A Report of the Washington Meeting

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In a press interview, incoming AAAS president Paul E. Klopsteg described the recent 125th meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science as ". . . the smoothest running . . . of any I have attended since my first meeting in 1911." This is high praise of the many individuals—from program chairmen and AAAS office personnel to skilled workmen, porters, and high-school students—who contributed their thought and services to the planning and final operation of a meeting so large and uniquely complex. With 5368 registrants, the meeting was exceeded in size only by the exceptional New York meeting of 1949. The total of 342 sessions, summarized in Table 1, included programs sponsored by the Association as a whole, by all 18 AAAS sections, and by 45 participating societies (exclusive of 50 other organizations that were co-sponsors of sectional or societal programs).

In addition, there were large-scale exhibits—more varied and attractive than usual; the AAAS Science Theatre, which presented first showings in America of a large selection of prize-winning foreign scientific films; the premier demonstration of "Eidophor," Ciba Pharmaceutical Products' new closed-circuit, large screen, color telvision system; a series of religious events especially planned for visiting scientists; and a particularly attractive number of women's events.

There were programs of interest to specialists in all principal fields of science; interdisciplinary symposia for those who realize the contributions that one science may make to another; distinguished evening addresses of general interest; some 47 luncheons and dinners and other social events; and more tours than usual. The comfortable book lounge of the Society of Systematic Zoology and other headquarters rooms where business meetings, conferences, or spontaneous discussions could be held in comfort were welcome features.

It was possible to concentrate about four-fifths of the meeting in the Sheraton-Park Hotel and the almost adjacent Shoreham. But these two large hotels could not accommodate all sessions. The Statler, Dupont Plaza, Washington, and Willard hotels were needed to accommodate the remaining sections and societies. Some events were held at George Washington University, the U.S. National Museum, the National Institutes of Health, the Cosmos Club, the American Pharmaceutical Association, and elsewhere. Both the AAAS and the National Education Association had their headquarters buildings open for visitors.

Compliments on the meeting and other expressions of approval have been numerous. It was particularly gratifying to overhear registrants tell each other while checking out, "This is one of the best meetings I have ever attended." Spontaneous expressions of this sort indicate a general satisfaction not only with the physical arrangements for sessions and housing, but with the quality of the programs and the number of friends and colleagues encountered.

Officially, the 125th meeting is over. But no great conclave of scientists in diverse fields of science can fail to have an impact on those who attended. The stimulating effects will be transmitted to home campuses and laboratories—and will continue indefinitely.

Arrangements for the Meeting

One may ask why this 125th AAAS meeting seemed particularly smooth-running and generally pleasant. In its general pattern and in the arrangements made for it, the seventh Washington meeting was not greatly different from other AAAS meetings of recent years. What, then, were the contributing factors? The answer, in essence, is that the people who helped were adequate in number, above average in efficiency, and really interested in working for the Association.

The physical facilities were well above average. In general, the hotels used had sufficient session rooms of the right sizes, and these were comfortably furnished and equipped. There were no instances of failure of microphones, and nearly all projection went smoothly. The hotel personnel, from managers to porters, were generally capable and cooperative.

The local committee on physical arrangements always has one of the most taxing assignments. For the Washington meeting, nearly 200 projectors had to be set up, and screens had to be located for many of the session rooms. Under the chairmanship of Lawson J. Cantrell (deputy superintendent, District of Columbia Public Schools), this committee was hard-working and efficient. Two key members of this committee were Thomas Sheehan (of the visual education department) and Keith Johnson (supervising director of science), who collected the many pieces of projection equipment—almost entirely from the District school system—and supervised operations at the crowded Sheraton-Park and Shoreham. The operators, also secured by the committee, were principally volunteer school teachers, supplemented by members of the participating societies and by graduate students. I and all who attended the meeting are much indebted to those named and to everyone else who gave his services for this essential phase of the meeting.

Housing and registration were ably handled by members of the experienced staff of the Washington Convention and Visitors Bureau under the direction of Clarence A. Arata, whose advice and cooperation were most helpful throughout. The professional firms engaged for booth layout, for projection in the Science Theatre, and for guard service and the like all supplied picked men who did their jobs with understanding and courtesy.

The relative proximity of the meeting center to the AAAS headquarters building was a great advantage. It was possible, for example, to use Association-owned desks, typewriters, and duplicating equipment rather than rent such items. Above all, however, it was possible to augment the regular meeting staff with others well acquainted with Association activities. The AAAS office and the pressroom at the Sheraton-Park were well staffed—although there were moments in the former when five people and three telephones seemed too few. The Information Center in the lobby was manned by a staff member aided at times by Mrs. Alan T. Waterman or another member of the committee on women's events. Thanks are due to all for their devoted services, which so greatly contributed to the meeting's success.

Registration slips were collected from all five registration points at intervals throughout each day. The slips were

quickly sorted into alphabetical order and carefully posted in the Visible Directory of Registrants in the foyer leading to the exposition rooms and ballroom. Three high-school students, chosen by Hilary J. Deason, director of the AAAS–National Science Foundation Traveling High School Science Libraries, handled the posting and answered the Visible Directory telephone. They also assisted registrants in rapidly locating names or adding hotel-room data to their slips. The capacity of the directory permitted additions to be made without rearrangement of the slips already posted.

Not every contingency was foreseen. For the first time since 1949, the supply of the book-size General Program-Directory fell short by several hundreds. The 5056 copies received from the printer would have been sufficient for all $3 registrants, but the demand from libraries, industry, press representatives, and exhibitor personnel who wanted extra copies reached an unanticipated total. The convention badge inserts also ran short because not all of the supply ordered reached the AAAS Office in the hotel. Everyone, however, was able to find the sessions or features he wished to attend, since other badge inserts were improvised and desk copies of the program were made available for reference.

Rain on 29 December damaged a special cable on the high television tower of the Sheraton-Park Hotel and made it impossible to receive short-wave transmission of the color television program from the laboratories of the National Heart Institute on that day. A second cable was flown in from Massachusetts that night and installed in time for presentation, on 30 December, of the second program planned to supplement Section N's symposium on congenital heart disease. The first two-color television programs on physical and biological subjects, on 27 and 28 December, respectively, gave most of those in attendance at the meeting an opportunity to appreciate the potentialities of this new tool in the teaching of science.

Highlights of the Meeting

It has often been pointed out that no two AAAS meetings are ever alike. The participating societies vary from year to year; the locale changes; the programs change, as each chairman chooses a timely subject and invites an appropriate group of speakers; and, not least, the times change. In contrast to the Indianapolis meeting, when only sputniks had been launched, the seventh Washington meeting—one year later—was held when some encouraging advances in American satellites and rocketry had been made and when a National Aeronautics and Space Administration had been established a few months earlier. Space science occupied a larger portion of the meeting: The American Astronautical Society held its fifth annual meeting with the AAAS, one of the three IGY sessions was devoted to rockets and satellites, the Society for Industrial Microbiology had a panel on "Microbiology in outer space research," and the American Physiological Society had its second two-session symposium on space medicine—"Man and his environment in space."

Table 1. Analysis of sessions at the seventh Washington meeting.

Sessions for symposia, invited papers, and panels	133
Sessions for contributed papers	37
Sessions with addresses or lectures	31
Business sessions	44
Meals or social functions	47
Tours and field trips	17
Sessions for motion pictures	13
Closed-circuit color TV sessions	4
Religious events	6
Women's events	3
Junior scientists assembly	7
Total number of sessions	342

So many excellent addresses were given that it is difficult to single out any. Thirteen of the 18 AAAS sections sponsored vice-presidential addresses, and other presidential addresses were given under the auspices of the participating societies. Most of these are mentioned in the separate reports which appear elsewhere in this issue. Each of the three special sessions held on successive evenings had audiences of over 2000. On 29 December, the Society of the Sigma Xi and the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa jointly presented James R. Killian, Jr., special assistant to the President for science and technology, who spoke on "Science and public policy" [*Science* **129**, 129 (1959)]. Just previously, plans for a Federal Council for Science and Technology had been officially announced. Much of the thinking behind this important step was discussed by the man who has been associated with so many of the recent developments in government-supported science.

On 30 December, the annual lecture and film of the National Geographic Society, this year on "Winter at the South Pole," was given by Paul A. Siple, scientific advisor, Office of the Chief of Research and Development, Department of the Army, and a veteran of six antarctic expeditions and leader of the South Pole Station for the IGY. Siple's film and remarks provided a vivid account of man's first winter at the South Pole.

AAAS Presidential Address and Reception

On the customary evening, 28 December, the traditional address of the retiring (110th) president of the Association, Laurence H. Snyder, was given before an audience that filled the large Sheraton Hall ballroom (capacity 3000) of the Sheraton-Park Hotel. President Wallace R. Brode presided and introduced Leonard Carmichael, secretary of the venerable Smithsonian Institution and general chairman of the seventh Washington meeting. Carmichael graciously welcomed all visiting registrants to the scientific community of Washington. His remarks included all-too-brief references to the cordial and cooperative relations of the Smithsonian and the AAAS over more than a century.

Snyder's scholarly and informative address, "Fifty years of medical genetics" [*Science* **129**, 7 (1959)], was closely followed. Doubtless many of his listeners, unfamiliar with the critical importance of intracellular enzymes, came away with a better realization of the fundamental importance of genic control of sequential biochemical reactions in all organisms, including man, and the profound consequences that may ensue if a particular enzyme is absent, insufficient, or inhibited.

Members of the platform party included Carmichael, all but one member of the Board of Directors, and A. H. Hughes and Tsao Wen-yen, representatives, respectively, of the British and Chinese (Taiwan) Associations for the Advancement of Science. The AAAS reception which followed was well attended. The receiving line included members of the platform party and a number of their wives. For those in the line, it was, as always, a pleasure to be able to greet so many members and friends of the Association.

AAAS General Symposium

The general symposium of the Association, "Moving Frontiers of Science III: Comparative Patterns of Scientific Organization," was held the evening of 26 December and the afternoon of 27 December in the large ballroom of the Sheraton-Park. This symposium, as planned by the Committee on AAAS Meetings, consisted of a series of carefully prepared papers which compared the structure of science and of scientific organizations abroad with those of the United States. Wallace R. Brode, science advisor to the Department of State and president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, gave an introduction to the symposium.

He was followed by E. S. Hiscocks, director of the United Kingdom Scientific Mission, and Robert Major, director of the Royal Norwegian Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, who spoke on the organization of scientific activities in the United Kingdom and in Norway, respectively.

In the second session, "The organization of scientific activities in Canada" was presented by B. G. Ballard, vice president of the National Research Council of Canada. The final paper, "Comparisons with the organization of scientific activities in the United States," was given by Don K. Price, dean of the Graduate School of Public Administration of Harvard—a new member of the AAAS Board of Directors and just named a member of the President's Advisory Committee on Government Organization. These scholarly papers will appear in *Science*.

Other Symposia

The trend toward a preponderance of symposia at AAAS meetings has continued, not only among the sections of the Association but also among the participating societies. As Table 1 shows, there were 133 symposia, panels, groups of invited papers, or other sessions centered about a particular theme. There were almost four times as many sessions devoted to programs of this type as to sessions for contributed papers, although 18 organizations were holding national meetings with the Association. Even more striking was the fact, as is shown in Table 2, that the participating societies, including an additional 27 societies which held regional meetings or special meetings with the Association, in the aggregate had almost half again as many sessions of this type as had the AAAS and its 18 sections. The total of 855 symposium participants markedly outnumbered the 399 other speakers.

Among the 133 symposia, the following were noteworthy for their interdisciplinary scope: "Mathematics in the social sciences," sponsored by AAAS Section A (Mathematics), cosponsored by the Operations Research Society of America, arranged by C. C. MacDuffee (University of Wisconsin); "Mathematical models in biology," a joint program of the Biometric Society (Eastern North American Region) and the American Statistical Association, arranged by Jerome Cornfield (Johns Hopkins University); "Some unsolved problems in biology" (two sessions), jointly sponsored by AAAS Sections F (Zoological Sciences) and G (Botanical Sciences), cosponsored by the American Society of Zoologists, the Botanical Society of America, the Society of Systematic Zoology, the American Society of Naturalists, and the Society of General Physiology, arranged by Karl M. Wilbur (Duke University), and Barry Commoner (Washington University); "Integrative mechanisms in biology," a program of the American Society of Naturalists, arranged by Jack Schultz (Institute for Cancer Research, Philadelphia); "Calcification in biological systems" (three sessions), sponsored by AAAS Section Nd (Dentistry), cosponsored by AAAS Sections F (Zoological Sciences) and N (Medical Sciences), the American Dental Association, the International Association for Dental Research (North American Division), and the American College of Dentists, arranged by Reidar F. Sognnaes (Harvard School of Dental Medicine); "Research problems in the social sciences" (two sessions), sponsored by AAAS Section K (Social and Economic Sciences), arranged by Donald P. Ray (George Washington University); "Photogrammetry in science" (two sessions), a program of the American Society of Photogrammetry, cosponsored by AAAS Sections B (Physics), D (Astronomy), E (Geology and Geography), F (Zoological Sciences), H (Anthropology), M (Engineering), N (Medical Sciences), P (Industrial Science), and O (Agriculture), arranged by Richard G. Ray (U.S. Geological Survey, Washington); "Water and agriculture" (four sessions), sponsored by AAAS Section O (Agriculture), cosponsored by the American Geophysical Union, the American Meteorological Society, the American Society for Horticultural Science, the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, the American Society of Agronomy, the American Society of Civil Engineers, Gamma Sigma Delta, the Geological Society of America, the Society of American Foresters, and the Soil Conservation Society of America, arranged by Roy D. Hockensmith (Soil Conservation Service); "International Geophysical Year results" (three sessions), a joint program of the AAAS and the U.S. National Committee for IGY of the National Academy of Sciences–National Research Council, cosponsored by the American Geophysical Union, the American Astronautical Society, the American Rocket Society, and the American Meteorological Society, arranged by a committee, Hugh Odishaw, chairman; "National and international aspects of systems of units in correlated disciplines of science and technology" (four sessions), a program of AAAS Section M, arranged by a committee, Carl F. Kayan, department of mechanical engineering, Columbia University, chairman; and "Extramural science programs of the Federal Government," a program of the Washington Academy of Sciences, arranged by a committee, George W. Irving, Jr., chairman.

The Association expresses its deep appreciation to all who prepared papers for these and for the other, more specialized, symposia.

Conferences

Each year at AAAS meetings three conferences are held. The Academy Conference, composed of the official delegates of the 44 (now 45) academies of science affiliated with the Association and of others interested in academy affairs, had a day of sessions which included routine reports and business, a panel discussion on the academy movement, a concurrent afternoon session on junior academies, and a dinner at which John A. Yarbrough (Meredith College) gave the Academy Conference presidential address.

The 12th annual Junior Scientists

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

Items	AAAS sections, committees, and conferences	Participating societies	Total number of sessions with papers	Total number of speakers
Sessions for symposia, invited papers, and panels	57 (351 speakers)	76 (504 speakers)	133	855
Sessions for contributed papers*	19 (123 papers)	18 (158 papers)†	37	281
Sessions with addresses or lectures	14 (32 speakers)	17 (32 speakers)	31	64
Business sessions	13	31		
Other AAAS-sponsored events	12 (54 speakers)			54
Total			201	1254

* Multiple authors were not counted; each paper is assumed to have been presented by a single speaker.
† An additional 54 papers, presented by title only, are not included.

Assembly—a program especially for high-school students sponsored by the Association through the Academy Conference—as arranged by Keith Johnson, was the best yet in scope and planning. On the first afternoon there were two concurrent sessions—on what to expect from college courses in mathematics and how to prepare for them and on what constitutes a broad background of reading in the sciences. The second afternoon was devoted to three concurrent sessions, on project papers in mathematics and physics, in chemistry, and in biology. The speakers, principally, were recent high-school graduates attending college and selected high-school seniors and juniors. Two splendid evening lectures were given by J. R. Zacharias of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, on the size of atoms and on the pressure of light.

"The employment situation for scientists and engineers in 1959" was the subject of the two-session program of the Conference on Scientific Manpower, arranged by a committee headed by Thomas J. Mills (National Science Foundation) and cosponsored by the Engineering Manpower Commission, the Scientific Manpower Commission, the National Research Council, the National Science Foundation, and AAAS Section M (Engineering).

The Conference on Scientific Communication [program chairman, George L. Seielstad (Applied Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University)] had four sessions: "Communicating science in translations," "Communicating science in major programs," "Communicating science in three dimensions," and "Communicating science in specialized libraries." In each of these sessions able speakers drew upon their experience and evoked valuable discussions.

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. The several sessions, as usual, preceded the two sessions of the Council (27 and 30 December), which are reported elsewhere in this issue. It is gratifying to note that these sessions were well attended, and that at least three past presidents of the Association participated. The AAAS section officers' luncheon and business meeting, held on 30 December, was also well attended. Most of the afternoon was spent on plans for the 1959 Chicago meeting (a departure from the usual custom of adjourning at 2 P.M.

Table 3. Distribution of registrants by states and countries.

Alabama	16	Oregon	7
Alaska	1	Pennsylvania	323
Arizona	2	Rhode Island	26
Arkansas	8	South Carolina	15
California	102	South Dakota	3
Colorado	13	Tennessee	52
Connecticut	91	Texas	42
Delaware	36	Utah	8
District of Columbia	1059	Vermont	8
Florida	53	Virginia	467
Georgia	28	Washington	10
Idaho	4	West Virginia	26
Illinois	136	Wisconsin	28
Indiana	94		
Iowa	23	Total, continental U.S.	5300
Kansas	34		
Kentucky	23	Afghanistan	1
Louisiana	30	Canada	43
Maine	8	Costa Rica	1
Maryland	1197	England	5
Massachusetts	177	France	2
Michigan	115	Germany	1
Minnesota	25	Hawaii	2
Mississippi	7	Japan	2
Missouri	40	Netherlands	1
Montana	1	Norway	1
Nebraska	15	Pakistan	1
New Hampshire	12	Puerto Rico	6
New Jersey	180	Switzerland	1
New Mexico	8	Virgin Islands	1
New York	531		
North Carolina	78	Total, territorial and foreign	68
North Dakota	2		
Ohio	126		
Oklahoma	10	Total registration	5368

Smokers

For the first time, in recent years at least, the Association had two large smokers. On the evening of 27 December, in the rotunda of the U.S. National Museum, AAAS Sections F and G sponsored a "biologists' smoker"—especially fitting in view of the meetings of the American Society of Naturalists and the American Society of Zoologists, of the Linnaean bicentennial celebration of the Society of Systematic Zoology, and of the sessions of the Ecology Society of America, all in addition to the programs of Sections F and G. The local scientific societies were hosts in a real sense, since they and local academic institutions met most of the expenses. Between 800 and 1000 attended. Thanks are due the Smithsonian Institution, Herbert Friedmann, Sidney Galler (Office of Naval Research), and Henry Schoenborn (University of Maryland), who made all arrangements.

The regular AAAS Smoker for all registrants was held 29 December in the Sheraton Hall ballroom and adjacent rooms, immediately following Killian's address. At the AAAS Smoker, as in past years, the Coca-Cola Company (through the Washington Coca-Cola Bottling Company at Silver Spring, Md.), the National Biscuit Company, and Philip Morris, Inc., donated their products. The Association gratefully acknowledges these generous and recurrent donations.

Attendance

In number of registrants (5368) the seventh Washington meeting was the second largest in the 110-year annals of the Association, exceeded only by the 1949 meeting in New York (7014 registrants). The number of paid registrations at the 1958 meeting was nearly double the 2734 registrations at the centennial meeting of 1948 and substantially exceeded the 4206 registrations of the fifth Washington Meeting of 1924, when virtually all the large societies held their national meetings with the AAAS—now a physical impossibility [see *Science* **128**, 664 (1958)]. To date, 13 of the 125 AAAS meetings have exceeded 3000 registrants, and seven of the 13 have been meetings held in the past 10 years.

It is always true that the total attendance of professional scientists, faculty members and other teachers, and graduate students at any national meeting of the Association is much greater than the number of registrations, since all programs and most events are open to everyone. Nearly 100 percent of the professional scientists and teachers register,

unless their societies have a separate registration; in these instances, many regard a "double registration" as superfluous or onerous. Finally, there are usually several thousands of the science-minded general public who attend the evening lectures or some one event and who do not register at all. It is probable that at the Washington meeting at least an additional 10,000 attended one or more of the 342 sessions or visited the Annual Exposition of Science and Industry, at which 82 exhibitors occupied 110 booths. Moreover, the registration total of 5368 does not include six guests, 296 individuals connected with the exhibits, and 311 press representatives.

As Table 3 shows, about 20 percent of the total number of registrants came from the District of Columbia. If appropriate portions of the attendance from Maryland and Virginia are added, it appears that about 40 percent of the registrants came from the Washington metropolitan area. The remaining three-fifths came from areas beyond commuting distance. Except for Nevada and Wyoming, every state in the nation was represented. There were 43 registrants from Canada and 25 scientists who represented 13 other countries and territories. Not all of these were visiting scholars at American institutions; about one-third came to this country especially for the meeting. Several other scientists from abroad sent papers to be read.

The suspension of service by several major airlines, caused by strikes, apparently did not materially affect the attendance. Those who had planned to attend and were inconvenienced managed to arrive by one or another means, including two days of driving. The volume of registration is particularly impressive in view of the fact that, with the exception of the American Society of Zoologists (which was experimenting with holding two meetings in one year), none of the larger societies was meeting with the AAAS in 1958.

The large attendance from so many geographical sources and the excellent representation at programs of each of the sections again demonstrated that, when programs of the symposium type are well chosen with respect to subject and when they are of high quality, a gratifying number of scientists and individual members of societies not meeting with the AAAS will travel long distances to attend them.

Table 4 shows an analysis of the 5368 registrants by subject fields, except for 343 instances where the "field of interest" line on the registration slip was left blank and where no other clues were available. Undoubtedly, some of these individuals were physicians who had registered in a hurry on their way to the symposium on congenital heart disease. From their institutional addresses it appears that there were also academic scientists who failed to indicate their specialties. The remainder were principally wives of registrants. Between 300 and 400 wives attended the meeting, but many of these listed scientific interests. The "general interest" category includes a substantial number of research and other administrators.

In this analysis of subject fields, every effort was made to record each individual's primary interest: For example, high-school science teachers who indicated their major interest as teaching or science education were not classified as biologists or chemists, and so on. If the data on differences are grouped under still broader headings than those in Table 4, the composition of the registered attendance is as follows: physical sciences and applications, 1349 (25 percent); biological sciences and agriculture, 1446 (27 percent); medical sciences, 1193 (22 percent); psychology and social and economic sciences, 457 (9 percent); science teaching and education, 331 (6 percent); general interest and other, 592 (11 percent).

Table 4. Registrants by subject fields.

Mathematics and computers	121
Physical sciences	
Physics	229
Space science	166
Meteorology	36
Electronics	38
Astronomy	29
Chemistry	345
Geology and geography	188
Photogrammetry	17
Engineering and industrial science	180
Biological sciences	
Biometry and statistics	26
Ecology	93
Botanical sciences	159
Zoological sciences (including insect physiology)	550
Genetics	58
Microbiology	66
Biology (in general, and other)	381
Agricultural sciences	113
Medical sciences	
Bacteriology	29
Biochemistry, including nutrition	151
Clinical chemistry	27
Cardiology	127
Physiology	141
Psychiatry	99
Dental research	103
Pharmacology and pharmacy	128
Medicine (in general, and other)	388
Social and economic sciences	
Criminology	45
Economics	37
Political science	18
Sociology	29
Social and economic sciences (in general, and other)	40
Anthropology and archeology	42
Psychology	191
History and philosophy of science	55
Scientific communication	73
Scientific manpower	19
Science teaching	169
Education	162
General	157
No field indicated	343
Total	5368

The percentages of these groups have remained much the same in recent years. Over the past ten years (except in 1957 in Indianapolis and in 1952 in St. Louis, when the physical sciences were first by a slight margin), the biological sciences have been the largest single group at each meeting, with, however, the physical and the medical sciences (in that order) following closely. Both the social sciences and science-teaching–education have ranged from 5 to 9 or 10 percent each year.

Exhibitors of the books, instruments, and laboratory supplies which scientists and teachers use have an understandable interest in the composition of the attendance at AAAS meetings. From the foregoing data—and also in view of the fact that so many of the registrants were academic administrators, department heads, directors of research, and others in a position to decide on textbooks and other materials—it is apparent that a AAAS meeting, diversified as it is, is well worth the participation of those who produce the things that scientists need.

Annual Exposition of Science and Industry

The 1958 Annual Exposition of Science and Industry was one of the most varied and attractive ever held. In addition to the "core exhibits" of publishers, supply houses, instrument companies, and laboratory-equipment firms, there were numerous and varied large-scale industrial exhibits—many especially built for this AAAS meeting—which were of decided interest to the many thousands who saw them. The 110 booths filled the capacious exhibit hall of the Sheraton-Park Hotel, overflowed into the foyer, and extended on up the stairs to the main lobby. The AAAS Science Theatre, filled to capacity throughout, was located at one side of the exhibit area. The Visible Directory of Registrants was placed in the foyer at the entrance to the exhibits, the theatre, and the ballroom. These arrangements were made for the maximum convenience of visitors to these several features and of those attending sessions in the hotel.

The local Committee on Exhibits, headed by R. Roy Dunn (president, Potomac Electric Power Company), with J. R. O'Hanlon as secretary, did an out-

standing job in enlisting the interest and support of large firms in the Washington area. The electric and electronic displays—missiles and related devices—and the demonstrations of the research activities of large pharmaceutical companies helped to make the 1958 exposition well worth repeated visits. A grateful acknowledgment of the work of the Exhibits Committee is made on behalf of the Association and of all those who enjoyed the exposition.

The names of nearly all of the 82 exhibitors and descriptions of their exhibits have appeared both in the General Program-Directory and in the Preconvention Issue of *Science* [**128**, 1412 (5 Dec. 1958)]. Additional exhibitors were the Instrument Society of America; "Conquest"–Columbia Broadcasting System; the National Academy of Sciences; and the Office of Technical Services, U.S. Department of Commerce.

A number of exhibitors at the seventh Washington meeting have already expressed their satisfaction over the contacts made and have already indicated their intention of participating in the 1959 exposition, which will be located in the new exhibit facilities of the Morrison Hotel, Chicago.

AAAS Science Theatre

The Science Theatre, which has shown a selection of the latest foreign and domestic scientific films, beginning with the Chicago meeting of 1947, is now an established feature of the annual meetings of the Association. At the Washington meeting, at the suggestion of Miss M. P. Sehnert, physical science study committee, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a relatively large number of prize-winning foreign scientific films were brought together from both sides of the Iron Curtain. These were both 16- and 35-millimeter; the foreign films were principally the latter. The cooperation of the lending agencies was admirable, but delays in customs were inevitable. Some films proved to be unavailable, but generally excellent substitutions were readily made. Indeed, more films were finally received than could be used, and several had to be returned, well after the meeting. For those who are interested, all films have been returned to their sources; inquiries should be directed to their producers.

Despite the language handicaps and absence of English titles, the foreign films were viewed with great interest and evoked favorable comment. The theatre was jammed at all times. The Association again expresses its appreciation to those who so kindly lent such excellent films and to Miss Sehnert for her enthusiasm and great assistance.

Work of the Local Committees

A scientific meeting as large and as complex as the annual meeting of the AAAS does not just happen. It cannot take place, nor can it succeed, without the cooperation and assistance of a great many agencies and persons. Of critical importance among these are the local committees and the general chairman and subchairmen who appointed them. The Association and all who attended the seventh Washington meeting are much indebted to Leonard Carmichael (secretary, Smithsonian Institution), who made distinguished appointments to the local committees, kept in close touch with all phases of the meeting, and graciously welcomed members and friends of the Association on the evening of 28 December. On behalf of the Association, a grateful acknowledgment of the extent of our indebtedness to Dr. Carmichael is made here.

The able work of the Committee on Physical Arrangements and of the Committee on Exhibits has already been acknowledged. The remaining committees, in their fields, also contributed greatly to the meeting.

The Committee on Public Information, headed by Windsor P. Booth (chief, news service, National Geographic Society), provided expert advice and assistance in publicizing the meeting locally. Premeeting announcements in the press are not readily secured (probably on the principle that a meeting is not news until it happens), but the local scientific societies and the local press in Washington did provide a reasonable amount of advance information. The coverage *during* the meeting—front-page daily summaries of sessions and feature stories of two or more pages each day—was exceptional both in quantity and quality. (No one recalls such extensive coverage of any previous scientific meeting by the leading newspapers of Washington.) The Association expresses its grateful appreciation. Additional details on this, and on the national coverage during the meeting, will be found in the report by Sidney S. Negus on page 485 of this issue.

The Association acknowledges with deep appreciation the work of the Finance Committee, which, through its chairman, Daniel W. Bell (president and chairman of the board of directors, American Security and Trust Company), in advance of the meeting, solicited funds to reduce the deficit. The firms and individuals who have made contributions to date include:

Air Transport Association of America
Airport Transport, Inc.
Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corporation
American Psychoanalytic Association
American Security and Trust Company
Arthur D. Little Foundation
Avco Manufacturing Corporation
Boeing Airplane Company
Capitol Cadillac-Oldsmobile Company
Capitol Radio Engineering Institute, Inc.
Chance Vought Aircraft Incorporated
Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company
Chrysler Corporation
Rufus H. Darby Printing Company, Inc.
Reuben H. Donnelly Corporation
Douglas Aircraft Company, Inc.
Eastman Kodak Company
Esso Standard Oil Company
Food Machinery and Chemical Corporation
General Dynamics Corporation
Good Humor Company
William Hahn and Company
Harris Research Laboratories, Inc.
Industrial Equipment, Inc.
International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation
Frank R. Jelleff
Kaiser Industries Corporation
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Manhattan Company
National Bank of Washington
National Cash Register Company
National Geographic Society
National Savings and Trust Company
North American Aviation, Inc.
Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation
Lewis M. Parsons, United States Steel Corporation
Riggs National Bank of Washington, D.C.
Safeway Stores, Inc.
Sears Roebuck and Company
Security Bank
John F. Simmons
Thos. Somerville Company
Southern Railway System
Chas. H. Tompkins Company
Union Carbide Corporation
Whirlpool Corporation
Worthington Corporation

The Association is greatly indebted to the local Committee on Women's Events for its devoted and able services in arranging a program of particular interest to the attending wives and other visitors. Mrs. Alan T. Waterman, chairman, and the members of her committee devoted much time and thought to their responsibilities, and the magnitude of the obligation was apparent to all who were visitors at the women's lounge, went on the tours to the Smithsonian Institution and the White House, or attended the luncheon at which Margaret Mead spoke on "Bringing up children in the space age."

The Honorary Reception Committee included well over 100 heads of public and private agencies concerned with science and education. Many were able to be present during the meeting or made it a point to attend the AAAS presidential address and reception.

Other Acknowledgments

In concluding this report of the 125th meeting, besides thanking all members of the local committees, I personally would like to thank Clarence A. Arata (executive director, Washington Convention and Visitors Bureau) and others of his staff, who supplied expert professional assistance and friendly help throughout, as well as the managements and sales managers of the various cooperating hotels—especially Lewis Scherer and Edward Barrett of the Sheraton-Park, Mrs. Alexander of the Shoreham, and their counterparts at the Statler, Dupont Plaza, Washington, and Willard. Their many courtesies and great assistance were essential for the success of the meeting. The secretaries and program chairmen of each section and participating organization cooperated ably, especially with reference to copy and galley proof for the 424-page General Program-Directory, published by the Horn-Shafer Company of Baltimore. Finally, the debt to W. Gilbert Horn of that firm and to his assistant, Miss Stuart Lee Russell, for their able and sympathetic cooperation in seeing the "book" through the press is great.

Awards and Prize Winners

A complete list of the 31st winner of the Newcomb Cleveland prize and recipients of all other awards announced at the Association's seventh Washington meeting appeared in *Science* [129, 137 (1959)] and need not be repeated here.

Public Information Service

Sidney S. Negus

Early last summer Windsor P. Booth, chief of the news service of the National Geographic Society, was invited to be chairman of the local committee on public information for the Washington meeting. Fortunately for the Association, he accepted this invitation and soon appointed his committee of 16 mass-media communication experts to help him set the stage locally for this complex operation. In September, Ella F. Harllee, director of the department of radio and television of the Council of Churches National Capital Area, agreed to help arrange all radio and television programs for the meeting. This team of 20, including Lillian A. Hughes and myself of Richmond, with the aid of public relations director Barbara Norton of the Sheraton-Park Hotel, started active preparations in mid-September for this great scientific gathering, after various preliminaries had been cleared during the summer months. The usual pre-meeting procedures, which have been found successful in the past, were followed [*Science* **127**, 409 (1958)].

Three hundred and eleven accredited representatives of the press, radio, and television registered in the press room at Washington. Sixty-eight other reporters from the United States and abroad reported the meeting from nontechnical abstracts and from complete papers mailed to them upon request before and during the convention. All American and several foreign wire services, many leading newspapers, scientific journals, and news magazines were represented in the press room at the meeting. This exceptional coverage of a scientific meeting is due probably to the fact that the AAAS embraces *all* branches of science and not just one particular scientific field.

The Washington newspapers turned in remarkable displays of good science reporting during the week of the meeting. For the first time at any Association meeting, separate well-staffed press rooms were maintained in the headquarters hotel by two local newspapers—the *Washington Post and Times Herald* (Nate Haseltine in charge) and the *Washington Star* (William Hines as director). In an editorial in the 12 January issue of *Chemical and Engineering News,* Walter J. Murphy wrote, "Unquestionably, it was one of the greatest plays ever accorded a scientific meeting." In thanking the managing editors of the Washington newspapers, Alan T. Waterman wrote "I cannot recall a series of scientific meetings that have been more thoroughly reported or covered with greater variety and interest." For this unusual attention to its annual convention, the Association is grateful to managing editors Alfred Friendly of the *Post,* Herbert F. Corn of the *Star,* and Richard Hollander of the *News.* They and their city editors and reporters set a standard of outstanding science reporting that will be difficult to meet in other communities where the Association will meet in the future.

News stories and wire pictures concerning the meeting were published widely over the world, as is indicated by clippings and letters sent to us by friends from many places in this country and abroad. Requests have been received from individuals in many countries for more information concerning various papers on the program. Feature stories, not requiring close deadlines, are beginning to appear in various publications. As is usually the case, many representatives of magazines registered in the press room solely to get ideas for future articles. Some of these may not appear for months and then with no particular reference to the Washington AAAS meeting.

National radio and television coverage was unusually good. Eleven coast-to-coast radio and television programs were aired by the four major networks, and all local stations (WRC, WTOP, WMAL, WTTG, WWDC) participated in reporting the meeting daily during the week. Eleven talks were taped by the Voice of America.

At the Cosmos Club during the meeting, the Battelle Memorial Institute and the General Dynamics Corporation entertained at a reception and dinner, respectively, members of the National Association of Science Writers. Approximately 250 were present, including wives and special guests.

Luncheons for reporters working in the press room were contributed by the Eaton Laboratories of Norwich, N. Y., the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, the American Tobacco Research Laboratory, and the U.S. Steel Corporation. Ciba Pharmaceutical Products, Inc., had a delightful reception and luncheon for science writers on one day of the meeting, and Barbara Norton of the Sheraton-Park Hotel invited out-of-town reporters who were present to cover the AAAS convention to the hotel's annual party for the press of Washington. Orange juice in the press room during the meeting was contributed by the Florida Citrus Commission as arranged by Dorothy Noyes. The reception of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation was most enjoyable, as was the industrial science