

Dahlberg founded in 1948 the journal *Acta Genetica et Statistica Medica* for the publication of research on the aforementioned problems. He was its editor until his death.

Although Dahlberg may seem to have taken an antieugenical position, he made many contributions to race betterment in the broader sense. His studies of the effects of alcoholism on the Swedish population (which resulted in his becoming what he referred to as a "statistical teetotaler") and his application, as collaborator or adviser, of quantita-

tive methods to a wide variety of medico-social problems (he was an active adviser in 119 medical monographs) left an enduring mark on social medicine in Sweden.

His interest in human problems expressed itself in more personal ways as well: active assistance to refugees from Nazism and Fascism, recognized by the award to him from Great Britain of the King's Medal for Service in the Cause of Freedom. His personal convictions rested on a strong sense of scientific honesty, set forth in respect to the pros-

titution of genetics in Germany in his popular book of 1942, *Race, Reason, and Rubbish*. He later reacted with similar forthrightness when the Communists suppressed the development of genetics.

Something more than potential contributions to one branch of science is lost when a man like Gunnar Dahlberg dies, for the struggle to attain a life based on reason, which his life exemplified, is one that all scientists face.

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## News of Science

### AAAS Cardiovascular Research Award

The AAAS will award this year for the first time the AAAS-Ida B. Gould memorial award for research on cardiovascular problems. The award, which consists of a citation and \$1000, is intended to stimulate research, particularly basic research, in the cardiovascular field.

The winner will be chosen by a committee of judges of which Paul Dudley White is chairman. The other judges were selected by the principal organizations in the United States that are active in the cardiovascular research field: C. Sidney Burwell (Helen Hay Whitney Foundation), Robert P. Glover (American College of Cardiology), Dickinson W. Richards (Life Insurance Medical Research Fund), Francis Wood (American Heart Association), and J. Franklin Yeager (National Heart Institute). Funds for the award, which will be continued on an annual basis, are provided by the Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Foundation of New York.

### Church Service on Science and Religion at Time of AAAS Meeting

Donald Harrington, minister of the Community Church in New York, has announced that he is planning a special service at 11 A.M. on the morning of 30 Dec. on the subject, "Science and Religion." The entire service will be built

around this theme, and in place of a sermon Harrington has arranged a discussion between himself and a number of scientists on "The challenge of science to religion and of religion to science."

Participants in the AAAS annual meeting, which is convening in New York 26-31 Dec., are cordially invited to attend this service. The Community Church is at 40 E. 35 St., just a few blocks from the AAAS meeting headquarters.

### Archeology in the Marquesas

The results of the first archeological expedition ever made to the Marquesas Islands in the South Pacific have been reported by Harry L. Shapiro, chairman of the department of anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History, New York, and leader of the expedition. The trip was financed by Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Crane, who accompanied the museum team.

The Marquesas are a group of 11 volcanic islands, six of which are inhabited. They are located approximately half-way between South America and Australia. Covered with mountains and luxuriant valleys, the islands are noted for their beauty. They were used by Herman Melville as the setting for his novel *Typee*, and the painter Paul Gauguin, who is buried on one of the islands, spent his last days there.

Early records show that when the first Europeans reached the Marquesas some

150 years ago, there was a Polynesian population of approximately 100,000. Shapiro states that these inhabitants were among the peoples most seriously affected by the diseases introduced by Europeans, so that when he first visited the islands in 1930 the population had dwindled to 1600. However, he now estimates that the population has increased to about 3500 persons of Polynesian ancestry.

Although ethnologists have studied the Marquesan culture and archeologists have mapped the huge stone surface structures known as meiaes, the American Museum's expedition marks the first attempt at excavations. Expedition members worked at several sites in the bays of Nukuhiva, the largest island in the group. There they discovered the remains of a culture definitely predating European contact and perhaps going back to the very early stages of Marquesan life.

According to Shapiro, scholars of cultural history in the South Pacific have been particularly interested in obtaining dates for an early culture in the Marquesas because of the light those dates would shed on the civilization of the area as a whole. Several carbon samples were taken from two caves on Nukuhiva for radiocarbon dating.

Inscribed in the rocks along the shore, the field party discovered line drawings or pictographs of human beings, whales, and other animals. Some of the drawings were hidden from sight under an extensive, rocky concretion, indicating that they must have been drawn before the concretion was formed. Therefore, the pictographs may very well represent a record of a very ancient Marquesan culture.

Another site was discovered in a sand dune that had been broken into by a tidal wave. The dune contained artifacts such as fishing gear, shell jewelry, and stone adzes. Several of the fish hooks were similar to those known to be used on Easter Island, which is some 2000 miles away.