

Association Affairs

Local Committees for the 1949 Annual Meeting of the AAAS in New York City. The establishment of local committees to direct the preparations for the 116th Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, December 26-31, in New York City, began auspiciously when **J. W. Barker**, president of Research Corporation and formerly dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Columbia University, accepted appointment as general chairman, with the responsibility of coordinating the activities of all local committees. Dr. Barker, whose training was received in the University of Chicago and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is eminently qualified for this post. In World War I he rose from second lieutenant to major in the Coast Artillery Corps and served on the faculties of M.I.T. and Lehigh before assuming the deanship at Columbia. Dr. Barker has been vice president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and vice president and president of the Illuminating Engineering Society; he was special assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and in 1937 he was chairman of AAAS Section M.

A local Advisory Committee, headed by **George B. Pegram**, vice president of Columbia University (the general chairman of the 1928 New York City Meeting) and including **William J. Robbins**, director of the New York Botanical Garden; **Albert E. Parr**, director of the American Museum of Natural History; and **Sam F. Trelease**, Torrey Professor of Botany, Columbia (on the General Local Committee in 1928), has been serving since early March. The complete personnel of the local committees on Reception and Entertainment, Equipment and Projection, Publicity, Finance, Reference, and General Sessions and Lectures will be announced in *Science* when they are organized. The success of the Annual Meeting of the Association depends in very large measure on the efforts of the local committee members who give so generously of their time; this will be particularly true of the New York City Meeting.

In order to increase participation in the **Gordon Research Conferences** (to be held this year at Colby Junior College, New London, New Hampshire, from June 20 to September 2, as announced in *Science*, March 4), two significant procedures have been established by recent action of the Management Committee and the Advisory Board. First, the registration fee has been increased to provide each conference with a small fund to pay part of the expenses of participants who would otherwise be unable to attend, the money to be allocated by the chairman in consultation with the director. And second, the advisory board has been enlarged to include fifteen non-sponsor representatives from colleges and universities. Five individuals are to be elected each year for a term of three years. The first five elected this year are Paul Bartlett, Harvard University; John Bowman, Mellon Institute of Industrial Research; C. A. Elvehjem, Univer-

sity of Wisconsin; Paul Flory, Cornell University; and H. S. Taylor, Princeton University.

The Management Committee, in cooperation with the Advisory Board, is responsible for operating the annual conferences. The Advisory Board consists of an official representative from each of the 57 industrial companies that sponsor the conferences through the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Members are named by the sponsors and serve indefinitely. The conference chairmen each year also serve on the Board. The Management Committee is elected from the Advisory Board, two members being chosen each year to serve for a term of three years. The present committee is Emil Ott, chairman, Hercules Powder Company; K. G. Compton, vice chairman, Bell Telephone Laboratories; Dean Burk, National Institutes of Health; George Calingaert, Ethyl Corporation; S. S. Kurtz, Jr., Sun Oil Company; Randolph T. Major, Merck & Company; Howard A. Meyerhoff, AAAS; and W. George Parks, director, Rhode Island State College.

The Management Committee selects the conference director, decides where the conferences are to be held, and concerns itself with finances and other details of operation, as well as formulating future plans and policies, for consideration by the Advisory Board. A survey of the present conferences is in progress now under the direction of S. S. Kurtz, Jr., to be used as a basis for future plans and developments.

W. GEORGE PARKS.

The Laurentian Hormone Conference of the AAAS will hold its 1949 meeting at the Forest Hills Hotel, Franconia, New Hampshire, September 12 to 17. The following program has been arranged:

I. OVARIAN PHYSIOLOGY AND FUNCTION

Monday evening, September 12. Biology of the Ovary: A. S. Parkes, National Institute for Medical Research, London.

Tuesday morning, September 13. Physiology of Estrogenic Hormones: K. E. Paschkis and A. Rakoff, Jefferson Medical College.

Tuesday morning, September 13. Maintenance of the Corpus Luteum and Physiologic Actions of Progesterone: James T. Bradbury, Willis E. Brown, and Laman A. Gray, State University of Iowa and University of Louisville.

Tuesday evening, September 13. The Vasculature of the Ovary and Ovarian Function: S. R. M. Reynolds, Carnegie Institute of Washington.

II. CHEMISTRY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF THE SEX HORMONES

Wednesday morning, September 14. Studies with Estrogen Conjugates: G. A. Grant and D. Beale, Ayerst, McKenna & Harrison, Ltd.

Wednesday morning, September 14. Chemical Methods for the Estimation of Steroid Hormones and their Metabolites: Lewis Engel, Massachusetts General Hospital.

III. PITUITARY PHYSIOLOGY AND FUNCTION

Thursday morning, September 15. Pituitary Control of Steroid Secretions: Roy O. Greep, Harvard School of Dental Medicine.

Thursday morning, September 15. The Present Status of Posterior Lobe Hormones: Robert L. Noble, University of Western Ontario.

IV. HUMORAL MEDIATORS IN NERVOUS TRANSMISSION

Thursday evening, September 15. Sympathetic Neurohumors: M. L. Tainter and F. P. Luduena, Sterling Winthrop Research Institute.

Friday morning, September 16. The Acetylcholine System in Neural Function: Ralph W. Gerard, University of Chicago.

V. HORMONES AND TUMORS

Friday morning, September 16. Experimental Endocrine Tumors: George W. Woolley, Roscoe B. Jackson Memorial Laboratory.

Friday evening, September 16. The Virilizing Syndrome in Man: Loris J. Soffer, J. Lester Gabrilove, Joseph W. Jailer, and Mildred D. Jacobs, Mount Sinai Hospital.

VI. MECHANISMS OF HORMONE ACTION

Saturday morning, September 17. Effects of Hyperglycemic Factors of the Pancreas and of Epinephrine on Glycogenolysis: Earl Sutherland, Washington University, St. Louis.

Saturday morning, September 17. Hormone-Enzyme Relationships: Roland K. Meyer, University of Wisconsin.

Attendance is limited by the available hotel accommodations, but the Committee on Arrangements invites applications for attendance from interested investigators and specialists in the hormone field. The Committee consists of R. W. Bates, E. R. Squibb & Company; E. C. Reifstein, Jr., Sloan-Kettering Institute; A. White, School of Medicine, University of California at Los Angeles; and G. Pincus, Chairman, The Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology. Applications for attendance should be sent to the Chairman at 222 Maple Avenue, Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, and must be received by June 6.

The Springfield chapter of the AAAS met March 31 at American International College. Dr. S. A. Simon, Chicopee Manufacturing Company chemist, spoke on the subject of fibers, discussing their synthesis, structure, function, and purposes, in nature and in the laboratory, and the techniques used to study them.

NEWS and Notes

Charles E. Sando, U. S. Department of Agriculture plant chemist, has been named project advisor for USDA Research on Crop Utilization, Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry. Dr. Sando succeeds Cornelius E. Senseman, recently retired.

Robert A. Kehoe, of the University of Cincinnati, has received the Knudsen Award of the American Chemical Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons for his work in the field of industrial medicine. The award was made at the Association's annual convention held in Detroit, April 7.

Robert Lindley Murray, executive vice president of the Hooker Electrochemical Company, Niagara

Falls, New York, has been awarded the 1949 Jacob F. Schoellkopf Medal of the Western New York Section of the American Chemical Society. Dr. Murray was cited for his engineering ability and his able direction of chemical research and development in the chlorine and alkali industry.

Gregor Wentzel, University of Chicago physicist, will be a visiting professor at Stanford University during the summer quarter. While there he will offer a course on recent developments in quantum electrodynamics.

The National Academy of Sciences made the following awards at its annual dinner held April 26 in Washington, D. C.: The Cyrus B. Comstock Prize of \$3,500 to Merle A. Tuve, director, Department of Terrestrial Magnetism, Carnegie Institution of Washington, D. C., for his work in nuclear physics, geophysics, and development of the proximity fuse; the James Craig Watson gold medal and honorarium to Samuel Alfred Mitchell, director of the

Leander McCormick Observatory, University of Virginia, for his many services to astronomy; the Mary Clark Thompson gold medal and honorarium, in absentia, to Frank McLearn, of the Canadian Geological Survey, in recognition of his contribution to geologic science; and the Public Welfare Medal to George Harrison Shull, professor emeritus of botany and genetics, Princeton University, in recognition of his improvement of the maize crop.

Ernst Mayr, curator of the Whitney-Rothschild Collections of the American Museum of Natural History, is serving as guest lecturer in the Department of Zoology at the University of Minnesota for the spring quarter and is offering a graduate course on the "Origin of Species and Other Problems of Evolution."

Arvid Lundquist, president of the American Society of Swedish Engineers in New York, has been awarded the Swedish Royal Order of Vasa, with the rank of knight.