

# NEWS and Notes

**National Science Foundation.** The six National Science Foundation bills before the Public Health, Science, and Commerce Subcommittee of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee will receive early attention, according to a statement made March 10 by Congressman J. Percy Priest, subcommittee chairman. The order of the bills' hearing, he said, was to be decided in an executive session of the subcommittee on March 16.

Congressman Priest plans to urge that the Foundation bills be placed high on the priority list as legislation which already has had considerable discussion and can be quickly disposed of. He expects that brief hearings will be held in order to acquaint new committee members with the issues involved. He urged that all interested individuals and organizations make their views known to the committee at or before the hearings. He mentioned that the only opposition to pending bills he knew of was coming from small manufacturers, particularly in the West, who apparently have been informed that patent policies will be altered to the detriment of the small businessman and inventor. The source of this story seems to have been "Invention News and Views," released by the National Patent Counsel. In November 1948, it carried a news item and an editorial attacking the proposed Foundation legislation as containing "provisions that would supply almost unlimited development of a bureaucracy authorized to meddle into the most intimate and critical social relations of the citizens as well as to threaten seriously to disturb the orderly development of our interests." It is interesting that manufacturers, rather than scientists, should be advising Congressmen on legislation of this type.

The members of the Public Health, Science and Commerce Subcommittee who have the responsibility for this legislation are: *Democrats*—J. Percy Priest, Tennessee, chairman; George C. Sadowski, Michigan; Thomas B. Stanley, Virginia; William T. Grana-

han, Pennsylvania; A. J. Biemiller, Wisconsin; and George H. Wilson, Oklahoma; *Republicans*—J. P. O'Hara, Minnesota; Wilson D. Gillette, Pennsylvania; Hugh D. Scott, Jr., Pennsylvania; and John B. Bennett, Michigan.

In the Senate, there has been no new action since S.247 was reported out by the Labor and Public Welfare Committee last week (Senate Report No. 90). On March 10 the bill had not yet been placed on the calendar. The filibuster and its after effects may seriously delay final Senate action.

HOWARD A. MEYERHOFF

## About People

**Britton Chance**, former associate professor of biophysics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, has been appointed director of the Eldridge Reeves Johnson Foundation for Medical Physics at the University's Medical School. Dr. Chance will replace **Detlev W. Bronk**, who became president of Johns Hopkins University last January.

**William B. Allington** has been appointed chairman of the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Nebraska. He succeeds **Robert W. Goss**, who will remain as plant pathologist and professor of Plant Pathology, and dean of the Graduate College.

**J. C. Hackleman**, Illinois College of Agriculture agronomist, was recently honored at a banquet attended by 200 Illinois seed growers who presented him with a cash award in appreciation of his 30 years' work with them. He plans to make a six-month tour of 20 states to study seed improvement work.

**R. Ruggles Gates** has been appointed an honorary president of the Seventh International Botanical Congress, to be held in Sweden in 1950. Dr. Ruggles is emeritus professor of botany at the University of London, and research fellow in biology at Harvard University.

**William Stephenson**, director of the Institute of Experimental Psychology, Oxford University, was among the 49 new members recently inducted into the University of Chicago chapter of Sigma Xi. Others were **George Buchi**, Baden Switzerland; **Andrew Fono**,

Stockholm; **Rayson Lisung Huang**, Kowloon, Hong Kong; **Augusto Segre**, Rome; **Cesare Emiliani**, Bologna, Italy; and **George T. E. Graham**, Rosetown, Saskatchewan.

**Donald W. Pritchard**, formerly of the Oceanographic Section of the U. S. Navy Electronics Laboratory, has been appointed director of the Chesapeake Bay Institute, a division of Johns Hopkins University.

**Frances Drouet**, curator of cryptogamic botany, Chicago Natural History Museum, has returned to his post after three and a half months of botanical exploration on the northeastern coast of the Gulf of Mexico. Dr. Drouet collected about 13,000 specimens of seaweeds, algae, and other plants which will be used for research purposes in the Museum's cryptogamic herbarium.

**Alexander Petrunkevitch**, professor emeritus of zoology, Yale University, will leave the U. S. March 24, to visit the museums of Great Britain and Continental Europe. His objective is the study and redescription of fossil types of Arachnida. The work, which will take several months, is sponsored by the American Philosophical Society and the Geological Society of America.

**John R. Pellam**, formerly with the Research Laboratory of Electronics at MIT, has been appointed to the staff of the National Bureau of Standards, where he will conduct research in the Cryogenics Laboratory. Other NBS appointments are: **William Piper**, former project engineer in the Office of Chief Signal Officer, Department of the Army, to the Ordnance Mechanics Laboratory of the Electronics Division; **John W. Utecht**, former chief engineer for the National Scientific Products Company, to the Ordnance Engineering Laboratory, and **Arthur E. Newlon**, formerly of the Stromberg-Carlson Company, to the Ordnance Research Laboratory of the Electronics Division.

**James Gordon Cumming**, Lt. Col. Medical Corps Reserve, U. S. Army, has retired as director of the Bureau of Preventable Disease, Washington, D. C. Health Department, after 24 years' service with the District government.

**F. N. D. Kurie**, former associate professor of physics, Washington University, St. Louis, will head the new Nucleonics Division of the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D. C. Other members of the Division include **M. H. Johnson**, **E. H. Krause**, **E. J. Schremp**, and **M. M. Shapiro**.

On May 1, **Sir Ben Lockspeiser** will succeed **Sir Edward Appleton** as secretary to the Committee of the Privy Council for Scientific and Industrial Research of Great Britain. Sir Ben is now chief scientist at the Ministry of Supply.

**D. T. MacDougal**, director and founder of the Desert Research Laboratory in Tucson, Arizona, branch of the Carnegie Institute of Washington, has been honored by the California Botanical Society, which dedicated to him an issue of its magazine, *Madroño*.

**Robert A. Stauffer** has been elected vice president and director of research of the National Research Corporation, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Mr. Stauffer has been associated with the company since 1942.

### Visitors to U. S.

**Olaug Somme**, microbiologist at the University of Oslo, has been a visiting scientist in the Microbiology Division, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, La Jolla since last August and will visit biological stations on the East Coast before her return to Oslo.

**Borg C. Christensen**, of the Finsen Memorial Hospital of Copenhagen, Denmark, was a recent visitor at Argonne National Laboratory.

### Grants and Awards

The American Petroleum Institute has granted \$19,500 to the Microbiology Division, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, in La Jolla, for continuation of research involving the role of microorganisms in the formation and transformation of petroleum. The present staff includes Claude E. Zobell, director, Frederick D. Sisler, Joseph Q. Heplar, Carl H. Oppenheimer, and Margaret Knight.

Iowa State College has received a grant of \$18,000 from the **Rockefeller Foundation** for research in genetics under the direction of J. W. Gowen, head of the genetics department. This is the fourth grant that the College has received from the Foundation for work in genetics.

The 1948 recipients of the \$1,000 **Borden Awards** administered by professional and scientific associations have been announced as follows: American Academy of Pediatrics: Dorothy H. Andersen, assistant professor in pathology, Columbia University, and assistant pathologist and attending pediatrician, Babies Hospital and Vanderbilt Clinic; American Institute of Nutrition: Charles A. Carey, chief of Division of Nutrition and Physiology, Bureau of Dairy Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture; American Dairy Science Association: Walter L. Gaines, professor of Milk Production, University of Illinois; American Chemical Society: Barbour L. Herrington, professor of Dairy Chemistry, Cornell University, and chemist, New York Agricultural Experiment Station; Poultry Science Association: William R. Hinshaw, professor of veterinary science, University of California, veterinarian, California Agricultural Experiment Station; American Dairy Science Association: Egerton G. Hood, chief, Dairy Research, Division of Bacteriology and Dairy Research, Science Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture, Canada.

The **Washington Academy of Sciences** presented Certificates of Award to three scientists on March 17: to Robert J. Huebner, National Institutes of Health, in recognition of his contributions to knowledge of the transmission of certain rickettsial diseases; to Maxwell K. Goldstein, Naval Research Laboratory, for his distinguished research and development in the field of electronic engineering; and to James A. Van Allen, Applied Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University, for distinguished service in nuclear physics and cosmic rays. Certificates of Merit for demonstrated talent were presented to seven local high school seniors.

The John and Mary R. Markle Foundation has selected its second group of **Scholars in Medical Science** from candidates nominated by accredited medical schools in the U. S. and Canada (see *Science*, August 20, 1948). The program, begun in 1948, is designed to aid young men and women planning careers in academic medicine. Appropriation of \$325,000 for their support will be allotted in grants of \$25,000 each at a rate of \$5,000 a year to the medical schools in which they now hold faculty appointments. The 13 Scholars and the medical colleges nominating them are: Francis P. Chinard, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Don W. Fawcett, Harvard Medical School; Allan V. N. Goodyer, Yale University School of Medicine; John B. Graham, University of North Carolina School of Medicine; John D. Green, Wayne University College of Medicine; George Watson James III, Medical College of Virginia; Ralph Jones, Jr., University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine; George E. Moore, University of Minnesota Medical School; C. Barber Mueller, Washington University School of Medicine; George W. Schwert, Jr., Duke University School of Medicine; Beverly T. Towery, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine; W. Clarke Wescoe, Cornell University Medical College; and Donald R. Wilson, University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine.

### Summer Programs

**Harvard University** will offer a summer program on "Science in General Education at the College Level," to be conducted by James B. Conant, president of the University, assisted by Earl J. McGrath, University of Chicago, Fletcher Watson, of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and Duane Roller, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana. Inquiries concerning the course may be addressed to Summer School Office, Wadsworth House, Harvard University, Cambridge 38, Massachusetts.

The **Tissue Culture Commission** will sponsor a summer course from July 5-30 in the laboratory of the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital, Cooperstown, New York. The program, dealing with the principles, methods, and applications of tissue

culture, will be under the direction of John H. Hanks. Applications should be sent to Mary S. Parshley, College of Physicians and Surgeons, 630 West 168th Street, New York City, before *May 1*.

**The School of Library Service of Columbia University** will offer a course in medical library literature and administration July 5–August 12. Courses in science literature, advanced information services, biology and physiology are also scheduled. Further information may be obtained from Estelle Brodman, School of Library Service, Columbia University, New York City 27.

### Industrial Laboratories

**The Western Division of the American Council of Commercial Laboratories** will hold its annual meeting March 26, in the offices of Abbot A. Hanks, Inc., San Francisco. Roger W. Truesdail, president of Truesdail Laboratories, Inc., Los Angeles, is chairman of the Western Division, and Herbert D. Imrie, president of Abbot A. Hanks, Inc., is vice president.

**A mercury vapor turbine-generator**, built by General Electric, has been installed in the Hartford (Connecticut), Electric Light Company's South Meadow Station. Capable of producing 15,000 kilowatts of electricity, the new power plant uses mercury vapor instead of steam to drive the turbine, which in turn drives an electric generator and also supplies extra heat to produce steam for other turbine-generators.

A group of postdoctoral fellowships in the natural sciences, supported by **Merck and Company, Ltd., of Canada**, has been announced by the Research Council of Canada. These fellowships, ranging in value from \$2,500 to \$5,000, are available to qualified Canadian citizens with a doctorate degree in chemistry or biology for study in selected institutions in Canada and abroad. Information and applications must be received by the Merck Fellowship Board, National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa, before *April 1*.

**The Perkin-Elmer Corporation**,

Glenbrook, Connecticut, announces the development of a new infrared analyzer for continuous automatic analysis of as many as six different components in a flowing stream of sample. The stream may be either in the liquid or gas phase. Cycling time for a six-component analysis is about six minutes. The instrument provides a permanent and accurate record of product concentration and purity, as well as an immediate indication warning of process troubles.

A new \$2,500 graduate fellowship in analytical chemistry, supported by **Merck and Company, Rahway, New Jersey**, has been announced by the American Chemical Company. The fellowship is offered for 1949–50, with possible renewal for two years following. Applications must be received not later than *May 1* by the American Chemical Society Fellowship Committee, 1155 16th Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

A color computer which can distinguish 100,000,000 colors—ten times as many as the human eye can see—has been developed by H. R. Davidson, research physicist of General Aniline and Film Corporation of New York City, and engineered by D. W. Imm, of Librascope, Inc., Burbank, California. The computer, called the **Tri-stimulus Integrator**, was designed for use with the General Electric Spectrophotometer, invented by Arthur C. Hardy, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Together, the two instruments analyze colors mathematically so that if one color does not match another the difference can be defined unambiguously.

### Meetings and Elections

**Methods to prevent conflicting dates of world meetings** on medical science and pure and applied biology will be discussed at a council in Brussels, April 4–9. Fifty-four international associations, leagues, committees, and congresses are joining in the council. J. Maisin, general secretary of the International Union Against Cancer, will be chairman of the new coordination committee, and arrangements for the meeting are being made by I. M. Zhukova, head of the Medical Sciences Division of Unesco in Paris.

Kirtley F. Mather, professor of geology, Harvard University, will deliver the **1949 Westbrook Lecture Course**, April 14, 21, and 28 at 8:00 p.m. at the Wagner Free Institute of Science, Montgomery Avenue and 17th Street, Philadelphia. His subject will be "Earth's Resources and Man's Needs." The public is invited.

**The American Pharmaceutical Association** will hold its annual convention April 24–30 in Jacksonville, Florida. Six affiliated organizations meeting in Jacksonville the same week are: The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, the Conference of the Pharmaceutical Association Secretaries, the American Society of Hospital Pharmacists, the American College of Apothecaries, and the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy.

**The American Psychopathological Association** will hold its annual meeting at the Commodore Hotel in New York City, June 3 and 4. Four sessions will be held, on the clinical, psychological, physiological, sociological, and anthropological aspects of anxiety.

The first annual meeting of the **International Cancer Research Commission**, formed in St. Louis last year (*Science*, November 21, 1947, pp. 479–483), has been tentatively scheduled for July 15–22 in Paris. Further information may be obtained from Ignacio Millan, Chairman, Avenida Veracruz 69, Mexico, D. F. The Commission, which originally consisted of one representative from each of 40 nations, has since been joined by Finland, Iceland, Israel, and New Zealand. Negotiations are under way for Dr. Kinoshita to be appointed as an observer for Japan.

*Transactions* of the Fourth International Cancer Research Congress (September 2–7, 1947), are being published in five parts, according to an announcement by E. V. Cowdry, president of the Congress. The first part, consisting of 267 pages, including illustrations, tables, and brief summaries of all papers in English, French, German, Italian, Russian, and Spanish, appeared in 1948 as No. 1, Vol. 6 of *ACTA* (Union Internationale Contre le Cancer). The other four parts of

the *Transactions* will soon be available. Cost of the complete set will be \$25 (\$5 for each part), and postal money orders for subscriptions should be sent to J. H. Maisin, Editor, 61 Voer des Capucins, Louvain, Belgium. Reprints of the separate papers can also be obtained from him.

**The Council of the National Institute of Sciences of India** recently elected the following Honorary Fellows: Louis de Broglie, professor of theoretical physics, Poincare Institute, Paris University; Hans von Euler, professor emeritus of chemistry, Stockholm University; Harlow Shapley, director of Harvard Observatory, Harvard University; and Georg Tischler, Botanical Institute, Kiel University.

## Deaths

**Floyd Carlton Dockeray**, 69, professor of psychology at Ohio State University and former professor at Ohio Wesleyan University, died January 15.

**Friedrich Schneider**, plant breeder associated with Rabbethge and Giesecke, seed breeders of Einbeck, Germany, died January 31 after a short illness.

**Felix d'Herelle**, 75, Canadian biologist and laboratory chief of the Pasteur Institute from 1914 to 1921, died February 22 in Paris. From 1928 to 1934 Prof. d'Herelle had served as professor of protobiology at Yale University.

**James Rowland Angell**, 79, president of Yale University for 16 years, died at his home in Hamden, Connecticut on March 4. Starting as assistant professor of psychology at the University of Chicago in 1894, Dr. Angell was acting president by the last year of his quarter-century there. After his retirement as president of Yale in 1937, Dr. Angell had been associated with the National Broadcasting Company as educational director.

**Cosmic ray studies by Cornell University physicists** are being carried on in a water tunnel drilled through 193 feet of solid rock more

than a century ago by Ezra Cornell who, thirty years later, founded Cornell University. The limestone above the tunnel acts as a filter and only mesons—the most powerful of the cosmic ray particles—reach the automatic recording equipment within the tunnel. The experiments are being conducted by Donald E. Hudson, and Giuseppe Cocconi, researchers in the Laboratory of Nuclear Studies, who are using Geiger counters, an ionization chamber, and other equipment to measure the intensity of the mesons.

The current **Progress Report of Brookhaven National Laboratory** (BNL-AS-1), which combines the administrative and scientific progress for the period July 1–December 31, 1948, is now available. Requests for this report should be directed to the Information Group, Information and Publications Division, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York.

**The National Registry of Rare Chemicals**, 35 West 33rd Street, Chicago 16, has submitted the following list of wanted chemicals: 1,3-dihydroxyanthraquinone; hydroxypyruvic acid; n-triacontanol; carboxymethylamine hemihydrochloride; glucose monocarbonate; dibromogermene; neomenthol; 3,5-diiodothyronine; chavicine; 9-ketostearic acid; p-menthane; carene; vanillyl amine; d-pantoyltauryl-p-chloroanilide; sylvestrene; thymidine; n-docosanal; sphingomyelin; trichlorogermene; and tungsten oxide tetrafluoride.

**"Fishes of the Western North Atlantic"** has recently been published by the Sears Foundation for Marine Research at Yale University's Bingham Oceanographic Laboratory. The 576-page study is the first of a series designed to present in one complete account the results of scientific advances of the past 50 years in the field of ichthyology. The volume is devoted to the most primitive forms of fishes: the lancelets, lampreys and hagfishes, and sharks.

**Radioisotopes of cobalt, gold, and carbon** are among the 50-odd elements heretofore sold by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission that will now be made available without charge to approved cancer research workers. Up to this time only iodine, phosphorus,

and sodium have been provided free. The only cost to qualified applicants will be \$10 per shipment—which will cover packaging, monitoring, and book-keeping—plus the cost of transportation. Allocation of the free isotopes will be made for studies involving animal subjects, research on basic cellular metabolism of cancerous cells, and experimental programs in evaluation of radioactive materials in therapy. Distribution is administered by the Isotopes Division, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Oak Ridge, Tennessee and interested investigators should address inquiries there.

Friends and pupils of the late professor Sir D'Arcy Thompson have formed a committee to establish a permanent commemoration of him and have inaugurated a **D'Arcy Thompson Commemoration Fund** for the purpose. The committee proposes to have a replica painted of the oil portrait given by Lady D'Arcy Thompson to the Department of Natural History in the United College and to present the replica to University College, Dundee, where Sir D'Arcy was professor for 33 years. It also proposes to have Alfred Forrest's clay model of Sir D'Arcy cast in bronze for presentation to the University of St. Andrews. Any further information with regard to the plan will be supplied by D. R. R. Burt (Secretary to the Committee), Department of Natural History, The University, St. Andrews, Scotland.

**A Special Notice to  
Any Prospective Exhibitor  
in the  
Annual Science Exposition  
of the  
116th Meeting of the AAAS  
New York City,  
December 26–31, 1949**

If you did not receive a letter inviting your participation in this year's annual Exposition, and if you would like to receive the Official Floor Plan and Booth Rental Information on the release date this month, please write at once to: R. L. Taylor, Assistant Administrative Secretary, AAAS, 1515 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington 5, D. C.