

Atlanta Meeting in Retrospect

Raymond L. Taylor

For the more than 4000 persons who attended, the 122nd meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Atlanta, Ga., will long be remembered, not only for the high quality and timeliness of the programs and for the opportunities for scientists of different disciplines to commingle with colleagues from all parts of the continent, but also for the friendliness and helpfulness shown generally by the local citizens with whom the visitors came in contact. It was a notably pleasant meeting in a historic city, which, since the previous meeting there in 1913, has shown many developments in science, technology, public health, and education.

Between the first few events on 26 Dec.—a panel of Section Q, “Developing leaders in science”; a symposium of the American Association of Clinical Chemists; and Section F’s first session for contributed papers—and the two final events of 30 Dec.—the sixteenth annual address of the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, “Science and the other humanities,” given by Laurence M. Gould, president of Carleton College, and an open house for astronomers at Agnes Scott College’s Bradley Observatory—there were some 250 sessions devoted to symposia, groups of invited papers, panel discussions, short reports of current research, addresses, lectures, business meetings, meal functions, tours, and field trips. There were programs sponsored or cosponsored by the Association as a whole, by 17 of the 18 AAAS sections, and by 68 participating societies and other organizations.

As usual, with so many sessions crowded into the principal 4 days, the substantial over-all attendance was subdivided into areas of major interests. For the first time in recent years, no secretary or program chairman wished to hold sessions on 31 Dec. Despite efforts to avoid the scheduling of concurrent sessions likely to appeal to the same potential audiences, there were several instances where this was not possible. Some outstanding programs had audiences smaller than they deserved—partly because of

such conflicts and partly, probably, because of insufficient premeeting publicity by those who arranged them. The schedules of some of the participating societies were so compressed or intensive that little or no time was available for other programs except at the expense of their own sessions. At any particular session, however, each program chairman or presiding officer could be sure that his speakers were addressing an audience that had chosen his program above all others and despite such distractions as committee meetings, informal conferences, or “convention fatigue.”

The events sponsored by the Association as a whole had good attendance. This was particularly true of the special program, “The crisis in science education,” the time for which had been cleared by all sections and by most of the participating societies, and the AAAS presidential address, on 28 Dec., by courtesy, generally left free by the participating societies whenever possible. The papers of the education program by Charles Dollard, formerly president of Carnegie Corporation of New York; Arthur S. Flemming, director, Office of Defense Mobilization; and Alan T. Waterman, director, National Science Foundation, will be published in one of the Association’s journals.

Taking all factors into account, the second Atlanta meeting was successful in its primary objectives. Among the participating societies, the annual national meeting of the American Phytopathological Society had a gratifyingly large number of its members in attendance, the American Society of Parasitologists had to open additional concurrent sessions for its 130 papers and seek larger session rooms, and the four science teaching societies were pleased with the size of their registrations. The Association appreciates the large number of AAAS registrations by the members of these and of other participating societies.

Among the 64 symposia, the following were noteworthy for their interdisciplinary scope: “Atomic energy and agriculture,” sponsored jointly by the AAAS and

the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies; the three sessions of the International Geophysical Year; Section C’s “Patterns of biochemical and histological responses to chemical agents”; “The species problem” of the Association of Southeastern Biologists; “Applications of serology in biological research,” sponsored by the Society of General Physiologists; Section L’s “Creativity in science”; “Socioeconomic aspects of orthopedic engineering,” arranged by Section M; Section N’s “Microbiology and medical research”; and “Physiological bases in psychiatry,” sponsored jointly by the American Psychiatric Association and the American Physiological Society. Most of these were two or four sessions in length and had speakers from many parts of the country.

There were also the customary features expected at AAAS meetings—outstanding evening addresses sponsored by the Society of the Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society of America, the National Geographic Society, and the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa; large-scale exhibits; the latest foreign and domestic scientific films; and the traditional “Biologists’ Smoker” (for all registrants) with refreshments and cigarettes again generously contributed by the Coca-Cola Company, the National Biscuit Company, and Philip Morris Incorporated.

Planning the Meeting

The decision to meet in Atlanta was made by the AAAS board of directors at their June meeting in 1953 after a survey of the physical facilities of the city and after a careful consideration of all advantages and disadvantages.

In common with other large national scientific organizations, the AAAS has consistently met in different sections of the United States and Canada, as physical facilities would permit, in order to make it possible, at least at intervals, for all of its members to attend the annual convention at minimum expense. The 1954 meeting in Berkeley, Calif., the Association’s first national winter meeting on the Pacific Coast, was a recognition, long overdue, of the ever-growing AAAS membership west of the Rockies. Similarly, the 1955 meeting in Atlanta was a return to the South for the first time since the Dallas meeting of 1941, and to the Southeast, since the Richmond, Va., meeting of 1938. The first AAAS meeting in a southern state was the Charleston, S.C., meeting, in 1850, when the Association was 2 years old. The enlarged Municipal Auditorium of Atlanta, the splendid new classroom building of the nearby State College of Business Administration, and additions to Atlanta’s downtown hotel facilities once more made it pos-

sible to hold a meeting of substantial size in this growing metropolis of the Southeast.

Those who attend a large scientific meeting, unless they have shared in making some of the arrangements, may not appreciate the amount of planning and work that eventually results in several hundred sessions, most of them requiring one or more types of projection equipment. The cooperation and services of a great many individuals are essential. Usually, an experienced convention bureau will operate a housing bureau and provide registration personnel, but everything else must be arranged by the sponsoring organization. Local committees must be set up, preferably in the preceding year. This has been the pattern of AAAS meetings in the postwar years. Early each spring the secretary of each section and participating society is asked to estimate the probable number of sessions and his best guess of the probable attendance at each. It is easy to over- or underestimate when, at this stage, the programs are still far from complete and calls for papers may not have gone out. Soon afterward, on the basis of session room requirements and preferences, the headquarters hotels for related sections and societies are decided upon.

In Atlanta it was possible to assign to the relatively large American Phytopathological Society the Atlanta Biltmore Hotel, best suited for that group's many concurrent sessions and other functions, and to meet the preferences of the zoological and science teaching societies for the recently enlarged Hotel Dinkler Plaza. The Municipal Auditorium, six or seven blocks from the downtown hotels, was the logical site for the center of the meeting—the Main Registration-Information Center, the Visible Directory of Registrants, the exhibits, the Science Theatre, and a snack bar open to all registrants. Most of the sectional programs were held in the session rooms of this auditorium and in the new classroom building of the State College of Business Administration, immediately across the street. It was necessary, however, to hold sessions in several other hotels, the Henry Grady, Piedmont, Georgian Terrace, and Georgia. By choice of the organizations

Table 2. Comparison of AAAS-sectional and societal programs.

Item	AAAS, its sections, and conferences	Participating societies	Total number of sessions with papers	Total number of papers
Sessions for symposia, invited papers, and panels	47 (209 papers)	47 (239 papers)	94	448
Sessions for contributed papers	22 (168 papers)	44 (409 papers)	66	577
Sessions for addresses and lectures	12 (16 speakers)	12 (19 speakers)	24	35
Total			184	1060

concerned, there were a few events on such widely scattered campuses as Agnes Scott College, Atlanta University, Emory University, and Georgia Institute of Technology.

The Atlanta Biltmore and nearby Georgian Terrace and Cox-Carlton hotels, which are 1½ miles north of the downtown hotels, were well served by the trackless trolleys and buses of the Atlanta Transit Company. For additional transportation, however, these hotels were linked with the downtown hotels and the Municipal Auditorium by shuttle buses chartered by the Association. These proved particularly convenient in carrying people to and from Atlanta University for the zoologists' and botanists' dinners and the AAAS presidential address and reception.

AAAS Presidential Address and Reception

On the customary evening, 28 December, the traditional address by the retiring, 107th, president of the Association, Warren Weaver, was given in the attractive Sisters Chapel of Spelman College of Atlanta University. AAAS president George W. Beadle presided. Robert S. Lynch, president of the Atlantic Steel Company, and general vice chairman of the Atlanta committees, welcomed the Association and the sizable audience on behalf of the entire scientific and academic community. President Beadle, after a brief tribute to a distinguished scientific career, then presented the speaker of the evening whose well-delivered address, "Science and people" [*Science* 122, 1255 (1955)], emphasized that science, essentially, is not an esoteric field for human endeavor; scientists are like other people; and the fruits of their researches belong to all the people. Other members of the platform party included Paul B. Sears, who assumed office as AAAS president 15 Jan. 1956; Rufus E. Clement, president, Atlanta University; Albert E. Manley, president, Spelman College; Dael Wolfe, executive officer,

and Raymond L. Taylor, associate administrative secretary.

Immediately following the address a reception was held in the adjacent gymnasium. It was a pleasant climax to a crowded day and one of the highlights of the meeting.

AAAS General Symposium

Early last year the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies accepted the Association's invitation to arrange a symposium on the same high level as its programs at the AAAS meetings of 1950, 1951, and 1952. As the committee headed by Cyril Comar, principal scientist, Medical Division, ORINS, developed its plans, the four-session symposium, "Atomic energy and agriculture," evolved partly in recognition of the South's emergence as one of the great sources of food for the whole nation and partly because of the important implications of the uses of radioisotopes in the agricultural sciences. In view of the scope and stature of this program, which was coordinated with the subsequent conference at East Lansing, Mich., 12-14 Jan., its four parts—soil-plant relationships, plant metabolism and crop improvement, animal metabolism, and food sterilization—were cosponsored by the Association as a whole and by Section O. Additional cosponsors of part I were Section G and the Ecological Society of America; of part II, Section G and the American Society of Plant Physiologists, Southern Section; and of part III, Section F. This program will appear as an AAAS symposium volume.

Other Symposia

At Atlanta there were 63 other programs, classifiable as symposia, groups of invited papers, or panels that centered about particular themes. Thirty-one of these were sponsored by 14 of the 17 AAAS sections; another 32 had been arranged by 39 of the 68 participating organizations. This total exceeds the num-

Table 1. Analysis of sessions at second Atlanta meeting.

Sessions for symposia, invited papers, and panels	94
Sessions for contributed papers	66
Sessions with addresses or lectures	24
Business sessions	37
Meal functions	26
Tours and field trips	8
Total number of sessions	255

ber at any previous AAAS meeting, except at Berkeley in 1954. It would be impracticable to repeat here the entire list, which has appeared both in the General Program-Directory and in the preconvention issue of *Science*, but a few that were interdisciplinary in scope have already been mentioned. Of interest is the fact that the societies arranged exactly the same number of such programs as did the Association and its sections; moreover, each group of 32 occupied 47 sessions, as may be noted in Table 1.

Analysis of Sessions

A comparison of the types of sessions primarily sponsored by AAAS sections and by the societies (there were, of course, instances of joint sessions of sections, of societies, and of sections and societies) shows, as might be expected, that societies holding their annual national meetings with the Association arrange proportionately more sessions for short contributed papers on current research than do the sections that concentrate on symposia. A gratifying number of societies, which hold regional or special meetings with the AAAS, also feature symposia. At Atlanta, as in previous years, about half of the sections had one or more sessions each for contributed papers; specifically, 9 sections had a total of 22 sessions for 16 contributed papers.

The point is sometimes made that the papers contributed or read before AAAS sections are inferior to papers sponsored by a professional society in the fields of these sections. This does not, or need not, follow if the secretary or program chairman of the section maintains standards comparable to those of the societies. The AAAS sections that schedule sessions for contributed papers do not do so when societies in their field are meeting with the Association; they do not seek to compete but rather, to render a service to those who did not attend a national meeting in their specialty or did not have a paper ready at the time of that meeting. Over the years, several winners of the Association's Newcomb Cleveland prize have been authors in sectional sessions for contributed papers. A summary of the comparison between sectional and societal programs is given in Table 2.

Conferences

At present there are three recurrent conferences at AAAS meetings. The Academy Conference, made up of the official delegates of the 41 active academies of science affiliated with the Association and others interested in academy affairs, had a full day on 28 Dec. with a business meeting in the morning, a panel

Table 3. Distribution of paid registrants by states and countries.

Alabama	86
Arizona	3
Arkansas	16
California	49
Colorado	7
Connecticut	32
Delaware	11
District of Columbia	89
Florida	140
Georgia	636
Illinois	81
Indiana	42
Iowa	26
Kansas	18
Kentucky	22
Louisiana	49
Maine	4
Maryland	141
Massachusetts	52
Michigan	52
Minnesota	35
Mississippi	27
Missouri	26
Montana	2
Nebraska	11
New Hampshire	4
New Jersey	56
New Mexico	8
New York	180
North Carolina	98
North Dakota	1
Ohio	79
Oklahoma	24
Oregon	1
Pennsylvania	81
Rhode Island	6
South Carolina	51
South Dakota	1
Tennessee	125
Texas	62
Utah	7
Vermont	3
Virginia	62
Washington	10
West Virginia	9
Wisconsin	36
Wyoming	3
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Total, continental U.S.	2564
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Alaska	1
Canada	41
Colombia	3
Costa Rica	2
Cuba	1
Egypt	1
Germany	1
Guatemala	1
Holland	1
Honduras	1
India	2
Iran	1
Japan	1
Korea	1
Mexico	5
New Zealand	1
Philippines	1
Portugal	1
Puerto Rico	5
Thailand	1
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Total, territorial and foreign	72
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Total paid registrations	2636

discussion on the role of the academies in the AAAS Science Teaching Improvement Program, and an address on science fairs by Clinton L. Baker in the afternoon, followed in the evening by the annual Academy Conference dinner.

The Conference on Scientific Manpower dropped its plans for a separate program this year, to cosponsor the Association's special program, "The crisis in science education." On 27 Dec., the first of the seven AAAS special sessions—the annual address of the Society of the Sigma Xi, held in conjunction with its 56th convention—had dealt with manpower problems in the paper, "Is there a scarcity of scientists," by James R. Killian, Jr., president, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Finally, the two sessions of the AAAS Cooperative Committee on the Teaching of Science and Mathematics were concerned with specific aspects of this complex problem.

The Conference on Scientific Editorial Problems at this meeting experimented with five concurrent discussion panels preceded and followed by plenary sessions. The tentative plans for this year's New York meeting are to revert to six or more consecutive sessions for the entire attendance.

AAAS Business Sessions

As required by the constitution, the Association's board of directors held its fourth regular meeting of the year at the annual meeting; as usual, its sessions preceded the two sessions of the Council, which are reported elsewhere. The AAAS section officers luncheon and business meeting held at the Central YMCA was well attended. There was considerable thoughtful discussion on the perennial problem of too many excellent symposia in potential conflict with one another, which will be conveyed to the standing Committee on AAAS Meetings.

Attendance

The second Atlanta meeting was average in size for the past 10 years, which, in terms of the region in which it was held, means it was (i) larger than any other AAAS meeting in the South and (ii) larger than any other scientific meeting in the South. It was strongly supported by southern scientists and teachers. Of the 2636 paid registrants, 1565, or 59 percent, came from 15 southern states, led by Georgia with 636. Considering the still relatively low population of scientists in this geographically large region, this is a high figure indeed. It was also a great national meeting with an excellent international representation. As Table 3 shows, every state in the Union,

except Idaho and Nevada, was represented and, among the 18 foreign countries represented, there were 41 delegates from Canada and five from Mexico.

For those interested in comparisons, the 1941 meeting in Dallas had 1851 paid registrants. The 1938 meeting in Richmond, which is still remembered as jamming that city, had 2553 paid registrants. In both of these years, the botanical societies, the horticulturists, the geneticists, the American Society of Zoologists, and other societies—none of whom held their 1955 meetings with the Association in Atlanta—met with the AAAS and contributed perhaps two-thirds of the attendance. Undoubtedly, as Table 4 suggests, all of these societies, however, were represented by some of their members.

The *total attendance* of professional scientists, faculty members, other teachers, and graduate students at any national meeting of the Association is always greater than the number of paid registrations, since all programs are open to everyone. At Atlanta, the percentage of AAAS registrations by members of societies maintaining separate registrations was higher than usual—but undoubtedly there were some who regarded a “double registration” as superfluous or onerous. In one sense these persons are registrants, but they are anonymous as far as the AAAS registration records are concerned and cannot be included.

The 122 representatives of the press, many of whom attended sessions at Atlanta, were issued complimentary badges and naturally are not included as paid registrants in Table 4. Similarly, several hundred exhibitor personnel, most of them with individual scientific interests, were issued complimentary badges, and these too are not included. With the attendance at the annual illustrated lecture of the National Geographic Society considered, in addition to the figures shown in Table 4, the press, and exhibitors, it may be conservatively estimated that more than 5000 persons attended some phase of the second Atlanta meeting.

Those who are statistically minded or under the impression that the annual meetings of the Association are falling off in numbers will be interested to learn that only ten of the 122 AAAS meetings so far have had more than 3000 paid registrations. Three of these were in 1951, 1953, and 1954, subsequent to the September campus meetings of the AIBS which began in 1950.

AAAS Public Information Service

Those who visited the AAAS press room in the Dinkler Plaza Hotel gained some impression of the efficient way in which reporters covering the meeting were provided with nontechnical abstracts

and complete copies of papers by Sidney S. Negus, the Association's director of public information, whose full-time job the rest of the year is chairman of the department of biochemistry, Medical College of Virginia, Richmond. Negus reports as follows:

“One hundred twenty-two reporters representing the press, radio, and television, registered in the press room at Atlanta. Forty-six other individuals from the United States and abroad reported the meeting from nontechnical abstracts and papers mailed to them. All American and several foreign wire services and leading news magazines were represented. Coverage by the Atlanta newspapers and broadcasting stations was exceptionally good. Governor Griffin's ‘Science Week in Georgia’ proclamation was especially appreciated. News stories concerning the meeting were distributed widely outside Atlanta, since the wire services and Western Union filed approximately 110,000 words. Many of these wire reports were relayed to news outlets in every country on the globe for millions to read. Clippings have already been received from England, Italy, Israel, and India. In addition, many pictures taken in Atlanta during the week were received by wire in newspapers and magazine offices everywhere.

“The public information service for a large diversified scientific meeting like the annual AAAS one has to be set up months ahead of time. For the Atlanta meeting, a strong local committee on public information was appointed last summer to help set the stage in Atlanta for this complex operation. It was composed of 14 members and was headed by George C. Biggers, Sr., president of Atlanta Newspapers, Inc. Odom Fanning, then head of publications services for the Georgia Institute of Technology Engineering Experiment Station, was the first executive secretary of this committee and was especially helpful. In October, when Fanning was appointed manager of information services for the Midwest Research Institute in Kansas City, George M. Stenhouse, information officer of the Communicable Disease Center, U.S. Public Health Service, Atlanta, took over as secretary. Thanks largely to Fanning, Stenhouse and his assistant, Wallace Richter, and other members of the local committee, every detail on a local level was taken care of perfectly.

“The secretaries and program chairmen of the 17 AAAS sections meeting in Atlanta and those of the 68 participating societies cooperated fully in getting to me early copies of their programs. Subsequently, letters were sent to each author asking for 100 copies of a nontechnical abstract of his paper. Complete copies of exceptionally newsworthy papers were solicited from approximately 300 authors.

The response to this appeal becomes better each year, indicating that scientists are becoming more and more willing to cooperate with the press in letting the general public, which directly or indirectly pays for scientific research, know in a dignified and accurate way what they are accomplishing. The Association's officers and staff were helpful in many ways.

“Active members of the National Association of Science Writers and other reporters in the United States and abroad were then sent a list of 90 apparently newsworthy highlights of the meeting and were asked whether they wanted programs and advance copies of abstracts

Table 4. Attendance by subject fields.

Subject field	Paid registrants	Complimentary admissions to exhibits
Mathematics and statistics	35	14
Physical sciences		
Physics	129	160
Meteorology	23	0
Astronomy	16	59
Chemistry	146	76
Geology and geography	61	17
Engineering and industrial science	56	176
Biological sciences		
Plant pathology and mycology	394	4
Other botanical sciences	98	5
Ecology and limnology	37	0
Genetics and cytology	36	2
Microbiology	21	0
Parasitology	179	2
Zoological sciences	210	17
Biology (in general, and other)	193	47
Agricultural sciences	66	19
Medical sciences		
Bacteriology and virology	21	4
Biochemistry and nutrition	72	3
Physiology	53	1
Psychiatry	30	1
Dental research	22	2
Pharmacy and pharmacology	51	3
Medicine (in general, and other)	106	72
Psychology	94	18
Economic and social sciences	19	30
History and philosophy of science	25	10
Science teaching and education	138	70
Scientific editorial problems	42	0
General interest in science	87	625
No field indicated	176	97
Total	2636	1534

and complete papers. The response, as usual, was exceptionally good, with the final results that are pointed out in the first paragraph of this report.

"In late September, Winifred Lee Wilkinson was selected to be in charge of all radio and television programs for the Atlanta meeting. She handled this assignment in superior fashion, setting up 28 radio and television programs on public service time. Several of these programs were broadcast coast to coast.

"On the first evening of the meeting, Ambassador Abba Eban entertained the press and others at a reception incident to the opening of the exhibit, 'Science in Israel.' On succeeding evenings, NASW members and other representatives of the press, radio, and television, in and outside Atlanta, were entertained by Blake R. Van Leer and Goodrich C. White, presidents of Georgia Institute of Technology and Emory University, respectively, and by the A. H. Robins Company of Richmond, Va. Robert B. Wallace, Jr., present head of publications services at Georgia Tech, and Frank Ashmore, of the public relations department at Emory University, took care of the many details having to do with their president's dinner party, and Dorothy Noyes, of Noyes and Sproul, Inc., New York, and John E. Norton, of A. H. Robins Company, made arrangements for the Robins party. Fresh orange juice was served continuously in the press room for the 5 days of the meeting by the Florida Citrus Commission (A. W. Hines), with the assistance of Eastern Airline hostesses. Sandwiches and coffee were served the press each day by the General Motors Corporation (Philip G. Rozelle), the General Electric Company (Harry Backer), the American Tobacco Company Research Laboratory (H. R. Hanmer), and the Georgia Power Company (Joseph Kling).

"General Motors, General Electric, and the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (Murray C. Fincher) contributed secretarial help for the press room during the meeting—Mary Ewing, Mickey Whitmore, and Joan Neville. The Atlanta Area Council, Boy Scouts of America (O. B. Gorman, Scout Executive), selected one of its top-ranking Eagle Scouts to be chief messenger in the press room. James S. Kelley, 16 years old, and an honor student at the Westminster School in Atlanta, enjoyed an interesting experience especially since he is preparing himself for either a medical career or one in scientific research. As usual, the General Electric Company Research Laboratory (Miles J. Martin, Ned Landon, and Paul Heinmiller) held open house every evening in a suite in the Dinkler Plaza. The Association's public information service is grateful to these individuals and organizations for helping to make the meeting so enjoyable for



Seymour S. Cohen (left), winner of the 1955 Newcomb Cleveland award, receives the award check of \$1000 from Dael Wolfe (right), executive officer of AAAS. The announcement of the winner and presentation of the award were made 30 Dec. in Atlanta, Ga., just preceding the Phi Beta Kappa lecture by Lawrence M. Gould, president of Carleton College. [Photo by Ken Patterson, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*]

representatives of the press, radio, and television covering the convention.

"Besides handling public information for the Atlanta meeting as an intermediary between authors of papers and reporters, this department sent informational material about the Association directly to various individuals throughout the country and especially in the Southeast. Background material and highlights of the meeting were sent to approximately 400 high-school principals in Georgia, to all civic club secretaries, to members of the Atlanta chapter of the Public Relations Society of America, to 150 managing editors and 150 city editors of leading American newspapers, to some 385 editors of daily and weekly newspapers in Georgia, to 350 prominent citizens in the Southeast, to 300 public information officers of colleges, government agencies, and industries having representatives on the program, to secretaries of the 41 academies of science, and to 50 news directors of leading radio and television stations.

"Associates in the press room at Atlanta were Thelma C. Heatwole, Staunton, Va., Foley F. Smith, Richmond, Va., and Irving Telling, of Arthur D. Little, Inc., Cambridge, Mass., with Wayne Taylor of Austin, Texas, in charge of photography. These individuals and the four other press room assistants already mentioned were of invaluable aid in getting material

quickly to reporters to whom, more than to any others, goes the credit for helping to make possible one of the four principal objectives of the AAAS—to increase public understanding and appreciation of the importance and promise of the methods of science in human progress."

AAAS Science Theatre

The Science Theatre, which shows a selection of the latest foreign and domestic scientific films, was inaugurated at the Chicago meeting of 1947. It is now an established feature of the annual meetings of the Association. At Atlanta the theatre was located on the stage of the Municipal Auditorium, in proximity to the Annual Exposition of Science and Industry, but screened from the exhibit area by a heavy velvet curtain. It was reached by passing through the exhibits. For the seven programs given during the week, the 300 chairs were well filled by ever-changing audiences. Many came to see a particular film and stayed for several more. The thirty-nine different films listed in the General Program-Directory were shown, in most cases, more than once. To these were added the following films, which were received later: *Smog*, Air Pollution Foundation, Los Angeles, Calif.; *The Golden Leaf*, American Tobacco Company; *Mining for Nickel*, In-

ternational Nickel Company, Inc.; and *The Rocket*, British Information Services. The Association again expresses its appreciation to those who so kindly lent such excellent subjects.

Annual Exposition of Science and Industry

The 1955 Annual Exposition of Science and Industry filled the large horse-shoe-shaped arena of the Municipal Auditorium. In most cases, the exhibitors were pleased with the interest shown by the attendance. Because of a scheduled athletic event on the evening of 23 Dec. and the holidays, the erection of booths by the Shepard Decorating Company did not begin until early on the morning of 26 Dec. By noontime, however, it was possible for many of the exhibitors to begin installation of their exhibits. In the arena, there were 92 booths; in nearby Taft Hall, the Embassy of Israel presented for the first time in this country an exhibit of the work of the leading scientific institutions in Israel; this exhibit occupied space equivalent to that of 30 booths.

The names of most of the 66 exhibitors and descriptions of their exhibits appeared both in the General Program-Directory and in the preconvention issue of *Science*. Those that did not are listed here: American Red Cross, Georgia Chapter; Atlanta Publishing Company; Communicable Disease Center, USPHS; Computer Center, Georgia Institute of Technology; Georgia Power Company; Georgia State Department of Public Health; International Geophysical Year; National Cancer Institute; J. C. Nichols (living salamanders); Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company; United Nations.

The Science Library had some 500 volumes from 37 publishers. As in past years, the Association is indebted to the Special Libraries Association, this time the Georgia Chapter, for supervising the Science Library.

Work of the Atlanta Committees

In his report of the AAAS Public Information Service, Negus commends the able work of the local committee on public relations headed by George C. Biggers, Sr., president, Atlanta Newspapers, Inc. All members of the Association are indebted for the varied and effective services of each member. An attractive window display on atomic energy and a welcome to AAAS delegates were suggested by Julian Trivers, vice president, the Davison-Paxon Company.

The Association and all who attended

the 122nd meeting are much indebted for the excellent appointments and wise counsel of James V. Carmichael, president of Scripto, Incorporated, and general chairman of the Atlanta meeting, who had kept in close touch with all developments since the spring of 1954. Until the last minute, when it proved impossible, he had expected to be present at the AAAS presidential address and reception. His place there and at the opening ceremonies of the Embassy of Israel exhibit was filled by the general vice chairman, Robert S. Lynch, president, Atlantic Steel Company. Bradford D. Ansley, of the Trustees Committee on Development, Emory University, served as executive secretary of the Atlanta committees. Despite his many professional duties, he devoted considerable time to coordinating local activities and solving problems as they arose, assisted by his secretary, Anne Cain.

The Atlanta Committee on Physical Arrangements, headed by Walter S. Bell of the department of audio visual education, Atlanta Board of Education, proved to be one of the most efficient, hard-working, and economical committees responsible for projection and other equipment that the Association has ever had. Not only did Bell and his colleagues supply every lantern, screen, and volunteer operator requested and check the chairing and darkening of each room, but they took care of the Science Theatre and stood by for emergency requests for anything from a thumbtack to a tape recorder, complete with operator and typist. The Association gratefully acknowledges the work of this committee.

The Exhibits Committee, under the chairmanship of D. J. Haughton, vice president and general manager, Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, Georgia Division, canvassed local and regional industry and secured exhibitors that otherwise would not have been present. The Association is particularly indebted to R. R. Kearton, assistant general manager of Lockheed, who devoted considerable personal time and thought to this phase of the financing of the meeting. The members of the Finance Committee, with Fred J. Turner, president, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, as chairman, helped greatly to reduce the deficit of the meeting. Firms that endowed booth space for nonprofit exhibits or made outright contributions include:

American Bakeries Company
Associated Industries of Georgia
Atlanta Coca-Cola Bottling Company
Atlanta Envelope Company
Atlanta Stove Works
Atlanta Transit System
Atlantic Steel Company
Auto-Soler Company
Barge-Thompson Company

Cabin Crafts, Inc.
Chicopee Mills, Inc.
Citizens & Southern National Bank
Colonial Stores, Inc.
Cotton Manufacturers Association of Georgia
Embassy of Israel
First National Bank of Atlanta
Fulton National Bank
Ford Motor Company, Atlanta Assembly Plant
George Muse Clothing Company
Georgia Power Company
Georgia State Chamber of Commerce
Georgia State College of Business Administration
Gulf Oil Corporation, Atlanta Sales Division
Ivan Allen Company, Office Equipment
Irwindale Dairies
MacDougald-Warren, Inc.
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Beane
Plantation Pipe Line Company
Rich's, Inc.
Scripto, Incorporated
Sears, Roebuck and Company
Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company
The Bank of Georgia
Trust Company of Georgia

To these should be added a contribution made for the third time by the United-Carr Fastener Corporation of Cambridge, Mass., to the AAAS for any worthy purpose and applied to the second Atlanta meeting.

Walter E. Crawford, executive vice president of the Atlanta Convention Bureau, provided much personal assistance and friendly help prior to, and throughout, the meeting.

To all those named, and to those who volunteered their services for clerical assistance in the AAAS office in the Municipal Auditorium, and to all who made contributions, the Association expresses its deep appreciation. The whole experience in Atlanta with so many courtesies and instances of cooperation was a heart-warming and memorable one.

Awards and Prize Winners

The following annual awards were made during the meeting: 28th AAAS Newcomb Cleveland prize, to Seymour S. Cohen, professor of biochemistry, University of Pennsylvania [*Science* **123**, 54 (1956)]; 11th AAAS Theobald Smith Award in the Medical Sciences, to Robert A. Good, American Legion heart research professor, University of Minnesota Medical School [*Science* **122**, 1261 (1955)]; 1st AAAS-Anne Frankel Rosenthal Memorial Award for Cancer Research, to Lloyd W. Law, head, leukemia

studies section, laboratory of biology, National Cancer Institute [*Science* **123**, 20 (1956)]; 2nd AAAS Socio-Psychological prize, to Yehudi A. Cohen, department of psychiatry, Albert Einstein College of Medicine [*Science* **122**, 1261

(1955)]; Scientific Research Society of America—William Procter prize, to Robert R. Williams, chairman, Williams-Waterman Fund for the Combat of Dietary Diseases, Research Corporation [*Science* **122**, 1262 (1955)]; John Scott

award, administered by City of Philadelphia Board of Directors of City Trusts, to Edgar S. McFadden, agronomist, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station [*Science* **122**, 1262 (1955)]. (Dr. McFadden died 5 Jan.)

Reports of Sections and Societies, Atlanta Meeting

Physics (Section B)

J. H. Howie as chairman of the local program committee arranged a full and diverse program. On Tuesday afternoon there was a symposium on radiation measurements, with F. L. Mohler presiding. The program included, "Radioisotope measurements in clinical diagnosis" by Marshall Brucer (Oak Ridge), "A medical spectrometer" by Jack Francis (Oak Ridge), and "Fallout measurements" by J. H. Tolan (Georgia Tech).

On Wednesday afternoon there was a symposium on research progress in physics, with Clifford Beck presiding. G. L. Pearson (Bell Telephone Laboratories) described experiments being carried out at the Savannah River Plant to detect neutrinos in the radiation emitted by a high flux reactor. The experiments involved a large volume of radiation-sensitive liquid surrounded by a battery of scintillation counters. There is reason to hope that this elusive elementary particle may at last be observed and measured. Arthur E. Ruark (University of Alabama) described a search for rare particles involving refinements in cloud-chamber techniques. Charles E. Falk (Brookhaven) gave a talk on super-energy accelerators. He described existing accelerators and gave in some detail the plans for the 30-Bev proton synchrotron that is under construction at Brookhaven.

Following a AAAS session on "The crisis in science education," there was, on Thursday afternoon, a symposium on training for careers in physics with Alan T. Waterman presiding. Gerald A. Rosse-

lot (Bendix Corporation), Clifford A. Beck (North Carolina State College), and Josiah Crudup (Brenau College) spoke on careers in industry, scientific research, and education, respectively.

On Friday afternoon, there was a report on the International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy. Detlev Bronk presided, and Clarence E. Larson reviewed the program on the physical sciences, while Shields Warren covered the biological and medical sciences.

There were many other programs of interest to physicists. The American Meteorological Society held a session of miscellaneous contributed papers. There were three sessions on the program for the International Geophysical Year, which attracted large audiences because of the broad scope of scientific research included in this program. The Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies held a symposium on "Atomic energy and agriculture." There were three sessions on plant and animal metabolism and one on food sterilization.

Section B was cosponsor of a session on the role of physics in premedical education. On Wednesday evening, Section B and Sigma Pi Sigma held an informal dinner for physicists.

FRED L. MOHLER, *Secretary*

Chemistry (Section C)

Those who had the opportunity to attend the AAAS meeting in Atlanta will without doubt report that it was a very good meeting for it gave them the oppor-

tunity (i) to acquire new knowledge in their fields of specialization as well as in other areas of science, (ii) to broaden their acquaintance with other scientists, and (iii) to renew acquaintance with fellow-workers in other regions of the country.

Of special interest to chemists were the programs of Section C (Chemistry), the chemists' dinner meeting, a number of the special AAAS symposia, the variety of displays in the exhibit hall, and the interesting programs of the Science Theatre.

The program of Section C included nine sessions, some of which were cosponsored by other sections and by the Georgia Section of the American Chemical Society. One session consisted of contributed papers on a variety of topics, such as the effect of steric factors on the pinacol rearrangement, crystal engineering, the assay of folic acid by a thermophilic bacillus, the *in vitro* action of certain enzyme inhibitors on the blood-clotting mechanism, studies with labeled microbes, and the toxicity of chemicals to marine borers.

Two sessions, arranged by Jules S. Cass, presented recent studies on the patterns of biochemical and histological responses to clinical agents.

One session, arranged by LeRoy A. Woodward, considered the sedimentary kaolins along the southeastern fall line in a series of six papers, and another session, presided over by Wallace R. Brode, heard the annual address of the Scientific Research Society of America and award of the William Procter prize.

Two sessions, arranged by Ellison H. Taylor, were on radiation chemistry and related fields, consisting of a historical introduction, an outline of currently accepted views, and the role of radiation chemistry in radiobiology.

At the dinner meeting, presided over by Eugene P. Cofield, the vice president's address on the chlorination of water by Robert S. Ingols proved to be both interesting and informative.

The final session, arranged by Detlev W. Bronk, consisted of a report on the International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, with papers by Clarence E. Larson on the physical sciences and by Shields Warren on the biological and medical sciences.