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News and Notes

National Conference on Weights and Measures

ATTENDANCE at the Thirty-Eighth National Conference of Weights and Measures, May 19-22, 1953, exceeded that of all such previous meetings, both in total number of delegates and number of states represented. The 430 delegates represented many cities and counties, the federal government, manufacturers, railroads, business, industry, and trade associations, in addition to 39 states and the District of Columbia.

The Conference, sponsored by the National Bureau of Standards, met in Washington, D. C. The function of the Bureau in the field of standardizations of weights and measures and their administration is advisory only. The federal government has no regulatory authority in this field, which is entirely the responsibility of state and local governments.

Actions by the Conference are recommended to the states for official promulgation. The Thirty-Eighth National Conference adopted a Model Regulation on Package Marking Requirements, patterned after the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as well as recommended methods of sale of anhydrous ammonia and other liquid chemical fertilizers with pressure characteristics; preheated fuel oils; peat moss in package form; rope; seeds (agricultural, horticultural, floricultural); and pickles and pickle products in package form.

A tentative code for farm milk tanks offered by the Conference Committee on Specifications and Tolerances was adopted, as were minor amendments to the scale code.

These codes and amendments are incorporated into National Bureau of Standards Handbook 44, *Specifications, Tolerances, and Regulations for Commercial Weighing and Measuring Devices*, and are recommended by NBS for official adoption by the states. During the Conference it was announced that 26

states had officially adopted the Handbook 44 codes and that many other states are applying the provisions of the codes in their enforcement procedures.

The Conference unanimously adopted a resolution of appreciation to and confidence in its president, Dr. A. V. Astin, National Bureau of Standards Director. Another resolution expressed appreciation of the Bureau's services and sponsorship of the Conference.

Dr. Astin was re-elected President of the Conference. Six vice-presidents were elected: G. F. Austin, Jr. (Detroit, Michigan); J. E. Boyle (Maine); F. M. Green (Connecticut); J. R. Jones (South Carolina); J. W. Reese (Iowa); and A. C. Samenfink (Rochester, New York). W. S. Bussey (NBS Office of Weights and Measures) was re-elected Secretary, and J. P. McBride (Massachusetts) was elected Treasurer.

Scientists in the News

Postmaster General Summerfield on August 13 cancelled his fraud order against the battery additive AD-X2. On the following day Secretary of Commerce Weeks reinstated Allen V. Astin as Director of the National Bureau of Standards. Dr. Astin's suspension in April was based on the Bureau's report on AD-X2. The committees appointed by Secretary Weeks to provide guidance on the organization of the NBS and on the effective character of AD-X2 have not as yet submitted their reports. These have been promised for public release.

Samuel L. Meyer, Executive Director of the American Institute of Biological Sciences and Executive Secretary of the Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council since September 1, 1952, returned at the termination of his year's leave of absence to Florida State University, Tallahassee, where he is Professor and Head of the Department

of Botany. During his term of office, Dr. Meyer has done much to further the interests of A.I.B.S. societies and has set in motion many projects that will benefit biologists in the years ahead. He is succeeded by **Frank L. Campbell**, entomologist, who was editor of *THE SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY* from 1943 to 1948, and who since then has been a collaborator in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Dr. Campbell has a broad background of experience in biological teaching, research, publication, and administration.

H. Burr Steinbach, Professor of Zoology at the University of Minnesota, and **Raymond H. Ewell**, Manager of the Chemical Economics Service, Stanford Research Institute, have been appointed to the staff of the National Science Foundation. As Assistant Director for Biological and Medical Sciences, Dr. Steinbach will direct activities in support of basic research and the correlation of Federal research in these fields. He replaces **Fernandus Payne**, who has served the Foundation for the past year and who now plans to return to his research at Indiana University. Dr. Ewell has been named Assistant Director for Program Analysis, in which post he will be responsible for conducting a series of Foundation studies on the status of research in industry, the universities, and government, with particular emphasis on the extent of Federal participation in research and development activities of the nation. He will also be concerned with the relationship between research and industrial development, and other questions relating to the effects of research on the nation's economy and health.

Frank L. Stillwell, internationally known Australian geologist, has retired from his position as Officer-in-Charge of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, Mineragraphic Section.

Lewis L. Strauss, New York financier and rear admiral in the U.S. Naval Reserve, has succeeded Gordon Dean (News and Notes, July 24) as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission. Admiral Strauss was named a member of the Commission when it was established in 1946 and served until 1950 when he resigned to return to his private interests. President Eisenhower brought him back to the government in March of this year as a special assistant to the President, a "liaison adviser on atomic energy matters."

Raymond L. Taylor, Associate Administrative Secretary, AAAS, has been elected a member of the Board of Trustees of *Biological Abstracts* as the representative of the Association.

Ira Rockwood Telford, formerly chief of the Anatomy Department, University of Texas School of Dentistry, Houston, has returned to George Washington University School of Medicine, Washington, D. C., as professor and executive officer of its Department of Anatomy. He left his post there in 1947 to go to Texas. Dr. Telford replaces **Warren Andrew**, who

resigned last year to join the Bowman Gray Medical School faculty at Winston-Salem, N. C.

Edward L. Turner, Dean of the School of Medicine at the University of Washington since 1945, has been appointed Secretary of the American Medical Association's Council on Medical Education and Hospitals, effective Oct. 1.

Ralph W. Tyler, Dean of the Division of Social Sciences at the University of Chicago, has been appointed Director of the Ford Foundation's recently established Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. As executive head of the Center, the site for which has yet to be selected, Dr. Tyler will administer a study program in human relations. The Foundation has appropriated \$3,500,000 to cover the cost of the project for 6 years. The funds will be used mainly to permit 50 scholars and scientists to assemble at the Center each year for study and training.

James H. Wiegand, formerly Associate Head of the Rockets Department at the Naval Ordnance Test Station, has been named Assistant Chairman of the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Southwest Research Institute, San Antonio, Texas.

Russell M. Wilder has retired as Director of the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, for reasons of health. An internationally known nutritionist and authority on diabetes, Dr. Wilder became the first director of NIAMD, one of the seven National Institutes of Health, shortly after its creation in 1950. Previously, he was Chief of the Department of Medicine at the Mayo Foundation. Most of his career, from 1919 to 1950, was with the Mayo Foundation and Clinic.

In 1940 Dr. Wilder was Chairman of the Committee on Medicine of the National Research Council, in which he organized the Food and Nutrition Board. He was Chairman of the Board in 1941 and 1942. The following year he served as Chief of the Civilian Food Requirements Branch, War Food Administration, and in 1950 he was a special consultant to the Research Facilities Planning Committee of the National Institutes of Health. For 20 years (1930-1950) he was a member of the American Medical Association's Council on Foods, and will be remembered for his part in bringing about the general acceptance and use of enriched white flour and bread. Dr. Wilder is the author of two medical textbooks and numerous research reports.

George Zur Williams, Director of Cancer Research at the Medical College of Virginia, has been granted a leave of absence for one year to organize a department of clinical pathology for the National Institutes of Health. During the year he will continue his fundamental studies in cancer as an associate in the National Cancer Institute. **Louis A. Leone** will act as departmental head in Dr. Williams' absence.

Julius Lane Wilson has been appointed to the newly created post of Director of Medical Education of the Medical Section of the National Tuberculosis Association, New York City. For the past year Dr. Wilson has been Director of Clinics and Professor of Medicine in the Henry Phipps Institute, University of Pennsylvania, and chief consultant to the Bureau of Tuberculosis Control, Pennsylvania Department of Health. He will continue to devote part of his time to his work in Philadelphia.

George W. Wright has resigned as Head of the Physiology Department, Trudeau Foundation, Saranac Lake, N. Y., to accept a position as St. Luke's Hospital, Cleveland, directing a department of research. His successor will be **Giles F. Filley**, who has been associated with Dr. Wright at Trudeau since 1947.

Capt. O. D. Yarbough, MC, USN, a submarine officer, has been named Director of the Research Division, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Department of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

Education

The **American Board of Nutrition** will hold certifying examinations in Atlantic City during April, 1954. Completed applications of persons wishing to be considered for certification should be in the office of the Secretary *not later than February 1, 1954*. Application forms may be obtained from the Secretary, Otto A. Bessey, Dept. of Biochemistry and Nutrition, The University of Texas School of Medicine, Galveston, Tex.

A new program in social psychology, leading to the Ph.D. degree, has been announced by **Columbia University**. Selected members of the departments of Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, and Education comprise a guiding committee under the auspices of the University's Joint Committee on Graduate Instruction. Course offerings for the new program have been drawn from the fields of psychology, sociology, anthropology, political science, communication, industrial engineering, and group work, supplementing general and specialized courses in social psychology. Admission to the program will be limited to 12 students beginning their graduate study and 12 advanced students. Application may be made to Prof. Goodwin Watson, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York 27, N. Y.

Twenty-three training courses in various aspects of environmental sanitation will be conducted by the **Environmental Health Center** of the Public Health Service at Cincinnati during the period July 1, 1953, to June 30, 1954. These short courses are given for professional personnel from State and local health departments, water pollution control agencies, the Public Health Service, other governmental units, educational institutions, and industries cooperating with these agencies in environmental sanitation pro-

grams. Detailed information is available upon request from the Officer in Charge, Environmental Health Center, Public Health Service, Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The **Illinois Institute of Technology** and the **Machinery and Allied Products Institute** are jointly sponsoring the new National Center of Education and Research in Dynamic Equipment Policy which will be established this fall at I.I.T. The Center will seek to help industry solve its problems and improve its practices in the field of capital equipment acquisition and replacement.

Radiation safety will be outlined in a course to be given by the Department of Industrial Medicine of the **New York University Post-Graduate Medical School** in cooperation with the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission and the NYU College of Engineering. Designed to acquaint present and potential users of radioisotopes and X-ray equipment with safety precautions, the course will be given once a week for 15 weeks at the Institute of Industrial Medicine, beginning Sept. 23. Detailed information may be obtained from the Office of the Dean, New York University Post-Graduate Medical School, 477 First Ave., New York 16, N. Y.

The Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences of the **State University of New York** has been renamed Mohawk Valley Technical Institute.

The Department of Psychology and the Division of Biological Sciences of the **University of Chicago** have announced the establishment of a Section of Biopsychology which will supervise a graduate training program for the Ph.D. degree in the general area of a biologically oriented psychology. The program, leading to the Ph.D. degree in biopsychology, will normally occupy three years of full-time study and research. One-third of this time will be devoted to psychology, with concentration on the subject matter of areas known in the past as physiological, comparative, and general experimental psychology. The student will have one-third of his time available for elective courses and seminars from such related departments as Anatomy, Biochemistry, Biophysics, Mathematics, Medicine, Physiology, and Zoology. The remaining third of his time will be spent on laboratory research which will be begun during the first year of study and continued throughout the program. Formal instruction in biopsychology will commence in the Autumn Quarter of 1953. Detailed information can be obtained from Prof. Ward C. Halstead, Chairman of Biopsychology, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

A 12-month course for laboratory aides, a pioneer venture by the General Extension Division and the College of Medical Sciences, will begin Sept. 28 at the **University of Minnesota**. Geared to prepare young men and women for work as laboratory assistants to medical technologists and physicians, the course will

include six months of classes on the University campus and six months of practical training in local hospital laboratories. The course will be run in conformity with the requirements for certification of laboratory aide under the Registry of Medical Technologists of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. Further information can be obtained from the Medical Technology Office, W225, University Hospitals, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis 14.

Grants and Fellowships

The **American Heart Association** has announced that entries are now being received for the second annual Howard W. Blakeslee Award of \$1,000 for outstanding scientific reporting in the field of heart and blood vessel diseases. The award will be presented to the individual whose creative efforts during 1953 in any medium of mass communication—including newspapers, magazines, radio, television, films, or books—are judged to have contributed most to public understanding of heart and circulatory diseases. Material published or produced during the 1953 calendar year is eligible for consideration. Entries must be postmarked *not later than January 15, 1954*. The winner will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the American Heart Association, to be held in April, 1954, in Chicago. Entry blanks and additional information may be obtained from the Chairman, Managing Committee, Howard W. Blakeslee Award, American Heart Association, 44 E. 23 St., New York 10, N. Y.

The **Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation** is offering the following research fellowships in the basic sciences related to arthritis:

1. Predoctoral fellowships ranging from \$1,500 to \$3,000 per annum, depending on the family responsibilities of the fellow, tenable for 1 year with prospect of renewal.
2. Postdoctoral fellowships ranging from \$3,000 to \$6,000 per annum, depending on family responsibilities, tenable for 1 year with prospect of renewal.
3. Senior fellowships for experienced investigation will carry an award of \$6,000 to \$7,500 per annum and are tenable for 5 years.

The *deadline for applications is November 1, 1953*. Applications will be reviewed and awards made by February 15, 1954. Detailed information and application forms may be obtained from the Medical Director, The Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation, 23 W. 45 St., New York 36, N.Y.

Applications for grants from the **James Picker Foundation for Radiological Research**, headed by Mutual Security Director Harold E. Stassen, may now be submitted for next year. In the past three years, funds totalling \$80,000 have been made available to mature investigators to further broaden the uses of radiology. Awards of grants, fellowships, and scholarships are given in support of a specific re-

search program under the direction of a responsible investigator. Any project offering promise of improvement or development in radiological methods of diagnoses or treatment of disease is eligible for assistance from the Picker Foundation.

Qualified applications from any country in the world may be submitted with their proposed study in outline form. *Final applications should be submitted no later than November 30, 1953*. Applications for grants-in-aid and fellowships should be directed to: James Picker Foundation, Inc., Hanover Bank Trustee, 70 Broadway, New York 4, N. Y., or Secretary, Division of Medical Science, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington 25, D. C.

The first of a series of studies designed to explore in detail the impact which a "saturation" health insurance program would have on an entire county has been launched by **Mississippi State College** and the **Health Information Foundation** under a Health Information Foundation grant of \$39,000. The project is part of an over-all \$310,000 Foundation research program to study voluntary health insurance plans in the United States.

The **Muscular Dystrophy Associations of America, Inc.** have approved the following new grants:

Columbia University, \$12,474 for 1 year commencing Oct. 1. Principal Investigator, David Nachmansohn.

University of Rochester, School of Medicine and Dentistry, \$16,135 for 1 year commencing July 1. Principal Investigator, Karl E. Mason.

National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, continuation of last year's studies at annual rate of \$6,858 commencing July 1. Principal Investigator, G. Milton Shy.

In the Laboratories

Foster D. Snell, Inc. of New York, consulting chemists and engineers, have announced the formation of an Engineering Physics Department in the Engineering Division of the firm. Walter L. Hardy, chemical engineer, is Director of Engineering, and Joseph P. McGill, physicist, will be in charge of the Engineering Physics Department. The new department will conduct investigative work on various problems in the physical sciences. One of its primary functions will be to study shock and vibration and their effect on packaged and unpackaged instruments and delicate equipment.

Meetings and Elections

The **American Association of Clinical Chemists** has elected the following officers for 1953-54: president, Hugh J. McDonald, Loyola University, Chicago, Ill.; vice president, Monroe E. Freeman, Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.; secretary, Max M. Friedman, Lebanon Hospital, New York; treasurer, Louis B. Dotti, St. Luke's Hospital, New York.

The **American Psychosomatic Society** will hold its 11th Annual Meeting at the Jung Hotel in New Or-

leans, March 27-28, 1954. The Program Committee would like to receive titles and abstracts of papers to be considered for the program *by Dec. 1, 1953*. The time allotted for the reading of each paper will be 15-25 minutes. The Committee is interested in investigations in the theory and practice of psychosomatic medicine as applied to adults and children in all the medical specialties, and in contributions in psychophysiology and ecology. The Program Committee requests that abstracts be submitted in quadruplicate to the Chairman, at 551 Madison Ave., New York 22.

The **American Society of Medical Technologists** has elected the following officers for 1953-54: president, Mary Nix, Portland, Ore.; president-elect, Ruth Hovde, Minneapolis, Minn.; recording secretary, Sister Mary Simeonette, Louisville, Ky.; treasurer, Mary F. Eichman, Philadelphia, Pa.; executive secretary, Rose Matthaei, Houston, Tex.

Miscellaneous

Descriptions of 28 patents owned by the U.S. Government and held by the **Atomic Energy Commission** have been transmitted to the U.S. Patent Office for registry and listing in the official register of patents. The Commission will grant non-exclusive, royalty-free licenses on the listed patents, as part of its program to make non-secret technological information available for use by industry. Commission-held patents and patent applications released for licensing now total 593.

Air Force scientists have developed a new technique for the stabilization of **zirconium dioxide**, a material capable of withstanding temperatures over 4000 degrees Fahrenheit. This high temperature ceramic material will play an important role in future aircraft developments, such as in rockets, turbo-jets, and high temperature metallurgical research. Responsible for this new development are the ceramic research scientists in the Flight Research Laboratory at the Air Research and Development Command's Wright Air Development Center, Dayton, Ohio.

Recent Deaths

Abbott W. Allen (51), medical professor and clinic chief, New York, N. Y., Aug. 1; **Roy Philip Ash** (46), biologist, Richmond, Va., July 21; **George Bennett** (79), civil engineer, New Milford, Conn., Aug. 11; **Guido Bergamo** (59), physician and radiologist, Venice, Italy, June 26; **William Berry** (69), physiological psychologist, Washington, D. C., July 11; **Isra Broadwin** (60), psychiatrist, London, Eng., Aug. 5; **Jacques Jacob Bronfenbrenner** (69), immunologist, Winston-Salem, N. C., Aug. 13; **Robert B. J. Brunn** (42), electronics engineer, Grand Forks, N. D., July 30; **Willoughby M. Cady** (46), physicist, Pasadena, Calif., June 29; **George H. Chadwick** (76), geologist, Selkirk, N. Y., Aug. 15; **George I. Christie** (72),

president emeritus of Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ontario, Aug. 3; **Oswald Dale** (71), electrical insulation engineer and inventor, Nutley, N. Y., July 21; **Albertus De Friest** (64), civil engineer, Los Angeles, Calif., July 26; **William A. Dudley** (57), equipment research engineer, New York, N. Y., Aug. 17; **Abraham P. Friesen** (66), physicist, Austin, Tex., July 31; **Anton Frolov-Bagreyev** (75), agriculturist, Moscow, Russia, Aug. 16; **C. Justus Garrahan** (44), electrical engineer, Swarthmore, Pa., Aug. 10; **Newell Clark Gilbert** (72), professor of medicine emeritus, Milwaukee, Wis., Aug. 1; **Donald Gordon** (73), surgeon, Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 14; **Mervyn H. Gordon** (81), bacteriologist, London, Eng., July 28; **Newell T. Gordon** (63), physical chemist, Albany, N. Y., July 18; **Henry S. Guterman** (37), endocrinologist, Chicago, Ill., Aug. 6; **J. Samuel Guy** (69), chemistry professor, Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 16.

John Howe Hall (72), metallurgical engineer, Tarrytown, N. Y., Aug. 4; **Elmer L. Henderson** (68), past president of AMA and WMO, Louisville, Ky., July 30; **C. Leonard Huskins** (55), professor of botany, Madison, Wis., July 26; **Harriet Hyde** (78), physician and co-founder of Greenwich Hospital, Greenwich, Conn., Aug. 15; **Oscar W. Irvin** (64), mathematician and professor, New York, N. Y., July 23; **Alphons O. Jaeger** (66), chemist, Waldorf, Md., July 22; **Doyle Joslin** (58), surgical research associate, Toronto, Canada, Aug. 18; **Reginald C. Lamb** (60), mathematician, Annapolis, Md., July 22; **Bertram A. Lenfest** (86), metal work expert, Brooklyn, N. Y., Aug. 5; **Guenzter Loeser** (40), scientist, O'Neill, Nebr., July 30; **Nathan T. Milliken** (47), medical professor and internist, Hanover, N. H., Aug. 9; **Mary Elizabeth Morse** (75), medical author, Baltimore, Md., Aug. 1; **Arthur Mulder** (57), physiologist and heart disease expert, Chicago, Ill., Aug. 13; **Frances Park** (72), educator and psychoanalyst, Boston, Mass., July 21; **P. J. Parrott** (79), entomologist, Geneva, N. Y., Aug. 10; **Eugene Paton**, scientist, Kiev, Russia, Aug. 12; **Daniel E. Phillips** (88), mathematician and psychologist, Grand Junction, Colo., July 24; **William C. Pritchard** (71), professor of embryology and histology, Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 3.

Erskine Ramsay (88), mining engineer and inventor, Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 15; **Arthur P. Saunders** (84), chemistry professor, Clinton, N. Y., Aug. 14; **Jorgen Nilsen Schaumann** (74), dermatologist, Stockholm, Sweden, Aug. 10; **Hugh E. Setterfield**, anatomist, Columbus, Ohio, March 16; **Samuel B. Shively** (58), biologist, Lincoln, Nebr., July 25; **C. C. Simmons** (76), surgeon and cancer specialist, Boston, Mass., Aug. 15; **Lazarus White** (79), consulting engineer, Larchmont, N. Y., July 30; **William H. Woglom** (74), cancer specialist, New York, N. Y., Aug. 8; **Ivan F. Zarohsky** (61), mechanical engineer, Toledo, Ohio, Aug. 13; **Nicolai Zelinsky** (93), chemist, Moscow, Russia, Aug. 1.

