

Poliomyelitis Evaluation Center, University of Michigan, for use in his evaluation study. Once again the muscle evaluation proved to be a significant factor in determining the number of cases, the degree and severity of paralytic polio cases in the study on which Francis established the effectiveness of the vaccine in the three types of polio. The foundation granted funds to the association to carry out its role in these two important research projects. It appears particularly fitting that the profession of physical therapy, which has been intimately concerned with the treatment of paralytic polio since 1911 when the muscle test was first developed, should play an important role in the field trials of a vaccine that gives every evidence of bringing about the control of this crippling disease.

The association now has 6780 members with chapters in the 48 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Alaska, and Hawaii. Its official publication, the *Physical Therapy Review*, has a circulation of 7000 with subscribers in 47 countries. It is a member of the National Health Council and maintains cooperative relationships through committees and consultants with the American Hospital Association, the American Medical Association, Women's Medical Specialist Corps U.S. Army, Veterans Administration, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Children's Bureau, American Registry of Physical Therapists, and such voluntary agencies as National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, United Cerebral Palsy, and National Rehabilitation Association.

Each year the association holds an annual conference and also sponsors institutes and other study opportunities for its members. This year the American Hospital Association and the APTA conducted an Institute on Supervision and Administration, and an Institute on the Correlation of the Basic Sciences, Anatomy, Physiology, and Physics with Kinesiology was sponsored jointly with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The association is a founding member of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy and its executive director is the first president. The association will be host to the second congress of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy in June 1956.

The profession of physical therapy is still growing. The awareness of the Government and people of the United States of the importance of rehabilitating its handicapped citizens, young and old, rich and poor, has set new goals and challenges for the profession in meeting the needs of the people qualitatively and quantitatively. These challenges are accepted with confidence based on the his-

tory of the association. The members today, like those in the past, are, through continued study, basic and clinical research, ever seeking and putting into practice, under the direction of the physician and in cooperation with coworkers in other professions, methods of treatment that will prevent disability and hasten maximum recovery of our handicapped citizens.

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Soviet Invitation

On 13 June the following telegram was received by Detlev W. Bronk, president of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, from the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.: "USSR Academy of Sciences holds its session on peaceful uses of atomic energy in Moscow 1-5 July 1955. Presidium of academy will be glad if National Academy of Sciences deems it possible to send three of their scientists working in that field to this session as our two weeks guests. All expenses connected with their stay here including those of travel throughout USSR will be paid by academy."

Bronk's reply to Academician Nesmeyanov, president of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, read: "Council of National Academy of Sciences appreciates invitation USSR Academy of Sciences to send three scientists to your session on peaceful uses of atomic energy in Moscow 1 to 5 July 1955. Shortness of time and preoccupation of qualified individuals with preparations for conference on same subject to be held in Geneva during August makes acceptance impossible. I am confident that Geneva conference will provide desired opportunity for exchange of information in this field."

International Observatory Program

Six observatories in as many countries began sharing observing time and taking part in the program of the Boyden Station in South Africa on 1 July, Donald H. Menzel, director of the Harvard College Observatory, has announced. In addition to Harvard Observatory, which established the original Boyden Station at Arequipa, Peru, in 1890, the observatories cooperating in this international program are Armagh, North Ireland; Dunsink, Eire; Hamburg-Bergedorf, Germany; Stockholm, Sweden; and Uccle, Belgium. The agreement among them was worked out at a meeting in Hamburg last summer.

The agreement followed a decision made in January 1953 by the administration of Harvard University to the effect that it could no longer support the ob-

servatory in South Africa. Harvard provided funds for the intervening 2 years, however, while astronomers in several countries sought a plan for continued operation of the station, which is situated at one of the best observation points in the Southern Hemisphere. The agreement, Menzel noted, is of importance to observational astronomy, since there are relatively few large observatories in the Southern Hemisphere, and the loss of even one would be serious.

Under a 2-year interim agreement, which may later become permanent, the six cooperating observatories have set up a plan that permits joint management of the Boyden Station and provides for its operating cost. Scientific control of the station rests in an administrative council, composed of the directors of the six observatories. The directors, in addition to Menzel, are H. A. Bruck, Dunsink; Bertil Lindblad, Stockholm; P. Bourgeois, Royal Observatory, Belgium; Otto Heckmann, Hamburger Sternwarte and Eric Lindsay, Armagh.

In recent years, Hamburg and Stockholm observatories have both contributed much to the systematic classification of stellar spectra; Uccle has been a center for asteroid observation, while Armagh has been concerned with galactic research and Dunsink with photoelectric and spectrographic work. Use of the Boyden Station will permit further extension of these activities in the southern sky.

AAAS Committees and Representatives for 1955

(Numerals in parentheses indicate year of expiration of term.)

Standing Committees

Affiliation and Association: (1955) L. V. Domm, chairman, Loyola University, Chicago; (1956) Fernandus Payne, Indiana University; (1957) I. Melville Stein, Leeds and Northrup Company, Philadelphia; (1958) Howard A. Meyerhoff, Scientific Manpower Commission; (1959) Herbert Carter, University of Illinois; Dael Wolfe, *ex officio*

AAAS Meetings: Leonard Carmichael, Smithsonian Institution; Bernard D. Davis, New York University College of Medicine; John E. Ivey, Jr., Southern Regional Education Board, Atlanta; Harry C. Kelly, National Science Foundation; Howard M. Phillips, Emory University; Raymond L. Taylor, *ex officio*; Dael Wolfe, *ex officio*

Executive: Warren Weaver, chairman, Rockefeller Foundation; retiring president and chairman of the board of directors, AAAS; George W. Beadle, California Institute of Technology; president, AAAS; Paul B. Sears, Yale University;