

work. McCulloch replied that he was convinced that it was in man's nature to develop both the socially good and the socially bad consequences of any invention. He fully expects that the world will be booby-trapped by the use of these and other sciences, but it is his firm hope that by making available information-handling devices of great capacity man will prevent the detonation of that booby trap through misinformation.

LEO E. LIPETZ

*Institute for Research in Vision,
Ohio State University, Columbus*

Forthcoming Events

March

19-25. Caribbean Region, American Soc. for Horticultural Science, 9th annual, Miami, Fla. (E. H. Casseres, Londres 40, Mexico 6, D.F., or W. H. Krome, Box 596, Homestead, Fla.)

20-22. American Physical Soc., Monterey, Calif. (W. A. Nierenberg, Univ. of California, Berkeley 4)

20-23. Institute of Radio Engineers, 1961 intern. convention, New York, N.Y. (E. K. Gannett, IRE, 1 E. 79 St., New York 21)

20-24. American Surgical Assoc., Boca Raton, Fla. (W. A. Altemeier, Cincinnati General Hospital, Cincinnati 29, Ohio)

20-24. National Health Council, forum and annual meeting, New York, N.Y. (NHC, 1790 Broadway, New York 19)

20-24. Western Metal Cong. and Exposition, 12th, Los Angeles, Calif. (A. R. Putnam, American Soc. for Metals, Metals Park, Ohio)

21-23. American Meteorological Soc., general meeting, Chicago, Ill. (E. P. McClain, Dept. of Meteorology, Univ. of Chicago, Chicago 37)

21-23. American Physical Soc., Division of High-Polymer Physics, 21st, Monterey, Calif. (D. W. McCall, Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J.)

21-23. American Power Conf., 23rd annual, Chicago, Ill. (W. C. Astley, Philadelphia Electric Co., 900 Sansom St., Philadelphia 5, Pa.)

21-24. American Assoc. of Anatomists, 74th annual, Chicago, Ill. (O. P. Jones, Dept. of Anatomy, Univ. of Buffalo, Buffalo 14, N.Y.)

21-30. American Chemical Soc., 139th, St. Louis, Mo. (A. T. Winstead, ACS, 1155 16th St., NW, Washington 6)

23-25. American Orthopsychiatric Assoc., 38th annual, New York, N.Y. (M. F. Langer, AOA, 1790 Broadway, New York 19)

23-25. Quantum Electronics, 2nd intern. conf., Berkeley, Calif. (J. R. Singer, Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Univ. of California, Berkeley 4)

23-26. International Assoc. for Dental Research, 39th annual, Boston, Mass. (D. Burrill, IADR, 311 E. Chicago Ave., Chicago 11)

24-29. National Science Teachers Assoc., Chicago, Ill. (R. H. Carleton, NSTA, 1201 16th St., NW, Washington 6)

26-29. American Assoc. of Dental

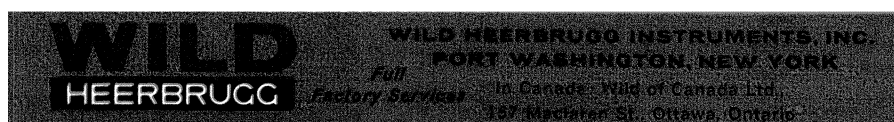


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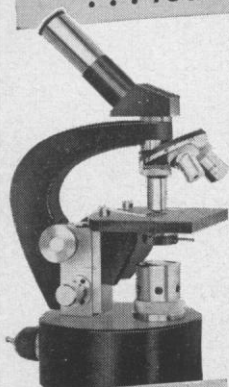
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Schools, annual, Boston, Mass. (R. H. Sul-lens, 840 N. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago 11, Ill.)

27-31. Temperature—Its Measurement and Control in Science and Industry, natl. symp., Columbus, Ohio. (C. M. Herzfeld, National Bureau of Standards, Washington 25, D.C.)

30-1. Southern Soc. for Philosophy and Psychology, Atlanta, Ga. (D. R. Kenshalo, Dept. of Psychology, Florida State Univ., Tallahassee)

April

3-6. Massachusetts Institute of Tech-nology, centennial celebration, Cambridge. (Office of Public Relations, M.I.T., Cam-bridge 39)

3-15. Medical Conference, 11th, Nassau, Bahamas. (Bahamas Conferences, P.O. Box 1454, Nassau)

4-6. Electromagnetics and Fluid Dyn-amics of Gaseous Plasma, intern. symp., New York, N.Y. (J. Fox, Microwave Research Inst., Brooklyn 1, N.Y.)

4-7. Society of Automotive Engineers, natl. aeronautic meeting, New York, N.Y. (E. W. Conlon and G. W. Periman, 485 Lexington Ave., New York 17)

4-8. National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, 39th annual, Chicago, Ill. (F. A. Janacek, J. S. Morton High School, Cicero 50, Ill.)

5-8. Water Relations of Plants, British Ecological Soc., symp., London. (F. H. Whitehead, Botany Department, Imperial College, Prince Consort Road, London, S.W.7)

6-7. Council on Medical Television, an-nual, Bethesda, Md. (Institute for Ad-vancement of Medical Communication, 33 E. 68 St., New York 21)

7-8. Eastern Psychological Association, Philadelphia, Pa. (C. H. Rush, P.O. Box 252, Glenbrook, Conn.)

7-9. American Assoc. for Cancer Re-search, 52nd annual, Atlantic City, N.J. (H. J. Creech, Secretary-Treasurer, Inst. for Cancer Research, Fox Chase, Philadel-phia 11, Pa.)

7-9. Fleming's Lysozyme, 2nd intern. symp., Milan, Italy. (R. Ferrari, Organiz-ing Committee, Via Modica 6, Milan)

8-9. Histochemical Soc., 12th annual, Atlantic City, N.J. (H. W. Deane, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx 61, N.Y.)

9-13. American Assoc. of Cereal Chem-ists, annual, Dallas, Tex. (J. W. Pence, Western Utilization Research & Develop-ment Division, 800 Buchanan St., Albany 10, Calif.)

9-13. American Industrial Hygiene As-soc., Detroit, Mich. (W. S. Johnson, Bethle-hem Steel Co., Bethlehem, Pa.)

9-15. American Institute of Nutrition, Atlantic City, N.J. (A. E. Schaefer, ICNND, Bldg. 16A, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda 14, Md.)

10-14. American Soc. of Civil Engi-neers, Phoenix, Ariz. (W. H. Wisely, 33 W. 39 St., New York 18)

10-14. Detection and Use of Tritium in the Physical and Biological Sciences, in-tern. symp., Vienna, Austria. (Office of Special Projects, U.S. Atomic Energy Com-mission, Washington 25, D.C.)

(See issue of 17 February for comprehensive list)

Letters

Drug Industry and Government

With reference to your recent "Sci-ence in the news" article [*Science* 132, 1536 (1960)] commenting about gov-ernment intervention in the drug in-dustry, could it be that the author dis-played just a little cynicism (which is perhaps too common these days) in saying: "There is the danger not of cordiality between the regulators and the regulated, which is useful, but of the regulators' coming to forget that, despite the room for a great deal of useful cooperation, the regulators and regulated do, or should, after all, rep-resent opposing interests and opposing points of view"?

It does not seem to me that a really objective observer could conclude that the interests of the Food and Drug Administration and of the pharma-ceutical industry are opposed. Rather, our interests are really identical: to provide the best medicine for those in need of it, or, putting it another way, to protect patients from bad medicine.

If the views of the industry and the government differ from time to time, I think such differences are largely confined to the question of how we attain our common objective. This may be a fine point, but it is one that is useful in the interests of clarity.

AUSTIN SMITH

Pharmaceutical Manufacturers
Association, Washington, D.C.

DNA's and RNA's

In the realm of biochemistry, names (of substances) are used to designate products in which substantially all the molecules in a sample are the same, or at least potentially the same, through tautomerism. To speak of a *mixture* of structurally different molecules, as though they were all the same, causes misleading muddlement. The same principle holds for alphabetical ab-breviations such as ATP, ADP, AMP, TPP, FAD, and TPN. For example, AMP stands for adenosine-5'-phosphate. If it were used indiscriminately to desig-nate the 5'- compound, the 3'- com-pound, the 2'- compound, or the 2', 3'- phosphate, this could only cause confusion.

A widespread violation of this prin-ciple, which can only result in confused thinking, particularly on the part of un-suspecting biology students, is the use of the designations DNA and RNA as though they, too, represent single spe-cies of molecules. This is particularly objectionable because there must be a multitude of DNA's and RNA's and