

Meetings and Societies

Enzyme Chemistry

The first International Symposium on Enzyme Chemistry, organized by the Science Council of Japan and held under the auspices of the newly formed International Union of Biochemistry, was held in Tokyo and Kyoto, 16 to 23 October 1957. It was an excellent meeting, well attended by representatives from about 20 nations, including more than fifty scientists from the United States. This is reported to have been the largest international scientific meeting ever held in Japan.

The four major topics under consideration were: (i) group transfer mechanisms; (ii) hydrogen, oxygen, and electron transfer; (iii) formation of proteins and enzymes; and (iv) enzymes in industry. Nearly 1000 papers were presented within each of the four major categories. Four special papers were given by scientists from the U.S.S.R., Germany, the United States, and Japan. Since this was one of the few occasions during which a large number of representatives from the East and West have met for scientific discussions on enzymes, it is especially fortunate that the program allowed adequate time for comments on the papers presented. The *Proceedings*, which will include the written record of these discussions, will undoubtedly be of great interest to scientists in the field of enzymology.

In general, the Japanese have shown excellent progress in the purification of enzymes. (It is estimated that 20 percent of the national income of Japan is derived from industrial enzymology.) Cytochrome chemistry, particularly the demonstration of many highly purified or crystalline preparations, attests to their skill in this field. The Western countries, on the other hand, have pursued to a greater extent the study of reaction mechanisms, especially that of oxidative phosphorylation. The Russian delegation received considerable publicity; press reports stated that Russian scientists are "closest to finding the secret to the artificial creation of life."

Japan appears to be an unusually good location for truly international scientific meetings. The entertainment offered by the organizing committee was

excellent; many scientists and their wives visited Japanese homes, national shrines, and Geisha teahouses. The Russian Embassy elaborately entertained in honor of the leader of their scientific delegation. The Communist Chinese delegation failed to arrive, and this was interpreted by some as a protest against the presence of the group from the Republic of China.

The United States scientists feel that a great deal of valuable information was obtained. In addition, many personal contacts with professors and students of Japanese universities were made or reinforced, and a much closer scientific relationship will be possible in the future.

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Forthcoming Events

March

25-27. Occupational Safety, President's Conf., Washington, D.C. (President's Conf. on Occupational Safety, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Washington 25.)

26-28. American Power Conf., 20th annual, Chicago, Ill. (Illinois Inst. of Technology, 35 W. 33 St., Chicago 16.)

27-29. American Physical Soc., Chicago, Ill. (E. R. Fitzgerald, Dept. of Physics, Pennsylvania State Univ., University Park.)

27-29. Mechanisms of Hypersensitivity, 8th internatl. symp., Detroit, Mich. (W. J. Nungester, Dept. of Bacteriology, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor.)

27-29. National Science Teachers Assoc., 6th natl., Denver, Colo. (R. H. Carleton, NSTA, 1201 16 St., NW, Washington 6.)

27-29. Optical Soc. of America, annual, Washington, D.C. (S. S. Ballard, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, San Diego 52, Calif.)

28. New Jersey Acad. of Science, 3rd annual, Newark. (H. L. Silverman, Nutley Public Schools, Nutley, N.J.)

29. South Carolina Acad. of Science, annual, Charleston. (Miss M. Hess, Dept. of Biology, Winthrop College, Clemson, S.C.)

29-30. American Psychosomatic Soc., 15th annual, Cincinnati, Ohio. (T. Lidz, 551 Madison Ave., New York 22.)

30-3. American College Personnel Assoc., annual, St. Louis, Mo. (L. Riggs, DePauw Univ., Greencastle, Ind.)

1. Microcirculatory Conf., 5th, Buffalo, N.Y. (S. R. M. Reynolds, Dept. of Anatomy, Univ. of Illinois College of Medicine, 1853 W. Polk St., Chicago 12.)

1-2. Alabama Acad. of Science, annual, Birmingham. (H. M. Kaylor, Dept. of Physics, Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham.)

1-3. Corrosion Control, 5th annual conf., Norman, Okla. (M. L. Powers, Extension Div., Univ. of Oklahoma, Norman.)

2-4. American Assoc. of Anatomists, annual, Buffalo, N.Y. (L. B. Flexner, Dept. of Anatomy, School of Medicine, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 4.)

2-4. Instruments and Regulators Conf., Newark, Del. (W. E. Vannah, Control Engineering, 330 W. 42 St., New York 36.)

3-5. Pennsylvania Acad. of Science, annual, Easton, Pa. (G. R. Stevens, Dept. of Geology and Geography, Lafayette College, Easton.)

4-5. Southern Soc. for Philosophy and Psychology, annual, Nashville, Tenn. (W. B. Webb, U.S. Naval School of Aviation Medicine, Pensacola, Fla.)

7-11. American Assoc. of Cereal Chemists, annual, Cincinnati, Ohio. (J. W. Pence, Western Utilization Research Laboratories, Albany, Calif.)

8-10. Electronic Waveguides Symp., New York. (J. Fox, Microwave Research Inst., Polytechnic Inst. of Brooklyn, 55 Johnson St., Brooklyn 1, N.Y.)

9-12. National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Cleveland, Ohio. (M. H. Ahrendt, NCTM, 1201 16 St., NW, Washington 6.)

9-14. Applied Psychology, 13th internatl. cong., Rome, Italy. (L. Meschieri, National Inst. of Psychology, Rome.)

10-11. American Inst. of Chemists, annual, Los Angeles, Calif. (L. Van Doren, AIC, 60 E. 42 St., New York 17.)

10-12. Biometric Soc., ENAR, Gatlinburg, Tenn. (T. W. Horner, General Mills, Inc., 400 Second Ave. South, Minneapolis 1, Minn.)

10-12. National Speleological Soc., annual, Gatlinburg, Tenn. (G. W. Moore, Geology Dept., Yale Univ., New Haven, Conn.)

10-12. Ohio Acad. of Science, annual, Akron, Ohio. (G. W. Burns, Dept. of Botany, Ohio Wesleyan Univ., Delaware, Ohio.)

11. Vitamin B-12 Symp., New York, N.Y. (Miss J. Watson, 451 Clarkson Ave., Brooklyn 3, N.Y.)

11-12. Eastern Psychological Assoc., annual, Philadelphia, Pa. (G. Lane, Dept. of Psychology, University of Delaware, Newark.)

11-12. Montana Acad. of Sciences, annual, Missoula. (L. H. Harvey, Montana State Univ., Missoula.)

11-18. Horticultural Conf., 15th internatl., Nice, France. (Secretariat General, 84, rue de Grenelle, Paris 7^e, France.)

12. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, New York. (L. Whitman, 297 Fourth Ave., New York, N.Y.)

(See issue of 21 February for comprehensive list)