that geneticists who have written about future prospects are perhaps less sanguine than are soil specialists.

Cecil T. Blunn, of the University of Nebraska faculty in Turkey, at Ankara, has also called my attention to another detail (page 13, column 3, paragraph 1). He informs me that the individual Turk is anything but phlegmatic. Obviously I should have used the word *courageously* instead of *phlegmatically*. What I had in mind, of course, is the fact that neither the Finnish nor the Turkish Government has allowed itself to be stampeded. It is obvious from Blunn's letter that he admires the Turkish people very much, which is good news.

PAUL B. SEARS
Yale University,
New Haven, Connecticut

International Clearinghouse

Your editorial "Strength through union," in the 14 February issue of *Science* [**127**, 313 (1958)], discusses an issue of great importance to scientists. There is no doubt that we need a clearinghouse and coordination center for abstracting, indexing, retrieving, and translating the vast flood of scientific publications which is inundating us today and which will increase with time. There is much to be said for your conclusion that this service can best be performed by combining and coordinating private and governmental facilities and programs, and I was happy to learn that progress is being made in this direction.

It seems, however, that this is a problem of international scope; one that could and should be solved by an international clearinghouse. Such a world science literature center, organized, perhaps, under the United Nations, could abstract all the literature now being covered by Russian, American, and other abstracting agencies, and the abstracts, appropriately translated, could be made to meet the requirements of scientists throughout the world. To Americans and Russians this would represent a great saving in expense and technical manpower; to the scientists of many small countries it would mean the difference between participation and scientific isolation.

Scientists have often emphasized the international nature of their interests and activities. Unwittingly they may be drawn into the disruptive eddies of political currents and swept apart. Here, it seems, is an opportunity to forge a link across international lines which has great potential value to science and which could serve as a significant strand in the forging of broader bonds of understanding between nations.

JOHN T. EMLEN, JR.
Department of Zoology,
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Meetings

Ninth Pacific Science Congress

The small, forward-looking group of scientists, headed by the late Herbert E. Gregory, who organized the First Pacific Science Congress, held in Honolulu in 1920 (and known then as the Pan-Pacific Science Congress), could hardly have guessed the magnitude of the success that would in future years crown this pioneer effort.

It is an understatement to say that the Ninth Pacific Science Congress, held in Bangkok, 18 Nov. to 9 Dec. 1957, exceeded all expectations. The attendance of 860 registered delegates—the largest attendance at any Pacific Science Congress to date—included 500 foreign delegates and 360 delegates from Thailand. In all, 36 countries or territorial subdivisions (such as Hong Kong, Singapore, New Guinea, and the Ryukyus) were represented. Of the registered delegates, 228 were from the United States.

Notwithstanding the unexpectedly large attendance, all arrangements were adequate, everything proceeded

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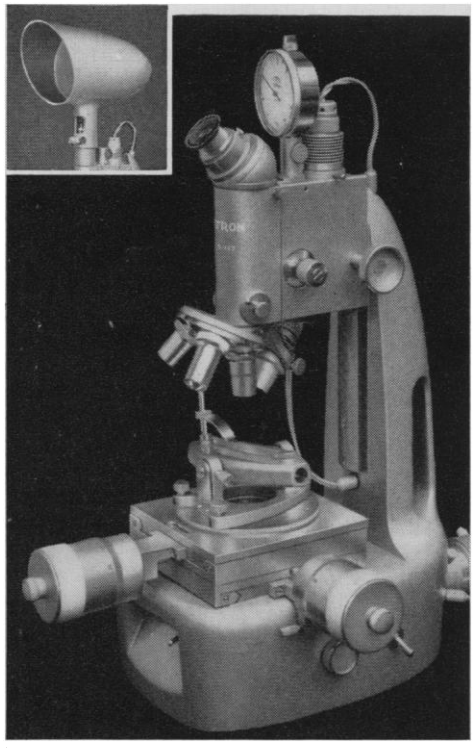

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smoothly, scheduled events were held on time, transportation on excursions and field trips was more than sufficient. At the administrative headquarters and in the registration hall one found a combination of oriental calm, unfailing good humor, and a type of business efficiency that we complacently but wrongly characterize as "Western." The officers of the congress and the members of the various organizing committees deserve credit for an outstanding job of organization that reached down even to small details relating to the comfort and convenience of the visiting delegates.

Every morning buses called at all the major hotels to take delegates to Chulalongkorn University, where the scientific sessions were held. Then the buses came back for a second and sometimes even a third round to pick up those laggards who had missed the first. Luncheon was served on the campus every day—breakfast too, after the management discovered that too many people were missing the first bus. Meals served on the campus not only met important practical needs but afforded very pleasant social occasions, and further enabled one to find any particular person with whom he might wish to converse. Friend met friend from whatever continent, new acquaintances were made, committees met, and important business was transacted over the luncheon tables.

Scientific sessions were ordinarily held from 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., and the afternoon was thus left free for sightseeing or shopping. Because of the crowded program it was necessary to schedule some meetings from 2:00 to 4:30 P.M. But through good planning by the organizing committee, all delegates had some free time to enjoy Bangkok—a bustling, modern city of a million people that has managed to combine with its beautiful ancient temples and its picturesque canals such modern appurtenances as radio, television, streetcars, buses, tens of thousands of automobiles, and a king-size traffic problem that compares with that of San Francisco or New York. Two blocks from the hotel in which I stayed, workmen were busy at the remarkably occidental pursuit of widening a bridge to carry two more lanes of traffic.

The opening and closing plenary sessions were held in Santitham Hall, a fine, modern auditorium especially designed for international gatherings. The comfortable seats are arranged behind sweeping arcs of desks. At each seat there is a telephone dial with six numbers, enabling one to listen to an address in a foreign language and dial in to any one of six translations. This facility was not used at the science congress, all of the proceedings being conducted in English. Overseas delegates were impressed with the linguistic ability and ease of their Thai hosts.

At the opening session, Prime Minister Pote Sarasin, the honorary president, and Air Marshal Muni M. Vejyant-Rangsrisht, the president of the congress, addressed the delegates briefly and eloquently. The Prime Minister made three points: (i) the need for international cooperation in science; (ii) the need for complete freedom in scientific research: (iii) the essential humanitarianism of science, "which is its chief reason for being, its major justification." The president of the congress, who, in addition to being an air marshal, is also the rector of Chulalongkorn University, emphasized the responsibility of science "to exercise its rightful stewardship over the vast treasure of accumulated scientific knowledge." He said, further, "If the insanity of war again breaks loose . . . there will be no brilliant afterthoughts capable of calming the quarrels of the nations. There will be no civilization for science to serve."

The congress was held under the patronage of Their Majesties King Bhumibol Aduldej and Queen Sirikit of Thailand, who, in a precedent-shattering display of hospitality to a scientific gathering, entertained the entire group at a garden party at Amphorn Palace. After brief formal introductions of heads of delegations and section chairmen, for-

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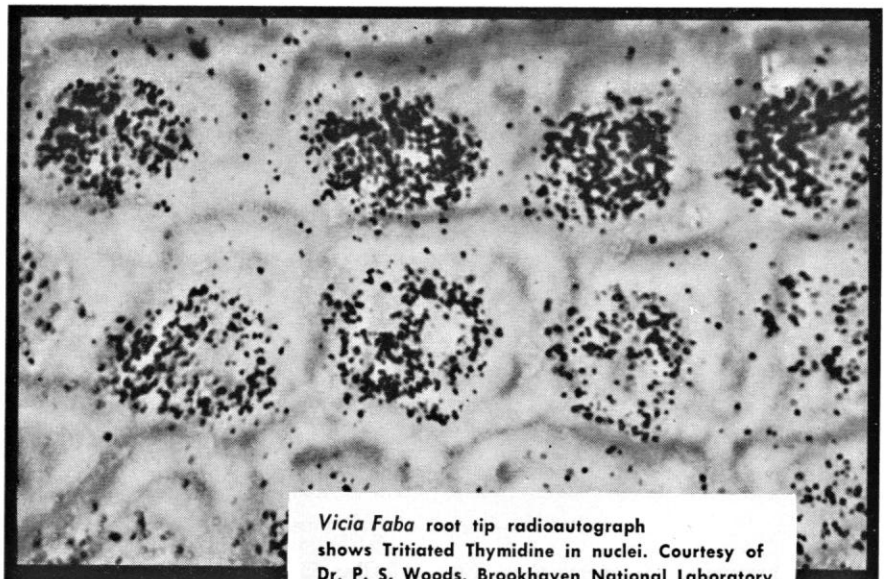
mality was dropped, and the royal couple mingled with and chatted with their guests for a good two hours, conversing with perfect ease in at least three languages.

The scientific program of the congress included more than 700 papers, divided among 18 sections. In addition to the submitted or invited papers, there was a symposium on "Climate, Vegetation, and Rational Land Utilization in the Humid Tropics," aided by UNESCO; there were the reports of the chairmen of standing committees of the Pacific Science Association; there were two sessions on "International Cooperation in Science"; and there were seven public evening lectures by distinguished speakers from three continents. Asia and Thailand were ably represented by Boonsong Lekagul, who gave a lecture on "Wildlife of Thailand," illustrated with excellent motion pictures.

Somewhat unexpectedly the U.S.S.R., which had not participated in the Seventh (New Zealand, 1949) or Eighth (Manila, 1953) Pacific Science Congresses, sent a delegation of nine to the Bangkok congress—eight scientists and an interpreter. The latter was a graduate student from the University of Moscow who had an excellent command of English. The scientists were well selected for this congress, being specialists on the marine biology and oceanography of the northwestern Pacific. All spoke either German, French, or English, so that communication presented no great problem. The pleasant and highly competent young interpreter was unobtrusive but available when needed. It was my impression that the Russians were welcomed as scientific colleagues, and that ideological differences were pushed into the background for the duration of the congress.

A feature of the Ninth Congress that left visiting delegates amazed and speechless with admiration and envy was the Documentation Section. I carried an extra suitcase full of mimeographed copies of documents pertaining to my section—a precaution that proved completely unnecessary. I could have got along perfectly well with one copy of each paper. The Documentation Section, set up at Chulalongkorn University, was equipped with two IBM electric typewriters, two multilith machines, and equipment for photographing line drawings, halftones, or handwritten script. It was also equipped with a highly trained crew that worked literally day and night and could reproduce anything in any language. They turned out documents in English, French, Thai, and Chinese, and everything came forth when needed. Twenty-four hours was the prescribed time for getting out 300 or 500 copies of a given document. But if a harassed chairman of a section came in at 9:00 A.M. with a set of resolutions



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At the end of two weeks of deliberations the congress met for a final plenary session, at which Ian McTaggart Cowan, head of the Canadian delegation, gave a brief, brilliant address of thanks on behalf of all of the foreign visitors. This closing session was held on 30 November. The official dates of the congress, 18 November to 9 December, included the various field trips planned to give visiting delegates a better knowledge of a richly endowed and fascinating land.

It is gratifying to report that the Council of the Pacific Science Association announced at the final plenary session that they had unanimously accepted the joint invitation that had been extended by the National Academy of Sciences and the Bernice P. Bishop Museum to hold the Tenth Congress in Honolulu in 1961.

Great credit for the smooth operation of the congress is due the secretary-general, Charng Ratanarat, and his efficient staff and Brenda Bishop, secretary of the Pacific Science Council. The large American representation was organized by Harold J. Coolidge, executive director of the National Academy of Sciences' Pacific Science Board.

ROBERT C. MILLER
California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco

Call for Papers by AAAS Sections

Eight sections of the association will arrange sessions for contributed papers at the Washington, D.C., meeting, 26–31 December 1958. The secretaries or program chairmen to whom titles and abstracts should be sent, *not later than 30 September,* follow:

C–Chemistry. F. O. Rice, Department of Chemistry, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

E–Geology and Geography. Both geology and geography, cosponsored respectively by the Geological Society of America and the Association of American Geographers, Middle Atlantic Division: Frank C. Whitmore, Jr., U.S. Geological Survey, Washington 25, D.C.

F–Zoological Sciences. (If outside the scope of the American Society of Zoologists and Society of Systematic Zoology, which are meeting with the AAAS.) Karl M. Wilbur, Department of Zoology, Duke University, Durham, N.C.

G–Botanical Sciences. Barry Commoner, Henry Shaw School of Botany, Washington University, St. Louis 5, Mo.

K–Social and Economic Sciences. Donald P. Ray, Hall of Government, George Washington University, Washington 6, D.C.

L–History and Philosophy of Science. John W. Streeter, Franklin Institute, Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Np–Pharmacy. John E. Christian, School of Pharmacy, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

Q–Education. Herbert A. Smith, 205 Bailey, School of Education, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan.

Although the deadline is 30 September, most sections and subsequently the AAAS office, would be glad to receive titles in advance of this date.

RAYMOND L. TAYLOR
AAAS

Colloquium of College Physicists

The 20th annual Colloquium of College Physicists and the associated June Lectures will be held at the State University of Iowa, Iowa City, 18–21 June. The program will consist of lectures on

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Luminescence of Biological Systems, 466 pp., 1955	7.00
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Antimetabolites and Cancer, 318 pp., 1955	5.75
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Fluoridation as a Public Health Measure, 240 pp., 1954	4.50
The Present State of Physics, 271 pp., 1954	6.75
Soviet Science, 128 pp., 1953	1.75
Industrial Science, 160 pp., paperbound, 1952	2.00

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Centennial, 319 pp., 1950	5.00
The Rickettsial Diseases of Man, 255 pp., 1948	6.25
Mammary Tumors in Mice, 231 pp., 1945	3.50

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developments in contemporary physics and round-table discussions on the teaching of physics and other current problems of the profession. One evening will be devoted to the exhibit of original demonstration equipment and other teaching devices prepared by the participants. Registration is without fee.

Parapsychological Association

The formation of the Parapsychological Association, a professional group of research workers in the area of extrasensory perception and psychokinesis, has been announced. The objects of the association are to advance parapsychology as a science, to disseminate knowledge of the field, and to integrate the findings with those of other branches of science. Full membership is restricted to those with doctorate degree training or equivalent.

The founding officers are R. A. McConnell, president (Biophysics Department, University of Pittsburgh); G. R. Schmeidler, vice-president (Psychology Department, City College of New York); R. White, secretary (Parapsychology Laboratory, Duke University); R. J. Cadoret, treasurer (Duke University); and councilmen M. Anderson (Duke University), K. Osis (Parapsychology Foundation of New York), and W. G. Roll (Oxford University).

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Alaskan Science Conference

The ninth Alaskan Science Conference will take place at the University of Alaska, College, Alaska, 2–5 September, under the sponsorship of the AAAS Alaska Division. The meeting will cover ten general fields of science and their application in the arctic and subarctic areas.

Titles and papers must be received by the section chairman *before 1 June*. Abstracts not exceeding 250 words should be provided by 1 July. Abstracts must be submitted for inclusion of the papers in the printed program. It is planned that abstracts or papers will be published in the Proceedings of the Ninth Alaskan Science Conference. For further information, including a list of the section chairmen, write air mail to the president and general chairman of the conference, Dr. Robert L. Rausch, President, Alaska Division, AAAS, Box 960, Anchorage, Alaska.

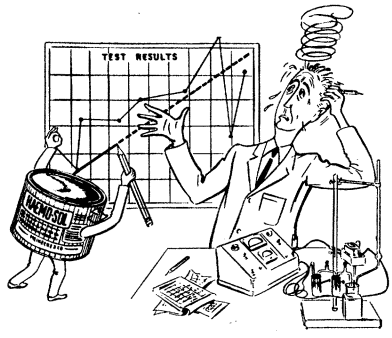
Biometric Conference

The fourth International Biometric Conference will be held in Ottawa from 28 August to 2 September. One day will be devoted to a symposium on biometrical genetics, and sessions are being arranged on clinical research, the interpretation of experimental results, applications of multivariate analysis, ecology and animal behavior, mathematical models in biology, the χ^2 test, and plant and animal breeding. Further details may be obtained from the local secretary, Dr. G. B. Oakland, Statistical Laboratory, Science Service Building, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Canada.

Society Elections

■ American Medical Writers Association: pres., Charles E. Lyght, Merck, Sharp & Dohme, Rahway, N.J.; pres.-elect, Morris Fishbein, Chicago, Ill.; past pres., Dran F. Smiley, Evanston, Ill.; sec.-treas., Harold Swanberg, 510 Maine St., Quincy, Ill. The vice presidents are Austin Smith, Chicago, Ill., and Karl A. Menninger, Topeka, Kan. The representative to the AAAS Council is Harold Swanberg.

■ Montana Academy of Sciences: pres., George W. Rollins, Social Studies Department, Eastern Montana School of Education; past pres., Philip L. Wright, Department of Zoology, Montana State University; sec.-treas., LeRoy H. Harvey, Department of Botany, Montana State University; v. pres., George H. Gloege, Eastern Montana School of Education, Billings.



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■ American Meteorological Society: pres., Sverre Petterssen, University of Chicago; v. pres., Henry T. Harrison, United Air Lines, Denver, Colo.; sec., Thomas F. Malone, Travelers Insurance Companies, Hartford, Conn.; treas., Henry DeC. Ward, Eaton and Howard, Inc., Boston, Mass.

■ Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences: pres., Edward C. Wells; treas., R. Dixon Speas; director and representative to the AAAS Council, S. Paul Johnston; sec., Robert R. Dexter, 2 E. 64th St., New York 21, N.Y. The vice presidents are Neil Burgess, B. W. Chidlaw, L. Eugene Root, H. Guyford Stever.

■ American Economic Association: pres., George W. Stocking, Vanderbilt University; sec.-treas., James Washington Bell, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. The vice presidents are Seymour E. Harris, Harvard University and George J. Stigler, Columbia University. The representative to the AAAS Council is William S. Vickrey, Columbia University.

■ American Physical Society: pres., Jesse W. Beams, Physics Department, University of Virginia; past pres., H. D. Smyth, Princeton University; v. pres., George E. Uhlenbeck, University of Michigan; sec., Karl K. Darrow, Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, N.Y.; treas., S. L. Quimby, Columbia University.

■ Association of Military Surgeons of the United States: pres., Charles R. Mueller; sec.-editor, Robert E. Bitner, 1726 Eye St., NW, Washington 6, D.C.; executive sec., George M. Beam. The vice presidents are H. H. Twitchell, Richard A. Kern, John W. Cronin, James P. Cooney, Irwin L. Norman, Robert C. Kimberly. The representative to the AAAS Council is Leslee W. Freeman, Indiana University.

Forthcoming Events

May

2. Engineers and Architects Conf., 5th annual, Columbus, Ohio. (H. A. Bolz, College of Engineering, Ohio State Univ., Columbus.)

2. Southern California Acad. of Sciences, annual, Los Angeles. (Miss G. Sibley, Los Angeles County Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles 7, Calif.)

2–3. Minnesota Acad. of Science, Bemidji. (M. R. Boudrye, 51 University Ave., St. Paul 3, Minn.)

2–3. North Carolina Academy of Science, annual, Durham. (J. A. Yarbrough, Meredith College, Raleigh, N.C.)

2–3. North Dakota Academy of Science, 50th anniversary, Fargo. (B. G. Gustafson, Box 573, University Station, Grand Forks, N.D.)

3–4. Population Assoc. of America, annual, Chicago, Ill. (D. O. Price, Inst. for

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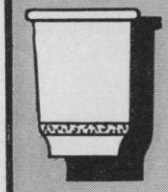

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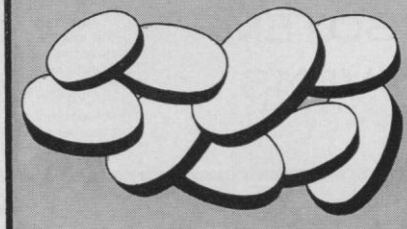

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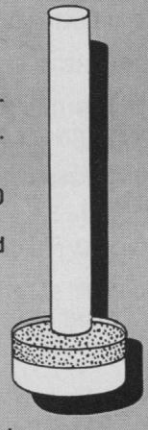

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4–7. American Federation for Clinical Research, annual, in conjunction with American Soc. for Clinical Investigation and Assoc. of American Physicians, Atlantic City, N.J. (W. W. Stead, College of Medicine, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville.)

5–6. Secondary Recovery Symp., 3rd biennial, Wichita Falls, Tex. (E. O. Kirkendall, American Inst. of Mining, Metallurgical & Petroleum Engineers, 29 W. 39 St., New York 18.)

5–7. American Geophysical Union, 39th annual, Washington, D.C. (W. E. Smith, AGU, 1515 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington 5.)

5–7. Microwave Theory and Techniques Symp., Stanford, Calif. (G. H. Keitel, 601 California Ave., Palo Alto, Calif.)

5–8. American Meteorological Soc., Washington, D.C. (K. C. Spengler, AMS, 3 Joy St., Boston 8, Mass.)

6–9. Optics in Metrology Colloquium, International Commission of Optics, IUPAP, Brussels, Belgium. (S. S. Ballard, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, San Diego 52, California.)

6–9. Royal Netherlands Acad. of Sciences and Letters, 105th anniversary, Amsterdam, Netherlands. (RNASL, 29 Kloveniersburgwal, Amsterdam.)

6–9. Western Joint Computer Conf., Los Angeles, Calif. (W. H. Ware, Rand Corp., 1700 Main St., Santa Monica, Calif.)

6–9. International Commission of Optics, colloquium, Brussels, Belgium. (W. D. Wright, Imperial College, South Kensington, London, S.W.7.)

7–9. Acoustical Soc. of America, annual, Washington, D.C. (W. Waterfall, 335 E. 45th St., New York 17.)

7–10. Virginia Academy of Science, annual, Roanoke. (P. M. Patterson, Dept. of Science, Hollins College, Hollins, Va.)

7–11. American Psychoanalytic Assoc., San Francisco, Calif. (J. N. McVeigh, APA, 36 W. 44 St., New York 36).

8. Association of Vitamin Chemists, Chicago, Ill. (A. E. Denton, Research Labs., Swift & Co., Chicago 9.)

8–9. Colorado-Wyoming Acad. of Science, annual, Denver, Colo. (R. G. Beidleman, Zoology Dept., Colorado College, Colorado Springs.)

8–10. Illinois State Academy of Science, 51st annual, Urbana. (R. A. Evers, Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana.)

11–16. Social Welfare, nat. conf., Chicago, Ill. (National Conf. on Social Welfare, 22 W. Gay St., Columbus 15, Ohio.)

12–14. High Polymer Forum, 8th Canadian, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec. (M. H. Jones, Dept. of Chemistry, Ontario Research Foundation, 43 Queens Park, Toronto 5, Ont.)

12–14. Instrumental Methods of Analysis, internatl. Symp., Houston, Tex. (H. S. Kindler, Instrument Soc. of America, 313 Sixth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.)

12–14. Research Methods and Instrumentation Symp., 8th annual, Bethesda, Md. (J. B. Davis, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda 14.)

12–16. American Psychiatric Assoc., annual, San Francisco, Calif. (D. Blain, APA, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington 6.)

14. American Acad. of Arts and Sciences, Brookline, Mass. (R. W. Burhoe, 280 Newton St., Brookline 46.)

14–16. Society for Experimental Stress Analysis, Cleveland, Ohio. (W. M. Murray, P.O. Box 168, Cambridge 39, Mass.)

14–24. European Acad. of Allergy, The Hague, Netherlands. (EAA, 17 Emmalaan, Utrecht, Netherlands.)

15–16. Operations Research Soc. of America, Boston, Mass. (M. L. Ernst, Box 2176, Potomac Station, Alexandria, Va.)

15–17. Basal Ganglia Surgery for Involuntary Movement Disorders, symp., New York. (Miss D. P. Frome, Office of Public Relations, New York University-Bellevue Medical Center, 550 First Ave., New York 16.)

18–24. Sanitary Engineering, 6th Inter-American Cong., San Juan, Puerto Rico. (E. Ortega, Box 218, San Juan.)

19–21. American Trudeau Soc., 53rd annual, Philadelphia, Pa. (K. R. Boucot, Woman's Medical College, Philadelphia.)

19–23. Gas Chromatography, 2nd symp., Amsterdam, Netherlands. (G. Dijkstra, Postbox 114, Vlaardingen, Netherlands.)

20–22. Biosynthesis of Terpenes and Sterols, Ciba Foundation symp. (by invitation), London, England. (G. E. W. Wolstenholm, 41 Portland Pl., London, W.1.)

(See issue of 21 March for comprehensive list)

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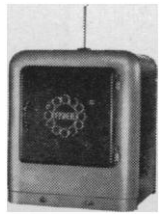

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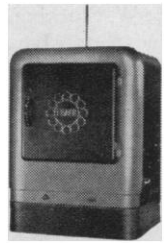

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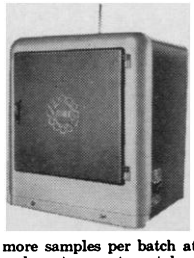

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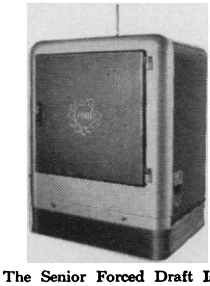

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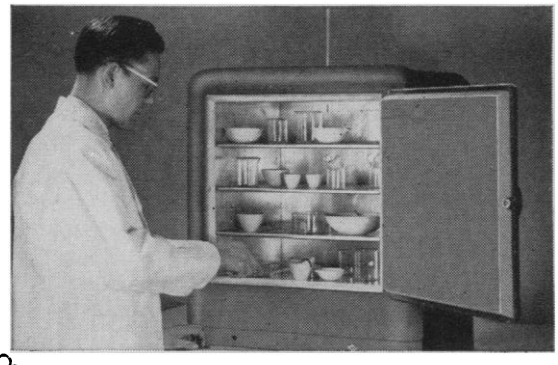

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