

# Association Affairs

## The Association's Annual Exposition of Science and Industry

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IN THEIR beginnings, exhibitions, fairs, or expositions must be as old as human society. It is natural, therefore, that displays of specimens, of techniques, and of products useful to scientists go hand in hand with the reading of papers and presentation of ideas at scientific meetings. Thus, during the 103 years of AAAS history, there has scarcely been a meeting in which individuals and institutions have not shown scientists in attendance the tangible results of their scientific work. In time, as the annual meetings of the Association grew larger, the exhibits were grouped together, and the exhibitors included manufacturers or distributors of books, instruments, and scientific supplies. Always, someone had to plan the exhibition and then make the necessary arrangements for it. At the 18th meeting of the AAAS at Salem, Mass., in August 1869, the "*Programme*" carried the request

Microscopists will please confer with Mr. Bicknell as soon as possible after arrival, in relation to the exhibition of any instruments or apparatus they may bring. The room devoted to Microscopes is the Law Library in the new Court House. . . .

At this same meeting, there was a "demonstration of a remarkable case of malformation of the Thorax in a healthy living subject" and "interesting experiments of an electro-magnetic nature."

For many years, at each meeting, the exhibit manager was an interested and willing local member of the Association. At the 46th meeting, in Detroit (1897), planning and arrangements were entrusted to a six-man Committee on Exhibits, and the exhibition was assigned four rooms. New apparatus and inventions became regular features at AAAS meetings. At the 73rd meeting, in Chicago (1920), "a special Wireless Telephony Exhibit" was prepared by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Western Electric Company and was staged under the auspices of the National Research Council. A Science Theatre showing the latest scientific films apparently had its inception at the 74th meeting, in Toronto (1921).

The *General Program* of the Boston Meeting of December 1922, was the first to list in advance an "Exhibition of Scientific Instruments and Materials." Among the eleven pioneer commercial exhibitors were the American Optical Company (Spencer Lens Company), Bausch & Lomb Optical Company, James G. Biddle Co., General Electric Company, and E. Leitz, Inc.—all of whom, it is gratifying to note, not only are still in business but will be present in the 1951 Exposition.

At the 78th meeting in Cincinnati, December 27, 1923–January 2, 1924, the arrangements for "The Exhibition of Scientific Apparatus, etc." were in the hands of Ralph E. Oesper, of the University of Cincinnati, and the show filled the laboratories of the Department of Physics. In the *General Program* it was said "It is hoped . . . that the annual exhibition of the AAAS may, in future years, attain national and even international prominence." There were 21 commercial exhibitors, including Leeds & Northrup, of Philadelphia, and seven local concerns.

The first AAAS Annual Science Exposition, as an organized activity, with many more commercial exhibitors, was held in conjunction with the 79th meeting, at Washington (1924). Charles A. Shull, of the University of Chicago, was manager, the exhibit area was the floor of the gymnasium of George Washington University, and W. J. Showalter of the *National Geographic Magazine* was in charge of all local arrangements. For the period 1925–30, H. S. Kimberly was the first of several persons to serve with the formal title of Director of Exhibits.

During World War II both the meeting and the exposition were suspended. Both were resumed, however, with the 112th meeting, at St. Louis, (March 1946). This exposition and those of December 1946 (Boston) and December 1947 (Chicago) were all large, attractive, and well attended. The Association's special celebration of its Centenary at Washington in September 1948, in the absence of any participating societies, had special scientific exhibits but no exposition. At New York in December 1949, however, the basic pattern of the Association's meeting and exposition was resumed, reaching a new high in the number and variety of exhibitors. In 1950, at Cleveland, the exposition attained what is considered its optimum size—150 booths and an exhibit area of 30,000 square feet, which permits adequate aisles and a lounge. In the arena of that city's well-designed Public Auditorium, book publishers, instrument makers, microscope manufacturers, and others who produce the tools of science were joined by several medical exhibitors and a number of large industrial concerns. The presence of medical and biochemical exhibits was logical, since a AAAS meeting has a high medical content in programs and attendance. (Medical researchers comprise one quarter of the Association's membership, and chemists almost another quarter.) The large industrial concerns, many of them local, took advantage of the opportunity to show some of their impressive technological accomplishments to an appreciative audience of research scientists and professional persons.

This year, at Philadelphia, the show has been retitled the Annual Exposition of Science and Industry, since this is more descriptive of its scope and objectives. It is a coincidence that 1951 will see the

inauguration of a new section, P—Industrial Science. From the following list of exhibitors who have already engaged booth space—and others whose arrangements are pending—it is evident that this outstanding exposition may equal the 150-booth limit set at Cleveland. The scientific population of Greater Philadelphia, added to those who come from virtually every state and province on the continent,<sup>1</sup> should provide an attendance worthy of this great total investment of time, thought, and manpower. No one who attends this year's Seventh Philadelphia Meeting should fail to see the exhibits during the four days, December 27–30, that they are open. Exhibitors who will participate are:

#### *Books, Maps, and Publications*

AAAS: SCIENCE, THE SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY .....	Washington
Academic Press Inc. ....	New York
Aero Service Corporation .....	Philadelphia
Association of American University Presses .....	New York
Biological Abstracts .....	Philadelphia
The Blakiston Company .....	Philadelphia
Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc. ...	Chicago
D. C. Heath & Company .....	Boston
Houghton Mifflin Company .....	Boston
Lea & Febiger .....	Philadelphia
The Macmillan Company .....	New York
McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc. ....	New York
G. & C. Merriam Company .....	Springfield, Mass.
The C. V. Mosby Company .....	St. Louis
National Geographic Society .....	Washington
Oxford University Press, Inc. ....	New York
Philosophical Library .....	New York
Prentice-Hall, Inc. ....	New York
The Ronald Press Company .....	New York
W. B. Saunders Company .....	Philadelphia
Science Library .....	Washington

#### *Instruments, Laboratory Equipment, and Scientific Supplies*

Ace Glass Incorporated .....	Vineland, N. J.
American Electronic Laboratories, Inc. ....	Philadelphia
James G. Biddle Co. ....	Philadelphia
Cambridge Instrument Company, Inc. ....	New York
Carolina Biological Supply Company .....	Elon College, N. C.
Fred S. Carver, Inc. ....	New York
Custom Scientific Instruments, Inc. ....	Arlington, N. J.
Fastax Division, Wollensak Optical Company .....	Rochester

<sup>1</sup> From 46 states in 1949 and from 47 states in 1950. For the geographical analyses of the registration at these meetings, see *SCIENCE* 111, 132 (1950) ; 113, 146 (1951).

General Chemical Division, Allied Chemical & Dye Corporation .....	New York
Harford Metal Products, Inc. ....	Aberdeen, Md.
Jarrell-Ash Company .....	Boston
Keystone Plastics Company .....	Swarthmore, Pa.
Leeds & Northrup Company .....	Philadelphia
Linguaphone Institute .....	New York
The Microcard Corporation .....	La Crosse, Wis.
New Brunswick Scientific Company .....	New Brunswick, N. J.
Nuclear Instrument & Chemical Corporation .....	Chicago
Phipps & Bird, Inc. ....	Richmond
RCA Victor Division, Radio Corporation of America .....	Camden, N. J.
Arthur H. Thomas Company .....	Philadelphia
W. M. Welch Manufacturing Company .....	Chicago

#### *Medical*

Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company .....	Milwaukee
Armour and Company, Research Division .....	Chicago
Difco Laboratories, Inc. ....	Detroit
Miles Laboratories, Inc. ....	Elkhart, Ind.
Sanborn Company .....	Cambridge, Mass.
Sharp & Dohme, Inc., Medical Research Division .....	Glenolden, Pa.
Sugar Research Foundation, Inc. ....	New York

#### *Microscopes and Accessories*

American Optical Company .....	Buffalo
Bausch & Lomb Optical Co. ....	Rochester
C. A. Brinkmann & Co. ....	Great Neck, N. Y.
Edmund Scientific Corporation ..	Barrington, N. J.
Ercon Corporation (Zeiss, Jena) ..	New York
The Graf-Apsco Co. ....	Chicago
E. Leitz, Inc. ....	New York
The Rayoscope Company .....	Delaware, Ohio

#### *Technical Exhibits of Industries*

The American Tobacco Company ..	Richmond
The Atlantic Refining Company ...	Philadelphia
Atlas Powder Co. ....	Wilmington
Chemstrand, Inc. ....	Decatur, Ala.
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc. ....	Wilmington
General Electric Company .....	Schenectady
Hercules Powder Company .....	Wilmington
Philip Morris & Co. Ltd., Inc. ....	New York
Polaroid Corporation .....	Cambridge, Mass.
Rohm & Haas Company .....	Philadelphia
Socony-Vacuum Oil Company, Inc. ....	Philadelphia

#### *Special Exhibits*

Human Resources Research Center, Lackland A F Base ....	San Antonio
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