

Meetings

Marine Animal Sounds

Under the auspices of the biology branch of the U.S. Office of Naval Research, a conference was held on 30 and 31 March and 1 April at the Lerner Marine Laboratory, Bimini, Bahamas, a field station of the American Museum of Natural History, New York. The purpose was to acquaint interested scientists with the progress of a recently initiated study to determine the feasibility of obtaining information on marine animals in their natural environment by means of a hydrophone system. This project is being carried on by the Marine Laboratory, Institute of Marine Science, University of Miami, under the direction of John C. Steinberg.

There were 20 participants and guests at the conference. William N. Tavolga, of the American Museum of Natural History, served as chairman. Also present were James A. Oliver, director of the American Museum; Robert S. Mathewson, resident director of the Lerner Marine Laboratory; and Michael Lerner, founder of the laboratory. Representing the Marine Laboratory, Institute of Marine Science, University of Miami, were F. G. Walton Smith (director), Fritz Koczy, Steinberg, Warren J. Wisby, William C. Cummings, Morton Kronengold, Herbert Kumpf, and Joseph Richard. Attending from the Narragansett Marine Laboratory, University of Rhode Island, were Charles J. Fish (director) and Marie Poland Fish. From the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution were Richard H. Backus and William E. Schevill. Representing the Office of Naval Research was Sidney R. Galler.

The system under consideration consists of two hydrophones located on the east bank of the Gulf Stream which are connected by cable to shore-based recording and analyzing equipment in the Lerner Marine Laboratory. The clarity of the waters around Bimini, the proximity of the Gulf Stream, and the

presence of the laboratory led to the selection of this location. One hydrophone is on the bottom, a mile from shore, at a depth of 17 fathoms. The other is a mile farther out, at 200 fathoms. The equipment makes possible continuous monitoring of sounds over long periods of time.

Roars, knocks, honks, squeals, "popping of corks"—old sounds from new places—were heard in profusion from the ocean depths as scientists exchanged ideas and discussed new problems. It was the enthusiastic and unanimous consensus, even at this early stage in the operation of the installation, that sound-producing animals frequent the waters of the Bimini area in sufficient numbers to make the region of interest in the study of marine bioacoustics. It appears that investigations in the following categories are feasible: concurrent visual observations, experimental behavior studies, identification of sources of unknown sound, and studies of seasonal changes.

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Forthcoming Events

August

23-1. Radioisotopes in the Biological Sciences, conf., Intern. Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna, Austria. (IAEA, 11 Kärtner Ring, Vienna 1)

24-26. Physiology of the Hippocampus, intern. colloquium, Montpellier, France. (Mme. Mineur, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, 13 Quai Anatole France, Paris 7)

26-1. Radiology, 10th intern. Congr., Montreal, Canada. (C. B. Peirce, Suite 204, 1555 Summerhill, Montreal 25, Canada)

26-2. History of Science, 5th intern. Congr., Ithaca, N.Y., and Philadelphia, Pa. (Secretary, 5th Intern. Congr. of the History of Science, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, N.Y.)

27-29. International Congr. of Group Psychotherapy, 3rd, Paris, France. (W. Warner, P.O. Box 819, Grand Central Station, New York 17)

27-29. Psychosomatic Aspects of Neoplastic Disease, 2nd annual conv., Paris, France. (L. L. LeShan, Intern. Psychosomatic Cancer Study Group, 144 E. 90 St., New York 28)

27-1. American Congr. of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Cleveland, Ohio. (D. C. Augustin, 30 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 2, Ill.)

27-1. American Inst. of Biological Sciences, annual, Lafayette, Ind. (J. R. Olive, AIBS, 2000 P St., NW, Washington 6)

27-1. Coordination Chemistry, 6th intern. conf., Detroit, Mich. (S. Kirschner, Dept. of Chemistry, Wayne State Univ., Detroit 2)

28-30. Mathematical Assoc. of America, Stillwater, Okla. (H. L. Alder, MAA, Univ. of California, Davis)

28-30. Oak Ridge Inst. of Nuclear Studies, 8th annual summer symp., Gatlinburg, Tenn. (Symposium Office, University Relations Division, Oak Ridge Inst. of Nuclear Studies, P.O. Box 117, Oak Ridge, Tenn.)

28-30. Scandinavian Symp. on Fat Rancidity, 3rd, Sandefjord, Norway. (E. Törnudd, Gaustadallen 30, Blindern, Norway)

28-31. American Assoc. of Clinical Chemists, natl., New York, N.Y. (B. Klein, Chemistry Dept., Kingsbridge V.A. Hospital, Bronx, N.Y.)

28-31. American Soc. for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Rochester, N.Y. (K. H. Beyer, Merck, Sharp and Dohme Research Laboratories, West Point, Pa.)

28-31. Chemical Physics of Nonmetallic Crystals, intern. conf., Evanston, Ill. (O. C. Simpson, Argonne National Laboratory, 9700 South Cass Ave., Argonne, Ill.)

28-1. Heat Transfer Conf., intern., Boulder, Colo. (S. P. Kezios, American Soc. of Mechanical Engineers, 29 W. 39 St., New York 18)

28-1. Ionization Phenomena in Gases, 5th intern. conf., Munich, Germany. (Secretariat, Oskar von Miller Ring 18, P.O. 463, Munich 1)

28-1. Radioactive Metrology, symp., Oxford, England. (B. W. Robinson, Applied Physics Division, National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, Middlesex, England)

28-1. Rockets and Astronautics, 3rd intern. symp., Tokyo, Japan. (Japanese Rocket Soc., 1-3, Ginza-Nishi, Chuo-Ku, Tokyo)

28-2. European Soc. of Haematology, 8th Congr., Vienna, Austria. (H. Fleischhacker, Frankgasse 8, Billrothhaus, Vienna 9)

28-2. International Assoc. of Medical Laboratory Technologists, general assembly, Stockholm, Sweden. (Miss M. Westenins, Statens Bakteriologiska Laboratorium, Box 764, Stockholm 1)

28-2. Detonation Waves, intern. colloquium, Gif-sur-Yvette, France. (G. M. Ribaud, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, 13 Quai Anatole France, Paris 7, France)

(See issue of 21 July for comprehensive list)