

Meetings

Oceanography in Latin America

Four important meetings concerning oceanography and its research development in Latin America were recently held in Chile. They were the Latin-American Seminar of Oceanographic Studies; the 2nd Latin-American Symposium on Plankton; the Meeting of Directors of Latin-American Laboratories; and a Regional Training Course on Marine Biology. The meetings were organized by the UNESCO Science Co-operation Office for Latin America, jointly with the University of Concepción in the case of the first two meetings and with the University of Chile in the case of the latter two, and held, respectively, in the General Biology Laboratory, Concepción, and the Marine Biology Station, Montemar.

Thirty-seven distinguished Latin-American scientists participated, from Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Peru, and Ecuador. Present as observers were Dixie Lee Ray from the National Science Foundation (United States);

Peter Dohrn, from the Stazione Zoologica di Napoli (Italy); Wilhelm Branhorst, chief of the Federal Republic of Germany's Technical Assistance Program to Chile; and François Ottmann, at present at the Institute of Marine Biology in Recife, Brazil. Ramón Margaleff (Spain) attended the symposium on plankton by special invitation.

At the first meeting, Pedro Roa Morales (Venezuela) was elected chairman of the "abiotic" section and Fernando de Buen (Chile), chairman of the "biological" sections. De Buen was also chairman of the Meeting of Directors. Margaleff was invited to act as chairman of the symposium on plankton. For the Regional Training Course, de Buen and Enrique Rioja (Mexico) acted as codirectors; the professors were scientists from Mexico, Chile, Uruguay, Argentina, and Brazil, and the students were from Latin-American countries. For all these meetings, Hugo Ferrando (Uruguay) acted as secretary.

The main purpose of the meetings was to make an evaluation of the present status of research in marine sciences in Latin America in the light

of what has been accomplished. Accordingly, a series of reports covering the different disciplines of marine science were requested from, and submitted by, leading scientists of Latin America. It was also felt that some decision should be taken so as to increase existing knowledge through research and training, primarily on a cooperative regional basis.

Among the most outstanding resolutions and recommendations adopted were the following.

1) Creation of a Latin-American Council on Oceanography, with an elected steering committee composed of leading marine scientists from Mexico, Venezuela, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, and Brazil, under the chairmanship of Fernando de Buen. This council should become a permanent Latin-American Council once the necessary official steps are taken throughout all the Latin-American countries; the secretariat will be located at the UNESCO Science Co-operation Office for Latin America, Bulevar Artigas 1320, Montevideo, Uruguay.

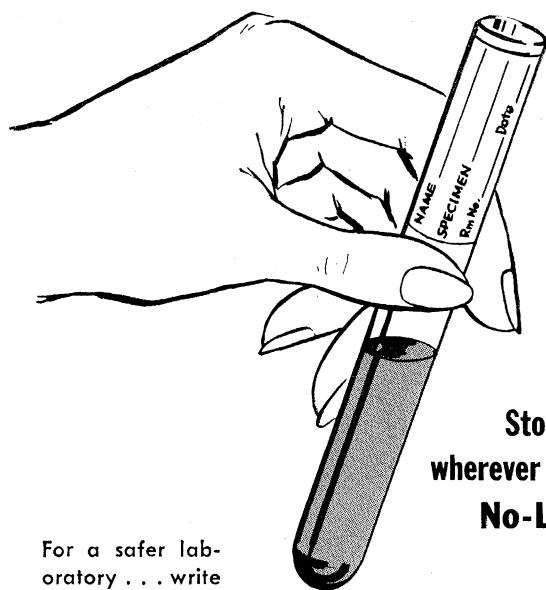
2) Establishment of research programs on a regional, coordinated basis. Seven projects were presented, and necessary measures are now being taken for the coordination of some of these by the existing marine biology laboratories and oceanographic institutes, with the help of the hydrographic naval services.

3) Publication of a "Latin-American Directory of Oceanographic Institutions and Scientists" so as to implement the exchange of scientists, students, information, and material, with the UNESCO Science Co-operation Office acting as a clearinghouse.

4) The unification and standardization of methods and equipment in marine research.

5) Organization by UNESCO, in 1962, of a 2 months' training course in physical oceanography. The Oceanographic Institute of the University of Oriente (Venezuela) offered to act as host, and the Brazilian Navy offered its oceanographic vessel, the *Almirante Saldanha*, for a training cruise to complement the course.

6) Organization by UNESCO, in 1962, of a regional symposium on the biogeography of marine organisms for the purpose of studying the geographical distribution of such organisms and the effects upon them of the physico-chemical condition and dynamics of water masses. The National Museum of Natural History "Bernardino Riva-



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davia" of Argentina officially offered to act as host upon the occasion of its 160th anniversary.

7) Organization by UNESCO, in 1962, of a meeting of deans of science faculties of Latin-American universities for the purpose of raising scholastic standards for the education of marine scientists through the reorganization and modification of curricula and plans of study.

UNESCO's Science Co-operation Office is preparing to implement recommendations 5, 6, and 7 by building up the bibliographic reference library on marine sciences in Latin America which

it has already started, with profitable results. For this purpose, each scientist present at the meeting planned to send in a contribution in his specific field. To further this program, it is requested that all scientists and institutions send two reprints of any of their publications that deal with any aspect of marine sciences in Latin America to the UNESCO Science Co-operation Office for Latin America, Casilla de Correo 859, Montevideo, Uruguay.

A. ESTABLIER

UNESCO Centro de Cooperación Científica para América Latina, Montevideo, Uruguay

Forthcoming Events

March

12-16. Society of Automotive Engineers Detroit, Mich. (R. W. Crory, SAE, 485 Lexington Ave., New York 17)

12-23. International Radio Consultative Committee, Study Group on Space Systems, Washington, D.C. (Palais Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland)

13-14. Packaging of Chemical Products, symp., annual, St. Louis, Mo. (Manufacturing Chemists' Assoc., 1825 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington 9)

13-15. Application of Statistics and Computers to Fuels and Lubricants Research Programs, symp., San Antonio, Tex. (R. Quillian, Southwest Research Inst., 8500 Culebra Rd., San Antonio 6)

13-15. Electronic Industries Assoc., Washington, D.C. (Chief of Information, Dept. of the Army, Washington 25)

14-16. National Missiles and Space Conf., Washington, D.C. (Chief of Information, Dept. of the Army, Washington 25)

15-16. Textile Research Inst., annual, New York, N.Y. (P. C. Alford, TRI, Princeton, N.J.)

15-16. Western Industrial Writing Inst., 7th, Los Angeles, Calif. (R. M. Winters, American Industrial Writing Inst., P.O. Box 5453, Pasadena, Calif.)

15-17. Optical Soc. of America, Washington, D.C. (M. E. Wurga, OSA, 1166 16 St., NW, Washington 6)

15-18. International Assoc. for Dental Research, St. Louis, Mo. (J. C. Muhler, Indiana Univ. Medical Center, 1120 W. Michigan St., Indianapolis 7)

15-23. American Soc. of Tool Engineers, annual, Detroit, Mich. (H. E. Conrad, ASTE, 10700 Puritan Ave., Detroit 38)

17-18. Etiology of the Neuroses, symp., Soc. of Medical Psychoanalysts, New York, N.Y. (D. B. Friedman, SMP, Fifth Ave. and 106 St., New York 29)

18-21. American Assoc. of Dental Schools, St. Louis, Mo. (R. Sullens, AADS, 840 N. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago 11, Ill.)

18-22. Bilharziasis, symp., Cairo, Egypt. (A. H. Mousa, Ciba Foundation, 41 Portland Pl., London, W.1, England)

18-22. International Anesthesia Research Soc., Bal Harbour, Fla. (Scientific Liaison Office, Natl. Research Council, Sussex Dr., Ottawa, Ont., Canada)

19-23. International Conf. on Equatorial Geophysics, Lima, Peru. (J. A. Broggi, Instituto Geofísico de Huancayo, Apdo. 46, Huancayo, Peru)

19-23. National Assoc. of Corrosion Engineers, Kansas City, Mo. (T. J. Hull, NACE, 1061 M&M Building, Houston, Tex.)

20-21. Hypervelocity Techniques, symp., Denver, Colo. (A. M. Krill, Mechanics Div., Univ. of Denver Research Inst., Denver 10)

20-23. American Assoc. of Anatomists, annual, Minneapolis, Minn. (C. B. Hegstad, Dept. of Anatomy, Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis 14)

20-23. High-Temperature Solution Chemistry, symp., Washington, D.C. (J. W. Cobble, Purdue Univ., Lafayette, Ind.)

20-23. Institute of Metals, London,

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