

# Meetings and Societies

## Friends of the Pleistocene

The 20th annual reunion of the Friends of the Pleistocene was held 26–27 May at Drummondville, Quebec, Canada. The meeting was conducted by Nelson R. Gadd, assisted by Jaan Terasmae.

A limited number of excellent exposures along the St. Francis, Nicolet, and Bécancour rivers were used to illustrate the known glacial and postglacial history of the central part of the St. Lawrence lowlands. The area was glaciated twice.

The first glaciation, represented locally by coarse, sandy, dark-red till, was followed by a fresh-water lacustrine period during which was deposited a thick sequence of varves. Extensive stream erosion then established a drainage system that would appear to be very similar to the present St. Lawrence drainage system. In some areas erosion removed all the varves and laid "old" gravels, derived from local bedrock on eroded surfaces of the red till and of the bedrock.

In a late stage of this erosion cycle, fine-to-medium sands were deposited in aggrading streams, and peat accumulated in abandoned channels that parallel the St. Lawrence and its larger tributaries. At one of the field-trip stops, upstream from Pierreville on the east bank of the St. Francis river, the group examined a buried peat bed from which the compressed peat of Y-256 (greater than 29,630 C<sup>14</sup> years) was taken. In some sections, the group observed evidence of a readvance of the ice, following immediately at the close of the interglacial(?) interval, in the form of grey varves over-ridden by grey till. This upper grey till, younger than materials dated at greater than 29,630 years (Y-256) and greater than 40,000 years (W-189), is the only representative of the Wisconsin(?) glaciation.

In most sections the grey till is overlain directly by deep-water facies of the Champlain Sea deposits, but evidence was seen along the St. Francis River of a possible short-lived fresh-water interval following the second glaciation but just prior to the very rapid inundation of the region by waters of the Champlain Sea. A single marine episode was apparently followed by a regular and relatively rapid

uplift and transition from the marine conditions of the Champlain Sea to the present fluvial system of the St. Lawrence.

One of the features of the trip was a visit to the Nicolet landslide that caused millions of dollars' worth of property damage and the loss of three lives on 12 Nov. 1955. Jacques Béland (Department of Mines, Quebec) gave the group an interesting résumé of his findings on examination of the slide area for his department. Also, during the trip, T. H. Clark (McGill University) enlightened the group on the significance of "Logan's Line" at an outcrop on the Nicolet River at Ste. Brigitte des Saults.

Seventy-five people in attendance at the dinner meeting were officially greeted on behalf of the Geological Survey of Canada by its chief geologist, C. S. Lord. R. F. Flint, chairman of the dinner meeting, reviewed current activities in the field of Pleistocene geology and then introduced Gadd, who briefly reviewed the Pleistocene stratigraphy of the region and commented on some of the problems of correlation. The second speaker, Terasmae, gave his view, based on palynological studies and on radiocarbon dates, that the "interglacial" interval represented by buried peats was most probably late Sangamon. Paul MacClintock was final speaker for the evening and brought up-to-date knowledge of his findings in the New York section of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

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## Meeting Notes

■ Leading American and British experts on atomic energy are to participate in the panel discussions on "Atomic energy in economic development" that will take place during the 1956 annual meeting of the World Bank in Washington, D.C. Lewis L. Strauss, chairman, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, and Edwin Plowden, chairman of the U.K. Atomic Energy Authority, will take part in the discussion. Other members of the panel will be John Cockcroft, director, Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Har-

well, and Willard K. Davis, director, Division of Reactor Development, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. Corbin Allardice, adviser on atomic energy to the World Bank, will act as moderator.

The panel discussion will take place on the morning of 27 Sept. in the Sheraton-Park Hotel. The 11th annual meeting of the World Bank is being held there this year, 24–28 Sept., and will be attended by governmental and banking representatives from the 58 member countries of the bank.

The panel discussion will center around an appraisal of the present stage of development of nuclear power reactors, with particular emphasis on factors affecting their economic utilization. United States and United Kingdom government policies and programs to assist the development and operation of nuclear power reactors in other countries will be discussed, including arrangements for the supply of enriched uranium and plutonium, and the reprocessing of these fuel elements.

Interest in the potentialities of nuclear energy on the part of the World Bank springs from the bank's interest in power development in its member countries. The present evidence that nuclear power stations can be operated on competitive terms with thermal stations in certain circumstances, together with the shortage of conventional fuels in many of the bank's member countries, leads the bank to keep closely in touch with nuclear possibilities. One of the results to be expected from the panel discussion will be a greater awareness of the upper and lower limits within which nuclear power can best be exploited. The panel discussion will be open to the public.

■ The climax of the Perkin Centennial, which is under the sponsorship of the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists with the participation of 27 technical, chemical, and scientific societies and two U.S. Government departments, will occur during the week of 10 Sept. at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York. Highlighting the week will be the presentation of more than 60 papers by specialists in various aspects of the field of dyes and colors, many of whom will also act as moderators or participants in panel discussions. The opening day of the program will be International Day, sponsored by the American Standards Association and International Organization for Standardization. Speakers from Canada, England, France, Germany, Switzerland, and the United States will be heard. Robert Robinson, internationally known chemist and chairman of the British Centenary, will be a luncheon speaker and will talk on "Sir William Perkin—his life and works."

The Olney medal award luncheon will

be held on Thursday, the recipient being Walter J. Hamburger of the Fabric Research Laboratories, Boston, Mass. The Perkin medal of the American Section of the Society of Chemical Industry will be presented to Edgar C. Britton of the Dow Chemical Company following the Perkin medal award banquet on 14 Sept. All of the papers presented at the centennial will be published in a volume of proceedings that will be sent to all general registrants.

■ Construction work on the new Plum Island Animal Disease Laboratory building of the Department of Agriculture is now nearing completion and its dedication will take place during the week of 24-28 Sept. Present plans are for a limited number of invited representatives of local organizations in the Plum Island area to visit the island on 24 Sept. On 25 Sept. representatives of the press, radio, and TV and of various livestock interests will be given an opportunity to see the new building and other installations.

The USDA will need to know ahead of time who will want to attend on this day, so advance registrations are requested. Groups visiting the laboratory necessarily must be kept as small as possible, and therefore each organization will be limited to one representative. Overnight accommodations on outer Long Island are limited.

The general public is invited to attend the ceremonies on dedication day, which is 26 Sept. The last 2 days of the dedication week have been set aside for a technical symposium on virus diseases for scientists working in this field. Attendance will be by invitation only, since housing and other facilities on the island can accommodate only a small meeting.

A kit of information about the Plum Island laboratory is being assembled by the information division of the Agricultural Research Service and will be available on about 1 Sept. from the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture. After dedication week the Plum Island Laboratory again will be closed to visitors, and will resume its work on fundamental research on foot-and-mouth and other foreign infectious diseases.

■ The Atomic Energy Commission will sponsor a conference on engineering education and nuclear energy for college and university presidents and deans of engineering at Gatlinburg, Tenn., 5-8 Sept. Presidents and deans of engineering of 150 colleges and universities having accredited engineering courses have been invited. Willard F. Libby, member of the commission, will address the conference at a dinner meeting on 6 Sept.

The purpose of the conference, which was suggested by the American Society of Engineering Education, is to provide

an opportunity for college and university administrators to discuss programs of education and training for science and engineering students who are planning nuclear energy careers. The program will include presentations and discussions of recent developments in engineering education in nuclear energy, of anticipated needs for personnel trained in this field, and of the commission's educational and training program in nuclear energy technology.

Conference speakers will include members of the staffs of the Atomic Energy Commission and its national laboratories, and representatives of private industry and educational institutions. The program includes a tour on 7 Sept. of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies at Oak Ridge and the unclassified facilities of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

■ The fall general meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, which will be held in the Morrison Hotel, Chicago, 1-5 Oct., will observe the 100th birthday of Tesla, inventor of the alternating current electric motor and many other electric apparatus. The meeting will also observe the 80th birthday of Charles F. Kettering, a director and former vice president of General Motors Company, and inventor of the self-starter and lighting and ignition systems for automobiles. In addition, F. E. Terman, who is provost of Stanford University and dean of the School of Engineering, will be the first recipient of the AIEE Members-for-Life Fund medal in engineering education.

## Society Elections

■ American Electroencephalographic Society: pres., John R. Knott, Psychopathic Hospital, Iowa City, Ia.; pres-elect, Robert S. Dow, Portland, Ore.; sec., J. K. Merlis, 150 S. Huntington Ave., Boston 30, Mass.; treas., Peter Kellaway, Baylor University, Houston, Tex.

■ Society for Nondestructive Testing: pres., Richard F. Holste, General Electric Company, Milwaukee, Wis.; v. pres., Charles H. Hastings, Watertown Arsenal, Watertown, Mass.; treas., Maurice J. Curtis, U. S. Naval Ordnance Test Station, China Lake, Calif.; sec., Philip D. Johnson, 1109 Hinman Ave., Evanston, Ill.

■ Tissue Culture Association: pres., Philip R. White, Jackson Memorial Laboratory; v. pres., Joseph F. Morgan, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa; sec.-treas., Duncan C. Hetherington, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, N.C.

■ American Society for Metals: pres., Donald S. Clark, California Institute of Technology; v. pres., G. M. Young, Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd., Montreal; sec., W. H. Eisenman, 7301 Euclid Ave., Cleveland 3, Ohio; treas., C. H. Lorig, Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio.

## Forthcoming Events

### September

24-25. Industrial Electronics Symposium, 5th annual, Cleveland, Ohio. (C. F. Schunemann, Thompson Products, 2196 Clarkwood Rd., Cleveland 3.)

24-26. American Oil Chemists' Soc., Chicago, Ill. (Mrs. L. R. Hawkins, AOCS, 35 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago 1.)

24-26. Biochemistry of Lignin, 3rd round table, Appleton, Wis. (H. F. Lewis, Inst. of Paper Chemistry, Appleton.)

24-27. Science of Photography, international conf., Cologne, Germany. (W. Schürmeyer, Hohenstaufenring 48/54, Cologne.)

24-28. International Dairy Cong., 14th, Rome, Italy. (R. E. Hodgson, Dairy Husbandry Research Branch, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Beltsville, Md.)

24-29. International Scientific Film Assoc., 10th cong., Vienna, Austria. (Secretariat of Intern. Assoc., 38, Ave. des Ternes, Paris 17, France.)

25-27. Atomic Industrial Forum and Trade Fair, 3rd annual conf., Chicago, Ill. (C. Robbins, AIF, 260 Madison Ave., New York 16.)

25-28. American Roentgen Ray Soc., annual, Los Angeles, Calif. (B. R. Young, Germantown Hospital, Philadelphia 44, Pa.)

25-28. Assoc. of Iron and Steel Engineers, annual, Cleveland, Ohio. (Secretary, AISE, Empire Bldg., Pittsburgh 22, Pa.)

25-29. Atmospheric Condensation Nuclei, 2nd intern. symp., Basel and Locarno, Switzerland. (M. Bider, Astronomical Meteorological Station, Basel, Switzerland.)

25-29. Automatic Controls, international conf., Univ. of Heidelberg, Germany. (R. Oldenburger, Woodward Governor Co., Rockford, Ill.)

26-28. The Direction of Research Organizations, intern. symp. Teddington, England. (National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, Middlesex, England.)

26-28. Mississippi Valley Medical Soc., annual, Chicago, Ill. (H. Swanberg, 510 Maine St., Quincy, Ill.)

26-29. European Cong. of Allergology, 3rd, Florence, Italy. (U. Serafini, Istituto di Patologia Medica, Viale Morgagni, Florence.)

27. Atomic Energy in Economic Development, Washington, D.C. (C. Allardice, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, 1818 H St., NW, Washington 25.)

27-30. Alaskan Science Conf., 7th annual, Juneau. (H. C. Baltzo, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Juneau.)

28-29. American Medical Writers' As-

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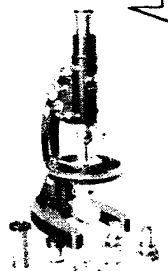
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soc., annual, Chicago, Ill. (H. Swanberg, 510 Maine St., Quincy, Ill.)

28-29. Chemistry of Lignin, Polysaccharides and Related Substances, symp., Tucson, Ariz. (Dept. of Chemistry, Univ. of Arizona, Tucson.)

28-29. International Professional Union of Gynecologists and Obstetricians, 1st cong., Madrid, Spain. (J. Courtois, St. Germain-en-Laye, Seine-et-Oise, France.)

30. American College of Dentists, annual, Atlantic City, N.J. (O. W. Brandhorst, 4221 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.)

30-4. Electrochemical Soc., Cleveland, Ohio. (H. B. Linford, 216 W. 102 St., New York 25.)

### October

1-2. American Soc. of Photogrammetry, semiannual, Denver, Colo. (C. E. Palmer, ASP, 1515 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington 5.)

1-3. Institute of Radio Engineers, Canadian convention, Toronto, Canada. (G. Sinclair, Electrical Engineering Dept., Univ. of Toronto, Toronto.)

1-3. National Electronics Conf., 12th annual, Chicago, Ill. (NEC, 84 E. Randolph St., Chicago 1.)

1-4. American Dental Assoc., annual, Atlantic City, N.J. (H. Hillenbrand, ADA, 222 E. Superior St., Chicago 11, Ill.)

1-4. Semiconductor Symposium, Cleveland, Ohio. (M. F. Lamorte, Semiconductor Dept., Westinghouse Electric Corp., Youngwood, Pa.)

1-5. American Inst. of Electrical Engineers, fall general, Chicago, Ill. (N. S. Hibshman, AIEE, 33 W. 39 St., New York 18.)

1-5. International Cong. on Medical Records, 2nd, Washington, D.C. (Miss G. L. Perkins, American Assoc. of Medical Record Librarians, 510 N. Dearborn St., Chicago 10, Ill.)

1-10. Weights and Measures, international committee, Paris, France. (C. Volet, International Bureau of Weights and Measures, Pavillon de Breteuil, Sevres (Seine-et-Oise), France.)

2-14. Engineers Cong., 2nd international Federation of National Associations of Engineers, Zurich, Switzerland. (Federation Internationale d'Associations Nationales d'Ingenieurs, 19, rue Blanche, Paris 9<sup>e</sup>, France.)

8. Science and Human Welfare, international conf., American Inst. of Geonomy and Natural Resources, Washington, D.C. (R. M. Field, AIGNR, South Duxbury, Mass.)

8-10. National Clay Conf., 5th, Urbana, Ill. (R. E. Grim, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana.)

8-12. American College of Surgeons, 42nd annual clinical cong., San Francisco, Calif. (ACS, 40 E. Erie St., Chicago 11, Ill.)

8-12. International Decennial Review Conf. on Tissue Culture, Woodstock, Vt. (P. R. White, Jackson Memorial Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Me.)

8-12. National Metal Cong., 38th annual, Cleveland, Ohio. (American Inst. of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers, 29 W. 39 St., New York 18, N.Y.)

8-12. Pan-American Federation of

Engineering Societies, 4th convention, Mexico, D.F., Mexico. (S. E. Reimel, Engineers Joint Council, 29 W. 39 St., New York 18.)

8-13. International Cancer Cytology Cong., Chicago, Ill. (A. H. Dearing, College of American Pathologists, Prudential Plaza, Chicago 1.)

9-10. Air Research and Development Command Science Symposium (classified), 4th annual, Boston, Mass. (Headquarters, ARDC, U.S. Air Force, P.O. Box 1395, Baltimore 3, Md.)

9-12. American Dietetic Assoc., 39th annual, Milwaukee, Wis. (Mrs. T. Pollen, ADA, 620 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 11, Ill.)

9-15. World Medical Assoc., 10th general assembly, Havana, Cuba. (L. H. Bauer, WMA, 345 E. 46 St., New York, N.Y.)

10-12. Indiana Acad. of Science, Bloomington. (W. A. Daily, Eli Lilly Research Laboratories, Indianapolis 6, Ind.)

10-18. Arid Zone Climatology with Special Reference to Microclimatology, international symposium, Melbourne and Canberra, Australia. (UNESCO, 19 Avenue Kléber, Paris 16<sup>e</sup>, France.)

11-12. International Scientific Radio Union, U.S. National Committee, Berkeley, Calif. (J. P. Hagen, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington 25.)

14-17. Society of American Foresters, Memphis, Tenn. (H. Clepper, SAF, 17th and Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington 6.)

14-19. American Acad. of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology, annual, Chicago, Ill. (W. L. Benedict, 100 First Ave. Bldg., Rochester, Minn.)

15-17. Assoc. of Official Agricultural Chemists, annual, Washington, D.C. (W. Horwitz, Box 540, Benjamin Franklin Station, Washington 4.)

15-17. Soil Conservation Soc. of America, Tulsa, Okla. (H. W. Pritchard, SCSA, 1016 Paramount Bldg., Des Moines, Iowa.)

15-18. American Veterinary Medical Assoc., annual, San Antonio, Tex. (J. G. Hardenbaugh, AVMA, 600 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.)

15-19. American Soc. of Civil Engineers, annual, Pittsburgh, Pa. (W. H. Wisely, ASCE, 33 W. 39 St., New York 18.)

15-26. New York Acad. of Medicine, annual graduate fortnight, New York, N.Y. (Secretary, Graduate Fortnight, NYAM, 2 E. 103 St., New York 29.)

16-17. National Acad. of Economics and Political Science, Washington, D.C. (D. P. Ray, George Washington Univ., Washington 6.)

16-18. Conference on Magnetism and Magnetic Materials, Boston, Mass. (T. O. Paine, Measurements Laboratory, General Electric Co., West Lynn, Mass.)

17-19. Symposium on Antibiotics, 4th annual, Washington, D.C. (H. Welch, Div. of Antibiotics, Food and Drug Administration, U.S. Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington 25.)

18-19. Institute of Management Sciences, 3rd annual, Los Angeles, Calif. (C. M. Kelly, Litton Industries, Inc., 336 N. Foothill Rd., Beverly Hills, Calif.)

(See issue of 17 August for comprehensive list)