

## AAAS Membership

### 1. Changes during 1952

New members .....	5,176
Deaths .....	344
Resignations .....	1,893
Automatic resignations .....	2,692
Total outgoing .....	4,929
Net increase during 1952 .....	247

### 2. Totals as of 31 December 1952

Paid for 1952 .....	33,545
Paid through June 1953 .....	9,978
Life members, etc. ....	708
In good standing .....	44,231
In arrears .....	3,036
	47,267
New for 1953 .....	1,473
Total membership .....	48,740



## Public Information at St. Louis

Sidney S. Negus

*Director of Public Information*

AS USUAL, the several secretaries, program chairmen, and authors of papers were most helpful to the Association's department of public information prior to and during the St. Louis meeting. The local committee on public information, headed by Howard A. Marple, of the Monsanto Chemical Company, set a standard for the coverage of the meeting by St. Louis newspapers that will be difficult to excel in cities where the Association will meet in the future. Local radio and television programs, arranged by Barbara Callahan, of the St. Louis University School of Medicine public relations department, and several coast-to-coast broadcasts equaled or bettered previous air coverage of a AAAS meeting.

Not as many reporters from local dailies were on hand as in New York and Philadelphia, but the total number of reporters requesting papers in advance of presentation (178) was greater than for the Philadelphia (162) and Cleveland (148) meetings. Probably the New York record (252) will not be equaled until the Association meets there again.

Since the Association does not subscribe to a clipping service, it must depend upon random sampling and reports sent in by interested individuals for an estimate of how widely AAAS news stories are published over the world. From clippings thus far received from many publications in this country and abroad, we are justified in concluding that the world-wide coverage was on a par with previous meetings, excluding the one held in New York in 1949. The ego of this department is always considerably de-

flated, however, when it is pointed out—and rightly so—that there is usually comparatively little news to print between Christmas and New Year's Day!

For assistance in the press room at St. Louis we are grateful to Gregory Lucy, sales manager of the Hotel Jefferson, and to his many hospitable employees who supplied us with every necessary service quickly and cheerfully; to the Monsanto Chemical Company, Washington University, St. Louis University, and the American Tobacco Company Research Laboratory for providing luncheons for representatives of the press, radio, and television each day in the press room; to the Westinghouse Educational Foundation for its recognition of the importance of good science reporting by its two annual awards and its reception, luncheon, and program for the press; to the General Electric Company for holding open house each evening for all science reporters in attendance; to the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company and the Virginia Academy of Science for contributing the services of press room assistants; and to members of the National Association of Science Writers for invaluable technical advice.

In the last analysis, as pointed out in our report last year for the Philadelphia meeting (SCIENCE, 115, 177 [1952]), especial appreciation must be accorded the reporters who covered the meeting. It is they who will ultimately make it possible for the Association to carry out one of its principal purposes: "To increase public understanding and appreciation of the importance and promise of the methods of science in human progress."

