

News and Notes

La Cinquantenaire de la Découverte du Radium and The Fifth International Cancer Congress, Paris

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* The 50th anniversary of the discovery of radium was celebrated July 16–21 at L'École Supérieure de Physique et de Chimie Industrielles, in Paris, France. Approximately 150 distinguished research workers attended, and numerous excellent papers by American, French, English, Swedish, Danish, and other authors were read during the scientific sessions. The high light of the celebration was a special session of all official delegates on July 16, attended by both daughters of the Curies—Eve and Irene. Drs. Boreau and Broglie presented a eulogy of Pierre and Marie Curie at this session. As part of the ceremony, the library at the school was dedicated, with special emphasis on the field of radiation.

On the morning of July 16 the Fifth International Cancer Congress was opened in Paris in the presence of President Auriol of the Republic of France. Scientific sessions were held July 17–21 at the Sorbonne, with delegates from many nations, including the Soviet Union, attending. A. Lacassagne, of Paris, presided as president

of the congress and I. Millan, of Mexico, as president of the Executive Committee. Papers covering a wide range of subjects were read.

The principal subjects were cancers and hormones, induced cancers, cancers and virus, microorganisms in cancer, the cytology and histology of cancer, experimental chemotherapy, biochemistry, transplantable cancers, radiobiology, mutation, and protection against cancerigenic agents. Sessions focusing on the problems of cancer control, including statistical and other evaluations of the cancer problem, supplemented these meetings in the experimental field. In addition, the pathology of cancer of various portions of the body—particularly the skin, the respiratory passages, bone, tumors of the salivary gland, the breast, and uterine cancer—was given consideration.

All participants in the congress owe a debt of gratitude to Prof. Lacassagne and our French colleagues for the fine work they did in organizing and providing facilities for the congress.

Tenth International Ornithological Congress

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The Tenth International Ornithological Congress, held in Sweden by invitation of the Swedish Ornithological Society, was initiated during the first week in June by excursions based on the University at Lund, which gave opportunity to see the bird life and other natural features of the farming and forested country in southern Sweden, as well as to visit the Island of Gottland. The formal meetings were opened June 10 in Uppsala, with Alexander Wetmore, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, serving as president, and Sven Hörstadius, of the University of Uppsala, as general secretary. The headquarters of the congress were at the university in "Värmlands Nation," and the meetings were held in lecture rooms of the university and in an adjacent hall. About 350 persons, representing more than 25 countries, were registered. The official delegation from the U. S. included Herbert Friedmann, U. S. National Museum; Alfred O. Gross, Bowdoin College; Frederick C. Lincoln, Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior; Dillon Ripley, Peabody Museum (at Yale); J. Van Tyne, University Museum, University of Michigan; and A. Wetmore (chairman).

This was the first postwar meeting of the congress, the last having been held in Rouen and Paris, France, in 1938. Sessions of special interest were devoted to evolution and systematics, bird migration and orientation, bird behavior, population dynamics, and a round-table conference on bird ringing. The last-mentioned was of importance in integrating the banding schemes of the various countries where this work now goes forward. Presentations in motion pictures included the Takahe (*Notornis*) of New Zealand, for many years believed to be extinct, the recently discovered nesting of the bristle-thighed curlew in Alaska, birds of the Antarctic, and zoological travels in Nepal. There was much emphasis on studies in behavior, with a summary of recent advances by N. Tinbergen, and important contributions on inheritance and learning and other features in avian psychology. Other noteworthy studies concerned populations in several species, and modern findings on routes of migration.

Short excursions during the week were made to the town and country homes of the illustrious Linnaeus, to the forested country adjacent to Uppsala, and among

the islands on the eastern coast. The formal banquet was held in the imposing Great Hall of Vasa Castle on the hill overlooking the city. Following the formal meetings which closed June 17, long excursions centered on Abisko and Ammarnäs, gave opportunity to see the

ecological features and topography of far northern Swedish Lapland, with its interesting bird life.

It was voted to hold the next congress in 1954 in Switzerland, and A. Landsborough Thompson, of England, was elected president.

About People

D. C. Balfour, director of the Mayo Foundation, and **A. W. Allen**, chairman of the Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons, have been appointed honorary fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

Alexander Brunschwig, chief of the Gynecological Service at Memorial Center for Cancer and Allied Diseases, New York City, has been awarded a medal from the University of Brussels in recognition of his services to medicine and humanity. While in Belgium Dr. Brunschwig gave a series of lectures and surgical demonstrations at meetings of La Journée Médicale Bruxelloise.

Gustav Egloff, director of research, Universal Oil Products Company, Chicago, has been elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts of Great Britain.

Egon A. Hiedemann, international authority in acoustics and ultrasonic research, has been named head of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Michigan State College. Dr. Hiedemann will replace **Thomas H. Osgood**, who became dean of the Graduate School in July. Dr. Hiedemann is at present professor of physics at Georgetown University, Washington, D. C., and part-time consultant for the Naval Ordnance Laboratory at White Oak, Md.

Daniel J. Holland has been appointed professor and director of the Department of Oral Surgery at Tufts College Dental School. Dr. Holland, who has been with the dental school since 1948, will hold the same positions in the New England Medical Center, for which Tufts is the teaching base.

J. Rud Nielsen, research professor of physics at the University of Oklahoma, will participate in a symposium of the Faraday Society at

Cambridge University, England, September 25-28.

He will speak on "Infrared and Raman Spectra of 1,3,5-Trifluorobenzene," a topic based on his work at the University of Oklahoma in cooperation with the Office of Naval Research and the Naval Research Laboratory at Washington, D. C.

Morris Pollard, who has completed a year of special research with K. F. Meyer, director of the Hooper Foundation for Medical Research at the University of California Medical Center, San Francisco, will resume his duties as associate professor of preventive medicine at the University of Texas Medical Branch and director of the Virus Research Laboratory in Galveston next month.

Charles L. Seeger, a member of Cornell University's radio astronomy staff since its origin in 1947, will join a similar project at Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden, this month. The Swedish institution is engaged in investigation of the ionosphere, the aurora, and other areas of electron physics, and is building an observatory for radio astronomy work.

C. S. Shoup, professor of biology at Vanderbilt University, is on leave of absence to serve in the Biology Division of the Office of Research and Medicine, Atomic Energy Commission, Oak Ridge Operations.

Edmund M. Spicker, chairman of the Department of Geology at Ohio State University, has been appointed chairman of the Geology Panel of the Committee on Geophysics and Geography, Research and Development Board, Department of Defense. Dr. Spicker has been serving as alternate to the former chairman, **Walter Newhouse**, of the Department of Geology, University of Chicago.

Ernest S. Tierkel, assistant chief, Veterinary Public Health Branch, PHS Communicable Disease Center,

Atlanta, has been named to a five-year term on the World Health Organization's expert panel on rabies. In his new post, Dr. Tierkel will advise WHO headquarters of new research developments in the field of rabies in the United States.

Calvin O. Williams has been appointed executive secretary of Southwest Research Institute's International Division. Dr. Williams, formerly a staff member of the Institute of Inventive Research, an affiliated organization, is at present in Havana, as secretary of a technoeconomic mission sponsored by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Visitors

Dorothy M. Stone of Manchester, England, has been appointed Mary Whiton Calkins Visiting Professor of Mathematics at Wellesley College for the year 1950-51.

Recent visitors at the Communicable Disease Center, U. S. Public Health Service, Atlanta, Georgia, were **Alberto R. Aquilar**, director, Division of Epidemiology, Department of Health, San Salvador, El Salvador; **Victor A. Botto**, hospital director, Ministry of Public Health, Lima, Peru; **Hideo Fukumi**, director, Bacteriology Division, National Institute of Health, Tokyo; **George Kostassianis**, malaria inspector, Ministry of Hygiene, Athens, Greece; and **José B. Mendoza**, Malaria Control Section, Department of Health, Manila.

Twenty-four Philippine health workers will spend a year in the U. S. studying under fellowships established by the Philippine Rehabilitation Act, supervised by the Division of International Health of the USPHS. The trainees will observe public health administration techniques and do field work with national, state, and local health organizations before beginning courses in

the fall. Among those taking part in the program, and their special fields, are: **Gerardo L. Adan**, tropical disease, at Tulane University; **Josefina B. Barrios-Balea**, epidemiology, at University of North Carolina; **Concordia G. Bautista**, maternal and child care and public health education, at University of North Carolina; **Wigberto P. Clavecilla**, public health administration, at Harvard University; **Andrés Y. Cruz**, tuberculosis control, at Johns Hopkins University; **José Cuyegkeng**, bacteriology, at University of Michigan; **Lourdes R. Espiritu**, virology, at University of Pittsburgh; **José A. Florendo**, maternal and child health, at University of California, Berkeley; **David A. García**, hospital administration, at Columbia University; **Lauro S. García**, tuberculosis control, at Harvard University; **Emmanuel T. Gatchalian**, industrial hygiene, at University of Pittsburgh; **Florencia M. Herrera**, school health, at Yale University; **Ignacia de Jesús**, venereal disease control, at Columbia University; **Francisco R. José**, public health nutrition, at Harvard University; and **Marcelina F. Reyes**, public health dentistry, at University of Michigan.

Awards

The Sauveur Achievement Award for 1950, of the American Society for Metals, will be presented at the National Metal Congress in Chicago to Clarence E. Sims, assistant director, Battelle Memorial Institute, for his studies and research into the origin and effects of inclusions in cast steels.

The Association for the Study of Internal Secretions has made the following awards for 1950. **Squibb Award**, \$1,000 for work in endocrinology to C. N. H. Long, Sterling Professor of Biochemistry and dean of the Yale University School of Medicine. Dr. Long has been a leader in the development of understanding of the pituitary and adrenal glands, and his contributions have been an important stimulus to concepts of clinical diabetes, Cushing's syndrome, and many endocrine disorders. **Ciba Award**, \$1,200 to Oscar M. Hechter, of the Worcester

Foundation for Experimental Biology, and research associate in physiology, Tufts Medical School. Dr. Hechter has developed a new method for the introduction of oxygen into position 11 of steroids, which has furnished the first evidence for the presence of the enzymatic activity whereby certain hormones of the adrenal cortex are formed in the animal organism. **The Ayerst, McKenna and Harrison Fellowship** of \$2,500 was awarded to Lawrence E. Shulman, of Johns Hopkins Hospital, to permit him to pursue clinical investigations on the effects of ACTH and cortisone in states of hypersensitivity under the direction of John E. Howard and A. McGehee Harvey, and to carry out experimental studies with these hormones on anaphylaxis in animals under George Mirick. **The Schering Fellowship in Endocrinology**, \$2,500, was awarded for the second time to D. Laurence Wilson, of Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, to continue his work under the direction of George Thorn in the field of metabolic and endocrine diseases.

Meetings

The fall meeting of the **American Physiological Society** will take place at Ohio State University, September 13-16. Scientific sessions, demonstrations, and exhibits will be held in or near the College of Medicine (Hamilton Hall) and the new medical center. The Neil House is headquarters hotel for the meeting. The program comprises approximately 250 papers, 15 demonstrations, and 4 motion pictures. Members and friends of the society are urged to attend. For further information, address Dr. Fred A. Hitchcock, Chairman, Local Committee, Hamilton Hall, Ohio State University, Columbus 10.

Meeting of Biological Societies under Sponsorship of the American Institute of Biological Sciences. The Ohio State University campus will be the locale of the second annual meeting of biological societies under AIBS sponsorship, September 11-13. Invited to the Columbus campus by President H. L. Bevis, the university authorities have ex-

pected every effort to make the meeting of an estimated 2,500 biologists, representing 14 biological societies, a memorable occasion. This meeting includes the *Golden Jubilee Celebration* of the Genetics Society of America, whose program stresses the progress made by scientists who have applied Mendel's theories, as a rebuttal to USSR geneticists. Key-note addresses will be made by Richard Goldschmidt, "The Impact of Genetics upon Science," and by Julian Huxley, "Genetics and Modern Thought."

Some 700 technical papers will be presented at the three-day sessions of the various societies. In addition to these, a number of symposia, as well as individual addresses, will cover broader aspects of the biological sciences and their impact upon society. Among these will be "Vegetation Mapping" and "Application of Ecological Knowledge to Human Affairs" (Ecological Society of America); "Physiological Aspects of Growth Regulators" and "Veg- etable Varieties and Breeding" (American Society for Horticultural Science); "Botany in American Education" (Botanical Society of America); "The Role of Introgres- sion in Evolution" (Society for the Study of Evolution); "The Fungi Come into Their Own" (first annual lecture of the Mycological Society of America); "Modern Methods of Monographic Work" (American Society of Plant Taxonomists); "The Water Relations of Plants" (Ameri- can Society of Plant Physiologists); "Problems of Deterioration" (Soci- ety of Industrial Microbiologists); "Old and New Pathways in Genet- ics" (American Society of Human Genetics); "Plans and Policies for Annual Meetings" (AAAS and AIBS); and a "Forum on Publica- tion Problems" (AIBS).

A varied *Ladies Entertainment*, in charge of a number of wives of local Society members, will include trips to near-by historic areas and muse- ums, as well as teas and luncheons. The *Biologists' Smoker*, in the lux- urious lounges of the new wing of the Ohio State Museum, will offer an opportunity for the usual social get- together of the biologists. The *Bi- ological Sciences Exhibit* will pro-

vide an opportunity to see the newest "tools of the biologists' trade" in the form of texts and reference books, instruments, supplies, and equipment. A noteworthy part of the photographic display will be a contribution of unusual electron micrographs by Ralph W. G. Wyckoff, of the Laboratory of Physical Biology, National Institutes of Health.

The General Program of the meeting is being mailed to the AIBS-member societies participating in the meetings; others will receive programs upon registration. Individual copies may be secured (price, \$1.00) upon application to the office of the Executive Secretary, American Institute of Biological Sciences, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C.

The National Academy of Sciences will hold its autumn meeting October 9-12 in the auditorium and conference rooms of the General Electric Company's Research Laboratory, The Knolls, Schenectady, N. Y. On Monday afternoon the new building of the Research Laboratory will be dedicated. Scientific sessions will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On Tuesday evening a public lecture will be given in Memorial Chapel, Union College, by C. P. Rhoads, director, Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research. Members of the Academy are requested to register on Monday afternoon in the lobby of the Research Laboratory. Tickets for luncheons and dinners will be available at the registration desk. Requests for the reservation of hotel rooms should be addressed to Dr. W. D. Coolidge, Chairman, Research Laboratory, General Electric Company, Schenectady.

A southwide chemical conference will be held in Atlanta October 16-18. The American Chemical Society and the Southern Association of Science and Industry are acting as joint sponsors of the meeting, which is designed to accelerate Southern progress in all fields of chemistry. Special technical sessions will be devoted to physical, inorganic, organic, and analytical chemistry, biochemistry, chemical education, and industrial chemistry. A chemical industries session will occupy one full day of the program, with comprehensive

reports devoted to such subjects as opportunities for plastics industries, expansion of petroleum industries, quality control in food and drink industries, and development of new chemical products from Southern raw materials. Information on the meeting may be obtained from Southern Association of Science and Industry headquarters, 5009 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, Ga.

An extensive malaria control program in the Shiraz Valley of Iran is being conducted by the Iran Foundation of New York, the Pennsalt International Corporation, Philadelphia, and the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. The American scientific team, assisted by Iranians first trained by the team, has completed DDT spraying of some 145 towns and villages, embracing a population of about 220,000 persons, in the heavily malaria-infested district of Shiraz and adjacent areas. At the same time, under the direction of H. Radclyffe Roberts, managing director of the academy, it has completed the first definitive entomological data on malaria vectors of the area, and has trained and equipped enough Iranian teams to continue the program until this region becomes the first malaria district to be cleared of the disease in Iran.

Michael Reese Hospital Postgraduate School is offering a course in **diseases of the endocrine—physiology and diagnostic methods**—to be held September 18-29. The course, under the direction of Rachmiel Levine, director of the Department of Metabolic and Endocrine research, will consist of lectures and case demonstrations. Tuition is \$100. Further information may be obtained from Samuel Soskin, Dean, Michael Reese Hospital Postgraduate School, 29th Street and Ellis Avenue, Chicago 16, Ill.

A registry of leprosy, sponsored by the Leonard Wood Memorial (American Leprosy Foundation), has been established at the American Registry of Pathology, a department of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. The purpose of the reg-

istry is to promote the study of the pathology of leprosy, based on materials contributed from all parts of the world. Contributors are asked to forward specimens in slides, blocks, or fixed tissues, and to give complete identification of the patient, to facilitate follow-up studies, as well as to send adequate abstracts of the clinical data, including details of therapy. Clinical photographs, especially of the individual lesion excised for study, are desired for clinicopathologic correlation. Communications should be addressed to the Director, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (American Registry of Pathology), Washington 25, D. C.

The National Research Council of Canada has installed in its laboratories research equipment for producing temperatures within a few degrees of absolute zero, by the liquefaction of helium. The new equipment provides a readily available source of very low temperatures for the study of chemical and physical reactions.

The new Office of Basic Instrumentation, recently established at the National Bureau of Standards, will coordinate bureau projects in basic instrumentation, maintain liaison with sponsoring agencies, and arrange for cooperative work on special problems. In addition, it will survey all work in progress in NBS laboratories to determine its pertinence to instrumentation projects, arrange for the evaluation of new instrumentation developments, and direct theoretical and experimental studies of original designs for improved means of measurement not specifically covered by other projects at the bureau.

The registry of rare chemicals, 35 West 33rd Street, Chicago, lists the following wanted chemicals: perilla oil; linamarin; myricin; biliverdin; renin; hypertensinogen; angiotonin; pyrithiamine; 2,3-dimethylbutanol-3; *n*-decyl mercaptan; *n*-tetradecyl mercaptan; *n*-dodecylsulfonic acid; ethyl tannate; *N*-nitrosodiethylamine; 2,7-dihydroxypheanthrene; benzopyrene; bis-(2-hydroxy-5-chlorocyclohexyl); 1-cyanobutene-1; 1-cyanobutene-3; and 5,5'-diethoxythiindigo.