

# News and Notes

## The Fifth International Congress of Microbiology

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The congress was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, August 17-24, under the presidency of Olympio da Fonseca, Jr., in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of Instituto Oswaldo Cruz. The opening plenary session was convened in the Municipal Theatre on the afternoon of August 17, following a morning reception by the Minister of Education and Health, Pedro Calmon, and an early afternoon reception at the Catete Palace by the President of the Republic, General Enrício Gaspar Dutra. All the scientific meetings of the congress took place in the luxuriously appointed Hotel Quitandinha, near Petrópolis, which offered excellent private accommodations for the delegates, and adequate room for the 11 sections of the congress to meet simultaneously. There were nearly 500 registered participants, representing most of the Americas, European countries, Iceland, Egypt, South Africa, Israel, Turkey, Iran, India, Goa, and Japan.

Papers were presented in the following sections, each of which held two to four sessions: general microbiology, medical and veterinary bacteriology, rickettsias and rickettsial diseases, mycology, protozoology, viruses and viral diseases, pathogenic microbiology of plants, soil, water, and sewage microbiology, industrial microbiology, immunology and allergy, and classification and nomenclature of microorganisms. In addition, there were late afternoon and after-dinner lectures and conferences on subjects of general interest, such as "Complement and Its Functions," by Michael Heidelberger; "Standardization of Microbiological Tests," led by Geoffrey Rake; "Metabolic Aspects of Bacterial Growth in the Absence of Cell Division," by Walter J. Nickerson; "Le Problème des Bactéries Lysogenes," led by A. Lwoff; "Die Serologie der Enterobacteriaceae," led by F. Kaufmann; "Oswaldo Cruz, Interpretation of a Personality," Clem-

entino Fraga; "Doença de Chagas—Estado Atual do Problema," A. Vilella; "Control of Rabies," Herald Cox; and "The Identification of *Rickettsia prowazekii* as the Causative Organism of Classical Typhus," H. da Rocha Lima; a symposium on the electron microscope was also held.

On August 22 the entire congress visited Instituto Oswaldo Cruz in the suburbs of Rio de Janeiro and were shown through the various laboratories and clinics. That night the mayor of the city held a reception for the delegates at the Guanabara Palace, where the Ballet of the Municipal Theatre gave an open-air exhibition in the formal gardens of the palace. On two nights there were artistic and musical programs in the theatre of the Hotel Quitandinha, and on Sunday, August 20, excursions to the National Park at Terezopolis and to the Rio Jockey Club. Following the closing of the congress, provisions were made for interested delegates to visit the biological and medical institutions in São Paulo, an hour's air trip from Rio.

The quality of the papers that were presented was good, and discussion indicated sustained interest, but no outstanding new contributions to biology were announced. There was a preponderance of papers in some of the sections by delegates from Brazil and near-by countries, so that considerable emphasis was placed on the pathogenic microorganisms of South America; yet a satisfactory balance was maintained by papers presented in other sections by investigators from Europe and North America. The salient feature of the congress was, perhaps, the opportunity for participants from many countries with diversified interests in the field of microbiology to become acquainted with each other and with one another's problems in so favorable a setting, under one roof, away from the diversions of a large city.

### About People

**Detlev W. Bronk**, president of Johns Hopkins University, and **Rear Admiral Lewis L. Strauss**, president of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, have been appointed to the board of trustees of the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research.

**Olaf Andreas Hougen**, professor of chemical engineering at the University of Wisconsin, will give the second Institute Lecture to the

American Institute of Chemical Engineers December 4 at the 43rd annual meeting of the group to be held in Columbus, Ohio, December 3-6. Dr. Hougen will speak on applied kinetics.

**Elizabeth Hoyt**, professor of economics and sociology at Iowa State College, is traveling under a Fulbright Award to work on a research project that will take her to England and Africa, studying social and economic conditions in certain tech-

nologically undeveloped areas in the British Empire. Dr. Hoyt will make her headquarters in Africa at the Institute of Social and Economic Research, Makerere College, Kampala, Uganda.

**Stanley A. Tyler**, formerly consulting geologist for Jones & Laughlin Iron & Steel Co., has been elected chairman of the University of Wisconsin Geology Department. He succeeds **R. C. Emmons**, department chairman from 1945 to 1950.

**Harold K. Schilling**, professor and head of the Department of Physics at Pennsylvania State College, has been named dean of the Graduate School, succeeding **Frank D. Kern**, who has retired.

The new director of the National Institutes of Health, U. S. Public Health Service, is **William H. Sebrell**, winner of the Mead Johnson Award of the American Institute of Nutrition and the Research Medal of the Southern Medical Association. During World War II he was co-director, with M. A. Wilson, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, of the national nutrition program. He succeeds **Rolla E. Dyer**, who has retired.

**Milton C. Stuart** has been named head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and acting head of the Department of Industrial Engineering of Lehigh University. Since 1948 he has been acting head of the mechanical engineering staff and becomes acting head of the Industrial Engineering Department following the resignation of **Thomas T. Holme**, now of the Yale faculty.

The chairmanship of the Department of Pharmacology and Materia Medica in the New England College of Pharmacy, Boston, has been accepted by **Nellie P. Watts**, formerly associated with the Department of Radiation Biology, University of Rochester.

## Visitors

**Emmanuel Fauré-Fremiet**, professor at Collège de France, Paris, spoke yesterday at the American Philosophical Society's meeting which closed its sessions today. The subject of Professor Fauré-Fremiet's talk was "Feeding Behavior of Some Carnivorous and Vegetarian Ciliate Infusoria."

**Paul Harteck**, presiding head of the University of Hamburg and an authority on hydrogen isotopes, will join the staff of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on January 1 as visiting research professor of physical chemistry. He will work with the institute a minimum of 18

months. Dr. Harteck's most recent work has been in isolating quantities of tritium.

European speakers at the recent dedication of the new Thomas C. Jenkins Laboratories of Biophysics, The Johns Hopkins University, were **A. V. Hill**, of the Royal Society, London, and **E. D. Adrian**, professor of physiology at Cambridge University, England.

Visiting the National Bureau of Standards recently were **G. J. van der Bie**, director, Indonesian Institute for Rubber Research, Bogor, Java; **F. A. Champion**, in charge of research on corrosion and other surface phenomena at the Research Laboratories of the British Aluminum Co., England; **Geoffrey Gee**, director, **C. M. Blow**, assistant to the director, and **R. Rivlin**, chief physicist, British Rubber Producers' Research Association, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, England; **Mauro Picone**, director, **Gaetano Fichera**, professor, and **Michele Canepa**, engineer, Istituto Nazionale per le Applicazioni del Calcolo, Rome; **Peter W. Cooke**, chemist, and **Martin M. Strong**, geologist, Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., London; **G. Martin**, superintendent of rubber investigation, Advisory Committee for Rubber Research (Ceylon and Malaya), Imperial Institute, London; and **Frank A. Page**, chief engineer, and **Edward J. Heath**, James Hardie & Co., Sydney, Australia.

## Grants and Awards

The Brookings Institution, Washington, D. C., is receiving \$60,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation to enable it to plan its work on a three-year rather than a two-year basis, and to provide for a major new research program. This research will try to determine the basic interests and foreign policy objectives of the U. S. through a series of comprehensive analyses.

The 1950 Wellcome Medal and Award of the Association of Military Surgeons of the U. S. will be awarded to **Herman I. Chinn**, chief of the Department of Pharmacology at the School of Aviation Medicine,

Randolph AFB, Texas, at the annual convention of the association at the Hotel Statler, New York City, November 10. The award is for Dr. Chinn's paper based on studies of motion sickness.

The American Chemical Society's New York section has awarded its **William H. Nichols Medal** for 1951 to **Henry Eyring**, dean of the University of Utah Graduate School, for his "outstanding contributions to the field of theoretical chemistry, which clarified the theory of rate processes in such diversified fields as chemistry, biology, metallurgy, and physics." The medal will be presented on March 9, 1951.

The 1950 Progress Medal of the Photographic Society of America has been awarded to **Lloyd A. Jones**, head of the Physics Department of Kodak Research Laboratories, for his contributions to photographic science and practice, especially in the field of sensitometry.

The Franklin Institute has awarded the **Franklin Medal** for advancement of knowledge of physical science or its application, to **Eugene Paul Wigner**, **Thomas D. Jones** professor of mathematical physics at Princeton University. **Frank P. Brown Medals** have been awarded to **Eugene Freyssinet**, research and consulting engineer of Paris, and to **Gustave P. R. Magnel**, of Belgium. Both of these medals were given for contributions to use of prestressed concrete. **Russell H. and Sigurd F. Varian**, brothers who developed the klystron, were awarded **John Price Wetherill Medals**.

**Reinhold Rüdenberg**, **Gordon McKay** Professor of electrical engineering at Harvard University, recently received the gold **Cedergren Medal and Scroll** for 1949, the Swedish award for work in the field of electrical engineering. The medal is awarded every five years by the Royal Governors for the Universities of Technology in Sweden to the most deserving in the arts and sciences of electricity.

**C. C. Davis**, chief chemist of the Boston Wove Hose and Rubber Com-

pany, received the 1950 **Charles Goodyear Medal** of the American Chemical Society's Division of Rubber Chemistry at the international meeting held October 12-14. Editor of the division's publication *Rubber Chemistry and Technology*, Dr. Davis was cited for his contributions to the literature on rubber chemistry and his leadership as an industrial chemist.

**The Department of Preventive Medicine of New York University College of Medicine**, a unit of the New York University-Bellevue Medical Center, has received a grant of \$10,000 from the Association for the Aid of Crippled Children to continue its study of administrative practices necessary for case finding and follow-up of children with rheumatic fever and heart disease in the Lower East Side district of the city.

**American Cyanamid Company** has granted 13 postgraduate fellowships and one postdoctoral fellowship in chemistry and chemical engineering for 1950-51. They have been awarded to Carnegie Institute of Technology, University of Colorado, Columbia University, Cornell University, Duke University, University of Illinois, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Michigan, University of Notre Dame, Pennsylvania State College, Princeton University, Purdue University, Stanford University, and University of Wisconsin. Each postgraduate fellowship provides \$1,200 for the student, plus \$300 or the student's full tuition, whichever is larger. The postdoctoral fellowship carries a stipend of \$3,000 for the recipient.

The American Society for Metal's 1950 **Medal for the Advancement of Research** was awarded to Charles E. Wilson, president of General Motors Corporation, during the 32nd annual National Metal Congress and Exposition in Chicago, October 23-27. Mr. Wilson is the eighth distinguished scientist-industrialist to receive the honor, which was established in 1943 to recognize an industrial executive who has consistently sponsored metallurgical research or

development and who has helped substantially to advance the arts and sciences related to metals.

**The Department of State** has awarded Harvey J. Locke, associate professor of sociology at the University of California, a grant-in-aid which will enable him to serve as visiting professor of sociology at the Universities of Uppsala and Stockholm for the academic year 1950-51. Dr. Locke will conduct lecture courses and seminars for graduate students at the two universities, and will assist in the planning and development of a research program for sociologists.

The first 1950-51 fellowship of the **National Paraplegia Foundation** awarded to stimulate medical research in the care and treatment of spinal cord injuries has been awarded to William H. Landau, Washington University School of Medicine. The fellowship was contributed by the Birmingham chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Van Nuys, Calif.

**The Lasker Awards of the American Public Health Association** will be presented October 31, during the annual meeting of the association in St. Louis, to George Wells Beadle, professor of biology and chairman of the biology division at the California Institute of Technology; George Papanicolaou, professor at Cornell University Medical College; and Eugene Lindsay Bishop, director of health and safety for the Tennessee Valley Authority. The group award will go to the International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation.

The Departments of Medicine and Pediatrics at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine have received two grants totaling \$1,900 from the Memphis Chapter of the **American Heart Association**. The Department of Medicine will purchase equipment to improve the facilities for teaching in cardiovascular disease, for aiding the diagnosis and treatment of patients at John Gaston Hospital, and to continue the research projects in cardiovascular disease. The Department of Pediatrics

will expand its clinic for children with heart ailments at John Gaston Hospital.

## Fellowships and Prizes

**Examinations for ten Westinghouse scholarships**, totaling \$28,500, will be given March 10, 1951, by the College Entrance Examination Board in all parts of the U. S. The scholarships, sponsored annually at Carnegie Institute of Technology by the Westinghouse Educational Foundation, are worth \$2,850 each and cover four years' tuition. Competition is open to men who graduate in the upper quarter of their class between January and September, 1951. Application forms may be obtained from the Chairman of Admissions, Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh 13, Pa., and must be submitted by *December 1*.

**The Life Insurance Medical Research Fund** is offering predoctoral fellowships for research in the medical sciences, for 1951-52. These fellowships are open to those who have completed one year or more of work in a medical or graduate school and are in a position to devote at least three-quarters of their time to research. Preference is given to those who wish to work on fundamental problems in cardiovascular function. The usual stipend is at the rate of \$1,600-\$2,000 per annum. Candidates should be nominated by investigators who are willing to sponsor them on the basis of personal knowledge. The closing date for 1951 nominations is *January 1, 1951*. Further information may be obtained from the Scientific Director of the fund, 2 E. 103d St., New York 29.

**The American Dermatological Association** is offering a prize of \$300 for the best essay submitted of original, unpublished work relative to some fundamental aspect of dermatology or syphilology. Competition is open to scientists generally. The prize-winning candidate may be invited to present his paper before the annual meeting of the association with expenses paid. Manuscripts, together with illustrations, charts, and tables, are to be sub-

mitted in triplicate not later than *February 1, 1951*, to Dr. Louis A. Brunsting, Secretary, American Dermatological Association, 102-110 2nd Ave., S.W., Rochester, Minn.

**The American Goiter Association** is offering its Van Meter Prize Award of \$300 for the best essay concerning original work on problems related to the thyroid gland. The award will be made at the annual meeting of the association in Columbus, Ohio, May 24-26, 1951. Essays may cover either clinical or research investigations and should not exceed 3,000 words. Copies in duplicate should be sent to Dr. George C. Shivers, 100 E. St. Vrain St., Colorado Springs, Colo., not later than *March 1, 1951*.

## Meetings

The 22nd annual meeting of the **Society of Rheology** will be held November 3-4 at the Hotel New Yorker in New York City. The program includes papers on the flow of polymers, injection molding, stress measurement, flow of suspensions, and the absolute viscosity of water as a reference standard. The Bingham Medal of the society will be presented to W. F. Fair, Jr., research engineer and supervisor of the Koppers Company Laboratory, for his research in the science and technology of asphalt and his contributions to the development of the society. A West Coast section of the society will hold a separate meeting in Berkeley, Calif., December 1.

A **symposium on nutrition fronts in public health** will be presented by the Yale University Nutrition Laboratory, in cooperation with the Yale Department of Public Health and the Connecticut State Department of Health, on November 10 in the Brady Memorial Laboratory Auditorium. Papers to be presented are "Diet and Maternal Health," by Icie G. Macy, Research Laboratory of the Children's Fund of Michigan, Detroit; "Factors Conditioning Development of Malnutrition," by Benjamin H. Ershoff, University of Southern California; "Nutrition as a Factor in Aging," by Clive M.

McCay, Cornell University; "Influence of Nutrition on Work Performance," by Ernst Simonson, University of Minnesota; "Nutrition and Resistance—Susceptibility to Infection," by Howard A. Schneider, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York City; and "Nutritional Factors and Hormones in Stress Reactions," by Leo T. Samuels, University of Utah Medical School.

The sixteenth series of **Lectures to the Laity** on medicine and science is being presented by the New York Academy of Medicine at 2 E. 103rd St., and is also being broadcast in the New York area. The Linsly R. Williams Memorial Lecture was given October 25 by Norbert Wiener, of MIT. Forthcoming lectures are: November 15—Hans Selye, "The Renaissance in Endocrinology"; December 6—David M. Levy, "The Relation of Animal Psychology to Psychiatry"; January 17—Paul R. Burkholder, "Quest for Antibiotics"; January 31—Harold G. Wolff, "Life Situations, Emotions, and Bodily Disease"; and February 14—John E. McKeen, "Antibiotics: 'Miracles' Mass Produced."

## Colleges and Universities

**The University of Pennsylvania** will conduct three courses in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, to be held October 23–November 4, January 22–February 3, 1951, and April 9–21. Each course will consist of lectures, panel discussions, and clinical demonstrations. The Cancer Control Division of the Pennsylvania Department of Health will pay the tuition of each registrant and will provide \$200 for living expenses. Application blanks may be obtained from the Secretary, Cancer Commission, University of Pennsylvania, 3400 Spruce St., Philadelphia.

**Illinois Institute of Technology** is sponsoring a mechanics colloquium, consisting of eight monthly lectures during the present academic year. The meetings, which are free and open to the public, will be held on the campus of the institute, at 8:00 p.m. Speakers and dates are:

Nov. 1—"The Mechanics of Rubber," R. S. Rivlin, the Royal Institution, London.

Dec. 6—"Current Theories of Fatigue of Materials," A. M. Freudenthal, Columbia University.

Jan. 10—"The Buckling Problem from the Standpoint of Dynamics," N. J. Hoff, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

Feb. 7—"On the Most Effective Way for Producing High Tensile Stresses," M. Hetenyi, Northwestern University.

Mar. 7—"Inverse Solutions of Problems of Applied Mechanics," H. J. Reissner, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. (This lecture will be held at the Technological Institute, Northwestern University.)

Apr. 4—"Vibration Analysis Applied to Engineering Design," N. O. Myklestad, University of Illinois.

May 2—"Recent Developments in the Field of Ultrasonics," R. C. Binder, Purdue University.

L. Landweber, chief of the Hydrodynamics Division, David Taylor Model Basin, Washington, D. C., gave the October 4 lecture.

An instructional program emphasizing nuclear power has been established by **Columbia University's School of Engineering**. The course, Nuclear Power in Reactor Technology, is for qualified graduate students of engineering, mathematics, and the sciences. Several science departments, particularly physics, will participate in the program. Scheduled lecture topics are: "Power Resources of the World," "Nuclear Chemistry and Chemical Physics," "Elements of Nuclear Physics," "Demonstrations in Nuclear Physics," "Metallurgy of Metals in Nuclear Reactors," "Heat Transfer," "Nuclear Reactor Construction," "Stress Analysis," "Power Generation," and "Health Physics."

**West Virginia University's** new \$2,000,000 biology building was opened for use at the beginning of the current semester. The building includes specialized classrooms for laboratory work in plant and animal physiology, biological technique, comparative anatomy, embryology, genetics, bacteriology, and plant pathology, in addition to laboratories for general biology, botany, and zoology. Numerous small libraries, as well as research laboratories, an animal museum, and a herbarium, are provided.