

culture medium, the easily emulsified portions of the plaque flora, present in the liquid, outgrow and obscure the *A. israeli*.

Studies of the occurrence of *Actinomyces israeli* in a large series of dento-bacterial plaques are in progress.

J. ENNEVER, HAMILTON B. G. ROBINSON,
and PAUL C. KITCHIN

The Ohio State University

Statement on Visa Action

Seventy-nine scientists attending the Fourteenth Cold Spring Harbor Symposium on Quantitative Biology in June signed the following statement:

"We, the undersigned scientists, in attendance at a Symposium on Amino Acids and Proteins at the Biological Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, June 8 to 16, 1949, desire to protest the action of the United States authorities in refusing a visa to our British colleague, Dr. R. L. M. Synge. A presumptive political affiliation has been given as a reason for the refusal to allow Dr. Synge to attend this scientific conference, which has no political implications. This regrettable action has deprived the symposium of the scientific judgment of an exceedingly able worker, and thus has done disservice to the progress of science in this country. Furthermore, we sincerely

believe that it is in the national interest to permit scientists such as Dr. Synge to visit the United States.

Resolved, That this statement be sent to the President of the United States, and copies to the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Chairmen of the House and Senate Committees on Foreign Relations, the President of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, and *Science*."

Scientists attending the symposium were shocked by the refusal of the Department of State to grant a visa to Dr. Synge, since he is not a communist, but a man of liberal views and not active in politics. They were also disturbed by the discourteous treatment shown this prominent British colleague by American officials. Dr. Synge applied for a visa in March, at the American consulate in Edinburgh; and even though he was assured that a prompt answer to his application would be forthcoming, he never received an official notification of the decision to refuse it. After repeated requests for a decision, the director of the Biological Laboratory was informed by the Visa Division of the Department of State of the refusal to grant a visa only seven days before the beginning of the symposium.

M. DEMEREC

Long Island Biological Association

NEWS and Notes

Max S. Dunn, professor of chemistry at the University of California at Los Angeles, has been named faculty research lecturer for 1949-50. Dr. Dunn was selected in recognition of his contribution to the development and application of microbiological methods for the quantitative estimation of amino acids.

L. G. M. Baas Becking, deputy chairman of the South Pacific Commission Research Council, has been named chairman of the Committee on Botanical Stations of the International Union of Biological Sciences.

Gordon Ferrie Hull, Jr., professor of physics at Dartmouth College, has received a leave of absence to study European developments in physics for the Office of Naval Research. Dr. Hull will also deliver lectures on research which he has been conducting at Dartmouth. He will have his

headquarters at the U. S. Embassy in London.

Louis N. Katz, director of cardiovascular research at the Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago, will deliver the 12th Annual Louis Gross Memorial Lecture, October 26 at the Jewish General Hospital in Montreal, Canada. Dr. Katz' subject will be "Clinical Electrocardiography—Its Present Position and Possible Potentialities."

David G. Mandelbaum, professor of anthropology at the University of California, has begun a series of studies of the Kotas, inhabitants of the Nilgiri hills of South India. Dr. Mandelbaum will visit Delhi, Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta. His work will be made possible by a Guggenheim fellowship and grants from the Social Science Research Council and the university's Rockefeller Committee on Far Eastern Studies.

Gordon R. Willey, acting director of the Institute of Social Anthropology of the Smithsonian Institution, has been appointed Bowditch Professor of Central American and Mexican Archaeology and Ethnology of the Peabody Museum, Harvard University, effective July 1, 1950. Profes-

sor Willey is the first holder of the Bowditch professorship.

Richard W. Cook, who has been acting manager of the Atomic Energy Commission's operations at Oak Ridge, has been appointed manager. Mr. Cook succeeds **J. C. Franklin**, who resigned in June.

John L. Brooks, assistant professor of zoology at Yale University, has just returned from Burma. While serving as visiting professor of zoology at Rangoon University during the academic year 1948-49, Dr. Brooks organized a research program in freshwater biology.

Lynn S. Beedle, research engineer for the Department of Civil Engineering at Lehigh University, will spend three months at Cambridge University coordinating liaison on studies being made at the two universities on the strength of welded steel frames and their components. The trip is sponsored by the Welding Research Council and the Office of Naval Research, in cooperation with the American Institute of Steel Construction, the American Iron and Steel Institute, and the Lehigh University Institute of Research.