News and Notes

Summer Conference on College Biology

THE Summer Conference on College Biology was held at the University of Oklahoma, June 15–19, under a grant from the National Science Foundation. More than 50 invited participants represented 32 colleges and universities from Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Colorado, Arizona, Louisiana, and Illinois.

The conference was organized to discuss improvement and modernization of the content of introductory college biology courses on the premise that new research findings and concepts must be assimilated and integrated if such courses are to serve most effectively the purpose of biology in general and the needs of future professional scientists.

The conference sessions were organized about the common topic, "What are the materials from modern . . . (e.g., embryology) which should be included in introductory college biology courses? How are these materials related to, how do they contribute to, and how do they depend upon, comprehension of other fields?" The fields that were discussed were selected to present the broadest possible cross-section of biology and related disciplines.

The session speakers, chosen for their interest in introductory courses as well as in active research, were: embryology, J. H. Bodine, University of Iowa; physiology and biochemistry, Florence Moog, Washington University; biophysics, David Pomeroy, Army Medical Research Laboratory, Fort Knox; bacteriology, Orville Wyss, University of Texas; genetics and evolution, L. J. Stadler, University of Missouri; taxonomy, Joseph Ewan, Tulane University; histology, histochemistry, and cytochemistry, Howard C. Hopps, University of Oklahoma Medical School; and ecology, Charles E. Olmsted, University of Chicago.

The introductory address was made by Harry C. Kelly, Assistant Director for Scientific Personnel and Education, National Science Foundation. Ralph W. Gerard, University of Illinois Neuropsychiatric Institute, gave the major address of the conference. The concluding and summarizing paper was given by Paul R. David, University of Oklahoma.

The following paragraphs are largely abstracted from the paper read by Paul R. David and are given without attempt to credit the author or authors.

1. Biology, in general, is failing to attract the best students and, furthermore, is held in a position of low esteem by laymen. This may be due in part to introductory courses that present biology as a body of doctrine and not as a study of dynamic phenomena that have inherent within them the most fascinating and important problems of the universe.

2. Recognizing that biology courses are failing to meet the objectives set for them, there is need for serious re-evaluation of materials and organization of the courses. The facts that are presented need to be selected carefully so that they will best illustrate causal relationships and thus present the dynamic or cause-and-effect viewpoint that is desired.

3. Although biology is compartmentalized into various fields, e.g., genetics, comparative anatomy, bacteriology, for convenience, these are artificial barriers. A real effort must be made to present living organisms as products of their evolution, heredity, physiology, anatomy, ecology, and behavior, if biology is not to be sadly and severely misrepresented.

4. There must be no separation of structure and function in the study of living organisms, but structure and function must be presented as inescapably dependent upon each other.

5. The use of a dynamic descriptive approach to biology will entail constant understanding and employment of the scientific method. From this will accrue an appreciation of the theoretical aspects of biology and a way of thinking that is an absolute requirement in our society today if our lives and our civilization are to be ruled by reason rather than by superstition, prejudice, or self-interest.

Although these five ideas have been stated many times before, their constant reiteration indicates that they have not yet been incorporated successfully into the majority of introductory college biology courses and that this incorporation is necessary if such courses are to fulfill their purpose.

Complete proceedings of the conference will be published.

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Scientists in the News

Emil Artin, mathematician, and **Hadley Cantril,** psychologist, have been appointed to two of Princeton University's oldest endowed chairs. Dr. Artin has been made Henry Burchard Fine Professor of Mathematics, and Dr. Cantril, Director of the Office of Opinion Research, is Stuart Professor of Psychology. Recently named Chairman of the Department, Dr. Cantril has had a major role in the development of a series of demonstrations in social psychology.

Pearce Bailey, Clinical Professor of Neurology at the Georgetown University School of Medicine, has been made President of the American League against Epilepsy. He succeeds **Francis M. Forster,** Dean of the Georgetown medical school.

Stanley S. Ballard, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Physics at Tufts College, has been granted a leave of absence for the coming academic year. He will spend this period as a member of the Electronics Division of the Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, Calif.

Jorgen M. Birkeland, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Bacteriology at Ohio State University, has been given a leave of absence to serve as Science Attaché in the American Embassy at Stockholm. This assignment represents further progress in carrying out the recommendations of the report, *Science and Foreign Relations,* adopted by the State Department in 1950. Included in that report was a proposal for the establishment of an Office of Science Advisor in the State Department and of science attaché posts in important American missions abroad. Dr. Birkeland will replace **Harald H. Nielsen,** Ohio State University physicist who will return to his university this autumn.

M. C. Brockmann, formerly senior scientist for Kingan & Co., Indianapolis, has been appointed Director of Research.

Louis Costrell, who has been associated with the National Bureau of Standards since 1946, has been appointed Chief of the Nucleonic Instrumentation Section.

Hiden T. Cox, formerly Associate Professor of Botany at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, has been appointed to the newly created post of Deputy Executive Director of the American Institute of Biological Sciences, Washington, D. C. On the faculty of the Institute since 1949, he has also taught at Howard College, Agnes Scott College, and the Mountain Lake Biological Station of the University of Virginia. As Head of the Botany Section of the Department of Biology at V.P.I., Dr. Cox has added administrative experience to his background of teaching and research.

Robert Davies, formerly an Associate Engineer with the Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, is Senior Research Engineer at the General Motors Research Laboratories, Detroit.

Victor H. Dropkin, formerly of the Naval Medical Research Institute, has been appointed Associate Nematologist in the Division of Nematology Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering. His first assignment is at Beltsville, Md.

Nicholas D. Duffett has recently been appointed Director of Public Health Laboratories of the St. Louis Health Department. Dr. Duffett has been with the Laboratory Section since 1944, first as Principal Bacteriologist and since 1948 as Assistant Director. He succeeds the late **Joseph C. Willett** who established the public health laboratory 32 years ago.

R. L. Ely, recently of the U. S. Air Force, is an engineer at The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Silver Spring, Md.

William L. Everitt, Dean of the College of Engineering, University of Illinois, is the recipient of the Institute of Radio Engineers' Medal of Honor for 1954, the highest technical award of the radio engineering profession. The Institute gave the award "for his distinguished career as author, educator, and scientist; for his contributions in establishing electronics and communications as a major branch of electrical engineering; for his unselfish service to his country; for his leadership in the affairs of the Institute of Radio Engineers."

Carlos Luis Gonzalez, Director of Public Health of Venezuela, has been appointed Chief of the Division of Public Health, Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Regional Office, World Health Organization, Washington, D. C.

H. E. H. Greenleaf, Professor of Mathematics, DePauw University, has been made Head of the Department of Mathematics.

Edward G. High has resigned from the staff of the Department of Chemistry at Prairie View A. & M. College, Prairie View, Tex., to accept the position of Associate Professor of Biochemistry at Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn.

Klaus Hofmann, formerly Research Professor of Chemistry, has been appointed Professor of Biochemistry and Chairman of the Biochemistry Department in the School of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh.

Paul L. Salzberg, Assistant Director of the Chemical Department of the Du Pont Company, Wilmington, has been made Director. He succeeds **Cole Coolidge,** who died recently.

Ralph E. Snyder, Assistant Dean of New York Medical College since 1951, has been appointed Executive Dean. He succeeds **J. A. W. Hetrick,** who will continue as President of the college.

George Dinsmore Stoddard, psychologist and President of the University of Illinois has resigned, effective August 31st, as the result of a 6 to 3 vote of "no confidence" by the university's board of trustees. Harold E. Grange, Illinois football star of the 1920's, was the board member who asked for the confidence vote. Twenty department heads, and two professors acting in the absence of their superiors, joined together in condemning the action of the board. They issued a statement in the form of a letter addressed to Dr. Stoddard and to Coleman R. Griffith, university provost who also received a no confidence vote. The group thanked Dr. Stoddard for his "stand for honesty in science and integrity in education" and described him as "a man of progressive programs and ideas." The letter went on to say, "Always we have had freedom to speak our opinions without fear and without intimidation," and further added: "We wish also to tell you that we consider the action of the trustees in forcing your resignation contrary to all accepted standards of academic procedure. Technically legal, it is morally unjust."

Gov. William G. Stratford was asked if he could

state specifically what disagreements led to the decision by the board of trustees. He replied: "There was a series of incidents over a period of years. It was getting to be a difficult picture there at the university, and it apparently was felt by the board of trustees that it would be better to have a president with whom it had a better working relationship. There was a feeling on the part of the board that it would be better to have someone less controversial toward the Legislature and the public. The Board sets the policy for the university. The trustees have felt that Dr. Stoddard was attempting to originate policy, instead of its coming from them."

Park Livingston, chairman of the board of trustees, listed 14 charges against Dr. Stoddard on which the board had based its vote. In response, Dr. Stoddard issued a point by point rebuttal, defending his action in every case and terming some of the charges completely false.

The most acutely controversial issue was that concerning Krebiozen. Andrew C. Ivy, Vice President of the university and Head of the Department of Clinical Science, had been conducting research on and promoting the application of a new secret drug known as Krebiozen, which was said to have curative properties in the treatment of cancer. Failure to disclose the nature of the drug led to Dr. Ivy's suspension from the Chicago Medical Society. The American Medical Association reported unfavorably on Krebiozen, as did the American Cancer Society. Dr. Stoddard banned further research with the material and arranged that Dr. Ivy take a leave of absence.

In his official statement concerning Dr. Stoddard's resignation, Mr. Livingston stressed that the resignation had not resulted from the issue between Dr. Stoddard and Dr. Ivy. Dr. Ivy has since returned to his post as Head of the Department of Clinical Science and has been named Distinguished Professor of Physiology. He has resumed his work with Krebiozen.

Before assuming the presidency of Illinois in 1946, Dr. Stoddard was N. Y. State Commissioner of Education and President of the University of the State of New York. In recent years he has participated in many significant educational activities. He was chairman of the U. S. Education Mission to Japan which overhauled the Japanese school system, and he has been chairman of the American Council on Education as well as a member of the President's Commission on Higher Education. He was a leader in the formation of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, with which he has been associated in various capacities, including that of U. S. member of the executive board. He was a delegate to the UNESCO conferences in the years 1946–1948.

Education

The Chemical Education Committee of the Philadelphia Section of the **American Chemical Society** will present two Continuation Courses, "Pharmacology of the Nervous System" and "The Objective Specification of Color and Color Differences," during the fall. Detailed information may be obtained from Dr. E. R. Nixon, Harrison Laboratory, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 4, Pa.

The **American Society for Metals** has just completed the second Metals Technology teacher training course at Fitchburg, Mass. The State of Massachusetts, working in cooperation with the ASM, is the second state to offer a course in Metals Technology for vocational and technical high school teachers. The first training course of this type was completed in June at Oswego State Teachers College, Oswego, N.Y. Twenty-eight men out of the 41 teachers who attended the Fitchburg session sought credit for professional development and took formal examination after completing the course.

The Department of Mathematics, **DePaul University,** Chicago, is inaugurating a new program of studies in mathematics intermediate to the Master's degree and the Ph.D. degree. Students completing this program of study will be granted a certificate designating them as Mathematics Specialists. Requirements include 48 semester hours of graduate work in mathematics, a reading knowledge of French, German, or Italian, a comprehensive written examination, and the completion of an oral examination.

The former **Kaiser Wilhelm Institutes and Research Centers** which, after 1945, had been organized within the Deutsche Forschungshochschule Berlin-Dahlem, have become part of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft under the name of Max-Planck-Institute und Forschungsstellen. The Deutsche Forschungshochschule has been dissolved.

The series of basic courses in the techniques of using radiosotopes in research continues to be offered at regular intervals by the Special Training Division of the **Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies.** Starting dates of the next three courses are January 4, February 8, and March 15, 1954. Applications and supporting letters must be received *three months* in advance of the starting date.

The courses are offered to enable mature research personnel to obtain in a short time (4 weeks) sufficient facility in the use of radiosotopes to apply them safely and efficiently to their own research problems. Since the demand for this type of training exceeds the facilities for supplying it, the course is designed for university faculty members, group leaders of research teams, and other individuals who will impart the training to additional persons. Applications and additional information may be obtained from the Special Training Division, Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, P. O. Box 117, Oak Ridge, Tenn.

St. John's University, Brooklyn, has announced the extension of the curriculum of the Department of Biology to permit study for the Ph.D. degree. Six new courses have been added to the department to

provide the necessary extra course material for doctoral candidates. The new doctoral program is open to qualified students in the fields of physiology, parasitology, and zoology.

Within 3 to 5 years the **Stanford University Medical School** will be moved from San Francisco to more adequate quarters in Palo Alto.

The **University of Hawaii** has recently authorized its Botany Department to offer a course of studies leading to the Ph.D. degree. Instructors for the program will be H. St. John, M. L. Lohman, E. J. Britten, M. S. Doty, B. J. Cooil, and K. Shoji.

New four-year undergraduate programs leading to the B.S. degree in fisheries technology and in food management will be set up at the **University of Massachusetts** this fall. Both curricula will be administered by the Food Technology Department, headed by Carl R. Fellers. The food management course will be separate from a two-year non-degree course now offered by the same department.

The fisheries technology program is being offered in response to urging by civic, industrial, and educational agencies in New England seaboard cities. At present, the only fisheries school in the U. S. is located on the west coast at the University of Washington.

Grants and Fellowships

The **Beckman Award,** an award honoring U.S. and Canadian scientists for work in chemical instrumentation, has been established by Arnold O. Beckman, Beckman Instruments, Inc., South Pasadena, Calif. To be presented first in the spring of 1955, the $1,000 annual prize will recognize outstanding achievements in the development of new instruments for chemical analysis and the application of instruments to chemical process measurement and control.

Administered by the American Chemical Society, the Beckman Award will give special consideration to originality as well as the value of the contribution in reducing manufacturing costs or improving product quality. Purpose of the award is twofold: to stimulate research in analytical instrumentation, and to encourage development of instrumental methods for measuring and controlling chemical processes.

Four research bacteriologists who carried on a ten-year search for a series of new antibiotics known as the Pyos (*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*) have received the 1952 **Commercial Solvents Award in Antibiotics.** The award, which consists of a gold medal, $1,000, and engraved scolls, was presented to Ibert C. Wells, Syracuse, N. Y.; Edwin E. Hays, Chicago, Ill.; E. A. Doisy, St. Louis, Mo.; and William L. Gaby, Philadelphia, Pa. The group was selected for the honor by the Commercial Solvents Award Committee of the Society of American Bacteriologists for research started at St. Louis University in the early days of World War II.

Their work was begun prior to 1945, in which year their first publication appeared, and reached its fruition with the proof of structures in 1952. These workers have demonstrated that, in addition to pyocyanine, one of the earliest known antibiotics, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* produces several other antibacterial agents; they have worked out methods of isolation, separation, and purification of these agents, defined their physical and chemical properties, proposed structural formulae for them and, by degradation and synthesis, proved the acceptability of the proposed formulae.

The Committee on International Exchange of Persons, Conference Board of Associated Research Councils, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C., has announced the **1954–55 Fulbright Awards** for university lecturing and advanced research in Europe, the Near East, Japan, and Pakistan. Application forms are obtainable only upon individual request to the Conference Board Committee, and completed forms should be returned to the Committee. All persons requesting application forms are provided with a copy of the booklet, "U.S. Government Awards under the Fulbright Act," which contains detailed information on terms of awards, eligibility, and application and selection procedures. *The closing date for making application for any of the programs listed is October 15, 1953.*

The **Heineman Foundation for Research, Educational, Charitable and Scientific Purposes, Inc.** has announced the establishment of the **Dannie Heineman Prize.** This prize of $5,000 is to be awarded every 3 years to the author of an outstanding book or manuscript in the mathematical or physical sciences. The object of the prize is to encourage the writing of books on a high scientific level which have merits of exposition and which are likely to facilitate access to important fields of research. Submissions for the next award must be made *not later than Dec. 31, 1955.* Further information may be obtained from the Secretary of the Foundation, 50 Broadway, New York 4.

Announcement has been made of the **Louis Lipsky Exchange Fellowships in the Natural Sciences.** These fellowships are intended to promote fundamental research in the natural sciences at the Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovoth, Israel. They are awarded as a rule to persons who will have met all of the requirements for the doctor's degree before assuming their fellowships.

The basic stipend is $3,600 per annum, plus travel to the place of study. Larger stipends will be granted to senior investigators. Appointments are for one year. In special cases appointments can be made for a lesser period. *The closing date for receipt of applications for 1954–1955 will be Oct. 15, 1953.* Awards will be made about December 1, 1953. Detailed information may be obtained from Dr. D. Rittenberg, College of Physicians and Surgeons, 630 W. 168 St., New York 32, N. Y.

Meetings and Elections

The largest meeting of surgeons in the world, the 39th Annual Clinical Congress of the **American College of Surgeons,** will be held in Chicago, Oct. 5–9. More than 11,000 surgeons, physicians, and others will attend to participate in postgraduate courses, forums, symposia, panel discussions, color television programs, medical motion pictures, ciné clinics, and exhibits, all concerned with developments in surgery.

The **American Institute of Nutrition,** a new affiliate of the AAAS, was provisionally incorporated on Sept. 27, 1928, and officially organized on April 10, 1933, as an educational institution for the dissemination of scientific knowledge regarding the chemistry and physiology of nutrition and for promoting research in the field of nutrition. The Institute sponsors the monthly publication, the *Journal of Nutrition.* The present membership totals 410. The following officers have been elected for 1953–54: pres., Conrad A. Elvehjem, University of Wisconsin; v. pres., George R. Cowgill, Yale University; sec., James M. Orten, Wayne University College of Medicine; treas., O. L. Kline, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Washington, D. C. Representatives to the AAAS Council are Joseph H. Roe, George Washington University School of Medicine, Washington, D. C., and Fredrick J. Stare, Harvard School of Public Health.

News of latest developments aimed at preventing disease and promoting personal and public health will be exchanged by professional workers from all parts of the free world at the 81st annual meeting of the **American Public Health Association** and annual sessions of 40 related organizations at the Hotels Statler and New Yorker, New York City, November 9–13. More than 5,000 public health workers—physicians, dentists, nurses, engineers, statisticians, veternarians, sanitarians, nutritionists, health educators, entomologists, biologists and others—are expected to attend the sessions. Theme of the meetings will be "Meeting the Health Needs of the Community."

The **Association of Official Seed Analysts** has elected the following officers for 1953–54: pres., Duane Isely, Iowa State College; v. pres., Buford Jones, State Seed Laboratory, State Dept. of Agriculture, Oklahoma City; sec.-treas., R. G. Colborn, Nebraska Dept. of Agriculture, Lincoln, Neb.

The **Southwestern Association of Naturalists** was formed at an organizational meeting attended by 52 persons at the University of Oklahoma Biological Station at Lake Texoma on May 23, 1953. As stated in the constitution, "The object of the Association shall be to promote the field study of plants and animals, living and fossil, in the Southwestern United States and Mexico, and to aid the scientific activities of its members." SWAN hopes to stimulate the study of the region by bringing together persons of like interests through publication of annotated membership lists, annual meetings, and perhaps later through the publication of a journal.

The officers elected for the first year were: pres., W. Frank Blair (Vertebrate Zoology), University of Texas; v. pres., George J. Goodman (Plant Taxonomy), University of Oklahoma; and sec.-treas., Herndon G. Dowling (Herpetology), University of Arkansas. The geographic scope of the Association at present includes Mexico and the states of Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. Persons interested in the natural history of this region are invited to join the Association. Membership blanks may be obtained from any of the officers.

Miscellaneous

The **Bureau of Medicine and Surgery,** Department of the Navy, Washington, D. C., has begun limited distribution of a 235-page volume listing names and activities of medical department personnel in World War II who became casualties or who were decorated.

The **Mental Health Bell,** a bell cast from shackles once used to restrain mental patients, has been awarded to the Baltimore Sunpapers for their "outstanding service in the fight against mental illness." The award was made by George S. Stevenson, Medical Director of the National Association for Mental Health, Inc. The bell will be kept on display until Mental Health Week, 1954, when it will be presented to the newspaper, magazine, radio or television chain or station which will have done most to advance mental health in the preceding year. The award to the Sunpapers was based on their five-year crusade for improvement of Maryland's mental hospitals, which resulted in the operating budget being tripled and $20,000,000 being appropriated for hospital construction.

The **National Issues Committee,** whose organization was announced recently by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, will work for progressive national health legislation, among other objectives.

A group of scientists left recently for the North Geomagnetic Pole, where they will make a comprehensive series of high altitude observations of the primary cosmic radiation in northern latitudes. In addition they will also study the temperature and density of the atmosphere at extreme altitudes. Named **"Project Mushrat,"** the expedition is sponsored by the Bureau of Aeronautics, the Office of Naval Research, and the Atomic Energy Commission. Instruments will be carried above 100,000 feet by balloon-launched "Deacon" rockets, which during a similar expedition last year climbed to a peak altitude of 295,000 feet. Participating in the research project are scientists, chiefly physicists, from the Office of Naval Research, the State University of Iowa, New York University, and the Aeronautical Research Laboratories, General Mills, Inc., Minneapolis.