

# Meetings

## Radioisotopes in Entomology and Tropical Medicine

Two international symposia were held recently on the uses of atomic energy in medicine and entomology. These were convened and sponsored by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the World Health Organization (WHO). These United Nations organizations had as objectives the bringing together of specialists from all over the world to review the present state of research and the current uses of radiation and radioisotopes in medicine and entomology. Other objectives were to focus attention on medical and entomological problems in tropical areas and to stimulate new or additional research in various countries. An important aim was the bringing together of specialists with diverse technical backgrounds to give broad perspective, to introduce new and improved research techniques, and to stress the potential uses of radioisotopes.

At the invitation of the government of India, the International Atomic Energy Agency convened a "Symposium on Radioisotopes and Radiation in Entomology" in Bombay from 5 to

9 December 1960. Member countries of the U.N. were invited to send specialists to present papers and participate in discussions. Participants were sent by France, Germany, the Holy See, India, Italy, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, the U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom, and the United States. Participants from the United States, invited and sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Science Foundation, were B. W. Arthur, L. E. Brownell, J. E. Casida, T. L. Hopkins, and D. E. Weidhaas; D. W. Jenkins, the other U.S. participant, was sponsored by IAEA and WHO.

The symposium included sessions on the behavior of labeled insecticides in plants and animals, insect physiology and biochemistry, radiation effects and insect control, ecological and biological studies, and local problems in agricultural entomology. The present enormous loss due to insect damage to crops and stored grain and other agricultural products and to parasitism in domestic animals was emphasized in relation to the rapid increase in human population. Many outstanding accomplishments involving use of radioisotopes were presented, including elimination of the screw-worm fly in Florida by release of sterile males, development of new in-

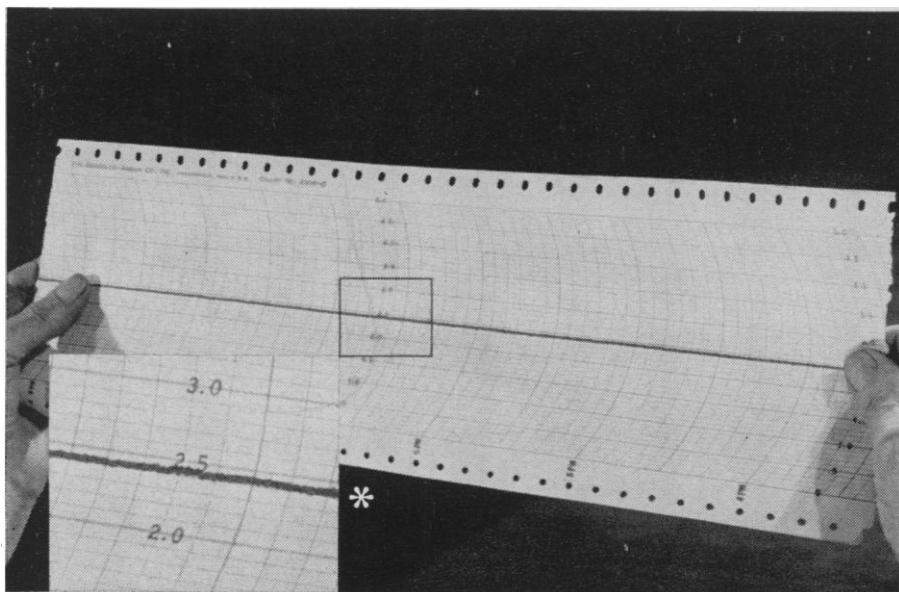
secticides, control of pests in stored products through irradiation, and use of lethal genes for control studies.

A "Symposium on the Use of Radioisotopes in the Study of Endemic and Tropical Diseases" was sponsored jointly by WHO and IAEA. This symposium was held at the invitation of the government of Thailand, in Bangkok, on 12 to 16 December. These United Nations organizations invited selected experts in tropical medicine and in the medical use of radioisotopes to present lectures and participate in discussions. Specialists were invited from Australia, Ceylon, Nationalist China, India, Iraq, Pakistan, the Philippines, Portugal, Sweden, Thailand, the Union of South Africa, the United Kingdom, the United States, Venezuela, and Vietnam. The invited speakers from the United States were H. H. Anderson, D. W. Jenkins, and J. B. Stanbury. The symposium was organized by joint scientific secretaries from WHO and IAEA. The scientific sessions were on nutrition, anemias, endemic goiter, electrolytes, entomology, and parasitology. In each session discussion of the major problems by a specialist was followed by papers on the use and potential use of radioisotopes and radiation. In active discussion, emphasis was placed on close relationships between areas such as nutrition, parasitism, and disease and on the need for broad and coordinated research programs. The continuing and urgent need for research to improve the health of people in the tropics was stressed. Atomic energy was shown to be of great value in medical and biological research in tropical areas, and outstanding accomplishments are expected.

The proceedings of the two symposia will be published by the IAEA and will be available from that organization in the near future.

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## Forthcoming Events

### July

1-3. Astronomical League, Detroit, Mich. (W. A. Cherup, 4 Klopfer St., Millvale, Pittsburgh 9, Pa.)

2-7. American Physical Therapy Assoc., Chicago, Ill. (Miss L. Blair, Executive Director, APTA, 1790 Broadway, New York 19)

2-9. Rural Medicine, 1st intern. congr., Tours, France. (Prof. Vacher, Secrétaire General, c/o Institut National de Médecine, Agricole, Ecole de Médecine, Tours)

3-6. Clay Minerals, colloquium on genesis and synthesis of, intern., Paris, France. (Prof. Hocart, Faculté des Sciences, Université de Paris à la Sorbonne, 47 rue des Ecoles, Paris 5)

3-8. Treatment of High Level Radio-

active Wastes, symp., Intern. Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna, Austria. (IAEA, 11 Kärtner Ring, Vienna 1)

3-16. Durability of Concrete, symp., Intern. Union of Testing and Research Laboratories for Materials and Structures, Prague, Czechoslovakia. (B. Hacar, Director, Inst. of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, Czechoslovak Acad. of Sciences, Solínova 7, Prague 6-Dijvice)

4-8. Latin-American Assoc. of Physiological Sciences, 4th meeting, Ribeirão Preto, Brazil. (C. R. Diniz, Caixa Postal 301, Ribeirão Preto, Estado de São Paulo)

5-8. European Organization for Research on Fluorine and Dental Caries Prevention, 8th meeting, London, England. (J. R. Forrest, Senior Dental Officer, Ministry of Health, Savile Rd., London)

5-8. Optical Materials, colloquium, Intern. Commission for Optics, Paris, France. (Institut d'Optique, 3, Boulevard Pasteur, Paris 15)

5-9. International Convention on Radio Techniques and Space Research, Oxford, England. (British Institution of Radio Engineers, 9 Bedford Sq., London, WC.1)

5-12. International Ophthalmic Optical Congr., London, England. (G. H. Giles, Intern. Optical League, 65 Brook St., London, W.1)

6-7. Free Radicals, intern. symp., 5th, Uppsala, Sweden. (Symposium Secretariat, c/o Inst. of Physical Chemistry, Uppsala)

6-12. Agricultural Medicine, 1st intern. congr., Tours, France. (J. Vacher, Institut National de Medecine Agricole, Ecole de Medecine, Tours)

6-12. Ribonucleic Acids and Polyphosphates: Structure, Synthesis and Function, intern. colloquium, Strasbourg, France. (Prof. Ebel, Faculté de Pharmacie, Université de Strasbourg, Strasbourg)

9-14. Bio-Medical Electronics, 4th intern. conf., New York, N.Y. (H. Schwan, Moore School of Electrical Engineering, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 4)

9-15. American Library Assoc., annual conf., Cleveland, Ohio. (D. H. Clift, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, Ill.)

9-15. International Dental Federation, 49th annual session, Helsinki, Finland. (Office of Secretary General, IDF, 35 Devonshire Place, London, W.1, England)

10. Bibliographical Soc. of America, Cleveland, Ohio. (E. Wolf II, Library Co. of Philadelphia, Broad and Christian Sts., Philadelphia 47, Pa.)

10-14. Institute in Technical and Industrial Communications, 4th annual, Fort Collins, Colo. (Director, Inst. in Technical and Industrial Communications, Colorado State Univ., Fort Collins)

10-14. International Congr. of Dietetics, 3rd, London, England. (Miss D. F. Hollingsworth, British Dietetic Assoc. 251 Brampton Rd., London, S.W.3)

10-14. International Diabetes Federation, 4th congr., Geneva, Switzerland. (B. Rilliet, Secretary General, 4 Boulevard des Tranchees, Geneva)

10-14. Optical Instruments and Techniques, conf., London, England. (K. J. Habell, Natl. Physical Laboratory, Teddington, Middlesex, England)

10-20. Plant Exploration and Introduction, technical meeting on, Food and Agriculture Organization of the U.N., Rome, Italy. (Intern. Agency Liaison Branch, Office of the Director General, Viale della Terme di Caracalla, Rome)

10-24. Medical Electronics, 4th intern. conf., New York, N.Y. (L. E. Flory, David Sarnoff Research Center, Princeton, N.J.)

11-25. World Meteorological Organization, 3rd South American session, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. (WMO, 1 Avenue de la Paix, Geneva, Switzerland)

12-18. Radioactivity in Food and Agriculture, Expert Committee on the Organization of Surveys for FAO, Rome, Italy. (Intern. Agency Liaison Branch, Office of the Director General, Viale della Terme di Caracalla, Rome)

13-14. Data Acquisition and Processing in Biology and Medicine, conf., Rochester, N.Y. (Office of Public Information, Univ. of Rochester, River Campus Station, Rochester 20)

15-18. Life Insurance Medicine, 7th intern. congr., Lisbon, Portugal. (L. de Carvalho Cancellaria, Secretary, Parede, Portugal)

16-18. British Congr. of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, 16th, Bristol, England. (Secretary, British Congr. of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University Dept. of Obstetrics, Southmead Hospital, Bristol)

16-22. International Soc. for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. (ISCEH, 33 E. 65 St., New York 21)

17-22. Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering, 5th intern. conf., Paris, France. (E. Caminade, Secrétaire General, 23 rue de Cronstadt, Paris 15)

(See issue of 19 May for comprehensive list)

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