

Table 2. Effects of Aureomycin and propylthiouracil on thyroid weight and on uptake of I^{131} in rats.

Diet	Addition per kg of diet	Body weight (means g)	Thyroid weight (means g)	Mean thyroid weight (mg/100 g body weight)	"p" values	24 hr	"p" values	48 hr	"p" values
1	None	224	15.9	7.1* \pm 0.4		130* \pm 7		82* \pm 10	
1	1 mg Aureomycin	222	13.7	6.2 \pm .4	0.3	141 \pm 15	0.05	83 \pm 9	0.8
1	20 mg Aureomycin	235	14.5	6.2 \pm .5	.3	191 \pm 27	.001	97 \pm 13	.02
1	Propylthiouracil	86	33.5	38.7 \pm 1.3	.001	54 \pm 9	.001	46 \pm 8	.001
2	None	185	16.8	8.6 \pm 0.5		221 \pm 21		215 \pm 17	
2	1 mg Aureomycin	208	14.9	7.2 \pm .8	.2	266 \pm 14	.001	208 \pm 20	.3
2	20 mg Aureomycin	207	16.3	8.1 \pm .4	.6	259 \pm 17	.002	199 \pm 12	.02
2	Propylthiouracil	152	63.7	41.6 \pm 9.0	.001	8.2 \pm 0.6	.001	1.8 \pm 0.9	.005

* Mean \pm S.E.

the earlier study (1). Diet 1 contained ground yellow corn, soybean meal, corn gluten meal, fish meal, alfalfa meal, distillers' solubles, vitamin concentrates, and minerals; diet 2 was Pratt's Nurishmix. Both diets contained adequate iodine and permitted rapid growth and development. Eight weanling rats were used in each group and were maintained for 42 days. In no case did Aureomycin produce significant changes in the weight of the thyroid gland after 42 days of feeding. The rats fed propylthiouracil at 2 percent of the diet, as used by the Hahnemann group (1), lived only a week or two and are thus not included.

A second trial was made with the same diets and supplements using 10 rats per group. Propylthiouracil was added at levels of 0.2 and 0.02 percent of the diet, and the animals survived the entire period. After 42 days of feeding, 5 μ c I^{131} was injected intraperitoneally. Half of the animals were sacrificed 24 hr later, and the radioactivity of the excised thyroid glands was measured by a scintillation detector; 48 hr after the injection, the remaining animals were similarly treated. The results are shown in Table 2. The addition of Aureomycin did not cause a change in the thyroid weights of any groups. The striking increase in the

weight of the thyroid glands produced by propylthiouracil confirms much earlier work.

The results of this study differ from those of the other report (1), not only in degree, but in direction. This group reported a threefold thyroid weight increase and a fourfold I^{131} uptake decrease following 1 mg/kg of the Aureomycin diet. In our hands, 20 times that level of Aureomycin failed to produce a significant change in gland size and actually caused a small but definite increase in the uptake of I^{131} by the thyroid gland. The effect of antibiotics on the thyroid gland is being studied further.

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References and Notes

1. B. Calesnick, W. D. Harris, and R. S. Jones, *Science* **119**, 128 (1954).
2. T. H. Jukes and W. L. Williams, *Pharmacol. Revs.* **5**, 381 (1953).
3. Aureomycin is the trademark of the American Cyanamid Company for the antibiotic chlortetracycline.
4. D. A. Libby and J. Meites, *Science* **120**, 354 (1954).

1 July 1954.

Association Affairs

Pullman Meeting of the Pacific Division

The Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science held its 35th annual meeting, 21-26 June 1954, on the campus of the State College of Washington at Pullman. Seventeen societies participated in a program of 315 scientific papers. Arrangements for the meeting were ably handled by a local committee and various subcommittees, under the general chairmanship of Adolph Hecht.

This was the second Pullman meeting of the Pacific Division, the first having been held in 1932. Persons who had the pleasure of attending both of these meetings, a little more than two decades apart, were greatly

impressed with the growth of the State College of Washington, the expansion of its physical plant, and the continuous improvement of its facilities for both teaching and research.

Registration headquarters were in the Wilson Compton Union Building, an impressive and commodious student union building that was recently completed, with a cafeteria, dining rooms of assorted sizes for large and small groups, residence quarters where a number of delegates were housed, and ballrooms that can be used for social gatherings in the evening and can be divided during the day by movable partitions to serve as meeting places for smaller gatherings.

Table 1. Geographic distribution of registrants.*

Arizona	9	Massachusetts	3	Pennsylvania	1
California	208	Minnesota	1	South Carolina	1
Colorado	11	Missouri	1	South Dakota	1
District of Columbia	2	Montana	21	Tennessee	1
Idaho	53	Nevada	3	Texas	3
Illinois	1	New Mexico	5	Utah	44
Indiana	1	New York	5	Virginia	2
Kansas	2	North Dakota	1	Washington	271
Maryland	3	Ohio	4	Wisconsin	2
		Oregon	101	Wyoming	6
Total, continental United States					767
Canada		Saskatchewan		India	1
Alberta	10	Brazil	2	Mexico	1
British Columbia	21	Egypt	1	Pakistan	1
Manitoba	1	Hawaii	3	South Australia	1
Total, foreign or overseas					46
Grand total					813

* Italic type indicates the seven states, the territory of Hawaii, and the Canadian province of British Columbia that comprise the Pacific Division of the AAAS. Their combined registration was 725, or 89 percent of the total.

Many of the scientific sessions were held here, while others were held in adjacent academic buildings.

Exhibits of scientific books and instruments were set up in a room immediately adjacent to the registration desk. A press room was provided in the Compton Union Building, and this facilitated good press coverage of the meeting. Tape recordings were made of a number of the programs of general interest; these were subsequently broadcast over the radio station operated by the State College of Washington.

The general sessions of the Pacific Division included two evening addresses and the annual meeting of the divisional council. On Tuesday evening, 22 June, A. H. Sturtevant, president of the Pacific Division, gave a thought-provoking address on "Social implications of the genetics of man" [*Science* 120, 405 (10 Sept. 1954)]. On Wednesday evening, Alfred S. Romer addressed the Division on "Redbeds fossils and vertebrate evolution," dealing especially with the transition from aquatic to terrestrial life and the evolution of heat-regulating mechanisms.

The meeting of the council of the Pacific Division on Wednesday afternoon was addressed informally by G. W. Beadle, president-elect of the AAAS, and by Raymond L. Taylor, associate administrative secretary.

The council voted unanimously to elect the American Society of Agronomy, Western Branch, an affiliated society of the Pacific Division. This organization, which has not previously met with the Pacific Division, participated in the Pullman meeting with a large and very successful program.

Robert B. Brode of the University of California at Berkeley was elected president-elect of the Pacific Division. The president of the division for the coming year is Edwin R. Guthrie of the University of Wash-

ington. A. H. Sturtevant of the California Institute of Technology, the retiring president, became chairman of the executive committee.

Adolph Hecht of the State College of Washington was elected a member of the executive committee. H. Bowman Hawkes of the University of Utah and B. H. McConnaughey of the University of Oregon were elected members-at-large of the council.

The council learned with deep regret of the death on 21 June 1954 of Hermann A. Spoeher, a past president of the Pacific Division. A resolution of tribute to Dr. Spoeher was adopted and spread upon the minutes.

The following societies participated in the Pullman meeting:

American Meteorological Society
 American Nature Study Society
 American Society of Agronomy
 American Society for Horticultural Science
 American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists
 American Society of Limnology and Oceanography
 American Society of Plant Physiologists
 Association of Pacific Coast Geographers
 Botanical Society of America
 Cooper Ornithological Society
 Ecological Society of America
 Nature Conservancy
 Northwest Scientific Association
 Pacific Northwest Bird and Mammal Society
 Society of Systematic Zoology
 Western Society of Naturalists
 Western Society of Soil Science

A number of very pleasant social events were arranged by the local committee. On Monday afternoon delegates and their wives were welcomed by President C. Clement French of the State College of Washington, and Mrs. French, at an informal reception. On Tuesday evening, following Dr. Sturtevant's address, there was a general reception in the Compton Union Building, sponsored by the State College of Washington chapter of Sigma Xi. On Wednesday evening a general smoker and social hour followed Dr. Romer's address. Thursday evening dinner was an outdoor barbecue for all persons attending the meeting. There were numerous activities for wives of delegates, including tours to points of interest, and recreation facilities, such as golf and swimming.

The total registered attendance at the meeting was 813 drawn from a wide geographic area, as shown in Table 1. Although predominantly a divisional meeting, as usual all sections of the United States were represented. The attendance from four Canadian provinces was particularly gratifying. There were registrants from six foreign countries, principally exchange professors or students in American universities. Twenty-eight localities in the state of Washington were represented.

The next meeting of the Pacific Division will be held at the California Institute of Technology, 20-25 June 1955.

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