINK, *Secretary.*)

In preparation for the Centennial Celebration and appropriate issues of the AAAS publications there will be need for historical data and photographs of the period 1848–1948. Members and nonmembers of the Association alike who have in their possession, or know the location of, interesting material about this period are asked to communicate with the Editorial Office of *Science.* Items particularly desired are documents relating to early meetings, unusual pictures of officers and prominent members of the Association, group pictures taken at the various meetings, pictures of scientific laboratories and institutions in the meeting cities, data and photographs relating to the Pacific and Southwestern Divisions, especially of persons and groups active in the organization of these divisions, and information about the branches of the Association. Scientists of older generations may wish to contribute reminiscences about the various meetings and activities of their early association with the AAAS. Correspondents are asked *not* to send any material, but rather to submit details of what they have available. The editorial staff will then be able to eliminate duplicates and arrange to secure the needed information with a minimum of inconvenience to the present owners of the materials.