

# News and Notes

## Mexican Anthropology

INSUFFICIENT attention has been given to a series of unusually fruitful international conferences in anthropology held in Mexico under the sponsorship of the Sociedad Mexicana de Antropología and, more recently, with the additional sponsorship of the Congreso Mexicano de Historia. Each round table has been organized about a limited region in Mexico and has been devoted to an intensive review of knowledge and definition of research problems. Important reclassifications and syntheses have emerged from some of the sessions, and there has been much subsequent research. All the round tables have been attended by the majority of Mexican anthropologists and by a significant number of North American specialists. Sessions have been bilingual, and discussion has been frank and extensive. Most productive of the round tables have perhaps been those on the Olmec, the problem of Tula, and relations between the pre-Columbian cultures of Mexico and the United States.

The fifth round table was held in Jalapa, Vera Cruz, July 22-29, 1951, concurrently with a conference on Vera Cruz history. Sessions were devoted to anthropogeography, physical anthropology, linguistics, and pre-Colonial history. Two sessions each were devoted to ethnology and archaeology, and two to survey and summary papers. The major theme was "The Huastec, Totonac, and their Neighbors." In the course of the meeting an intensive survey was made of existing knowledge regarding the entire state of Vera Cruz and neighboring areas. Many papers reported the results of as yet unpublished research. Important topics requiring research were disclosed, and increased research activity will unquestionably result. Not the least important result was stimulation of official and public interest in research problems and encouragement to research by local scholars. More than 20 North American, 1 French, 2 Guatemalan, and approximately 50 Mexican anthropologists attended the sessions.

An especially significant aspect of the conferences was the opportunity to meet and talk informally with colleagues from other fields, not to mention the almost fabulous hospitality provided by the Mexican hosts. Delegates were transported by bus and car from Mexico City to the state line, where they were met by an official delegation from the government of Vera Cruz. They were then taken for two days to the region of Papantla and had an opportunity to see new explorations in the remarkable ruins of Tajin. In the ancient main plaza delegates were treated to a number of spectacular native Totonac dances, including the rare and striking performance of the volador. The session was officially opened and closed by the governor of the state, who also received the delegates in

a special reception. The mayor and town council of the city of Jalapa also presented each delegate with a signed diploma making him a guest of honor of the city. This gesture was implemented in a very practical fashion by the fact that delegates were provided food, transportation, and lodging by the government of Vera Cruz and the city of Jalapa during their entire stay.

Although not an official round table of the Sociedad Mexicana de Antropología, a similar session was sponsored by the Congreso Mexicano de Historia in February. Invited delegates were transported on a destroyer of the Mexican Navy from Acapulco to Mazatlan, La Paz, and Ensenada. All expenses of North American delegates were paid from nearest border point of entry and return. Sessions were held on the destroyer and also at La Paz and Ensenada.

Although the topics considered were concerned primarily with Baja California, the most important discussion centered about the region that has been defined as the Greater Southwest or Arid North America. It became clear that throughout this region many problems ignore the international boundary and call for international collaboration for their solution. The existence of cultures with special ecological adaptations, found nowhere else in the New World, was pointed out. There is also evidence that, throughout much of its human history, the area has been occupied by cultures occupying different ecological niches, and that at various times there have been coexisting cultures dependent primarily on hunting, on the one hand, and on the collection of wild vegetable products, on the other. In addition, in its later phases the region has been marked by the coexistence of cultures of the aforementioned type and cultures practicing farming.

Plans were laid at the February meeting for a small working conference of people with research interests in Arid North America to be held at Hermosillo, Sonora, sometime in 1953. Several participants have expressed the hope that this may lead at least to an informal but nevertheless permanent organization of scholars interested in the area, and to the formulation of related research plans and a continuous exchange of information.

The success of this series of conferences has depended primarily upon the energy and devotion of a group of Mexican scholars, too numerous to list here, who have organized these international meetings with a minimum of government support. Most of the more active individuals are connected with the National Institute of History and Anthropology, the National Museum of Anthropology, and the National School of Anthropology in Mexico City.

RALPH L. BEALS

*Department of Anthropology and Sociology  
University of California, Los Angeles*

## Scientists in the News

At the corporate meeting of the New York Botanical Garden on May 15, the annual Distinguished Service Awards were presented to **Arthur M. Anderson**, a member of the Board of Managers since 1933 and treasurer since 1938, and to **Liberty Hyde Bailey** in acknowledgment of his outstanding career as educator, administrator, and botanical investigator. The citation for exhibits at the New York Botanical Garden was awarded to **Mrs. Charles Burlingham. C. Suydam Cutting**, an explorer of the less accessible parts of the world, was cited for his service to science through the Garden. **Elmer D. Merrill**, director of the Garden from 1930 to 1935, received an award in grateful appreciation of his qualities as a scientist and for his public services. The first presentation of the trophy of the Sarah Gildersleeve Fife Memorial Fund was made to **Bassett Maguire** in recognition of his many explorations in Venezuela. At the meeting, **Charles B. Harding** was re-elected president; **R. Gordon Wasson** was elected treasurer to succeed Arthur M. Anderson, who will continue to serve as a member of the Board of Managers. Others re-elected were **Joseph R. Swan**, chairman of the Board; **Frederick S. Moseley, Jr.**, vice president; **William J. Robbins**, director; **Henry de la Montagne**, secretary and assistant director; **J. Mark Kerans**, administrator, business manager, and assistant treasurer; and **Donald P. Rogers**, assistant secretary.

**Hugh H. Bennett** has retired from the U. S. Department of Agriculture after nearly half a century of service ranging from soil chemist to special assistant to the Secretary. Dr. Bennett headed the Soil Conservation Service from its beginning in 1933 until October 1951, when he was named special assistant on conservation and resource matters.

Directors of the Corn Products Refining Company have elected **Henry L. Cox** vice president in charge of the chemical division at Argo, Ill. Dr. Cox joined the company in 1944.

**John E. Davis** is retiring in June as professor of physics, William Jewell College. He has been a member of the faculty since 1907 and was chairman of the Department of Physics from 1912 to 1948.

**Herbert McLean Evans**, professor of anatomy at the University of California and Hertzian professor of biology and director of the Institute of Experimental Biology, is the winner of the Passano Foundation Award for 1952. In 1922 Dr. Evans discovered vitamin E, and with O. H. and G. A. Emerson first purified and determined the empirical constitution of this vitamin in 1935. With C. H. Li and M. E. Simpson, he was first to purify the anterior-hypophyseal interstitial-cell-stimulating hormone, the adrenocorticotrophic hormone, the hypophyseal growth hormone, and the follicle-stimulating hormone. Established in 1943 by the Williams & Wilkins Company, medical publishers of Baltimore, the foundation is

dedicated to the encouragement of medical research, especially that having clinical application.

**Donald G. Fink** will join Philco Corporation on June 1 as co-director of Research-Operations. Mr. Fink has been associated with *Electronics* since 1934 and its editor since 1946.

**Thomas Francis, Jr.**, chairman of the Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of Michigan, who was the first to discover more than one influenza virus, has been awarded the Howard Ricketts Medal of the University of Chicago. The Ricketts Medal, honoring the late University of Chicago physician who died of typhus May 3, 1910, was established by Mrs. H. R. Ricketts in 1949. Dr. Francis received the medal at the University of Chicago May 12, when he spoke on "The Significance of Variation among Influenza Viruses."

**Donald S. Gilmore**, president and general manager of The Upjohn Company, has been elected president of the American Drug Manufacturers Association. Mr. Gilmore has been a member of the executive committee of the association since 1942 and a vice president since 1946.

Recent visitors at the National Bureau of Standards included **S. Gopalan**, deputy director-general, All India Radio, New Delhi; **I. Tani**, Aerodynamics Laboratory, University of Tokyo; and **Edouard Regenstein**, physicist, Scientific Section, Unesco, Paris.

**Albert Moore Hand**, of Texarkana, Texas, will join the staff of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine July 1 as instructor in the Divisions of Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine. Dr. Hand will investigate the pediatric aspects of preventive medicine.

The following persons from abroad were recent visitors at the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory, USDA, Philadelphia: **P. A. Hanks**, Colonial Sugar Refining Co., Sydney, Australia; **Francis G. Irving**, Mowling and Son, Pty., Ltd., Melbourne; and **Bhattachanta S. Dane**, India.

**Harold Jeffreys**, professor of geophysics, St. Johns College, Cambridge University, has been named the fourteenth recipient of the William Bowie Medal by the American Geophysical Union (Committee on Geophysics of the National Research Council), at its annual meeting in Washington, D. C. One of the stipulations of the award is that the recipient must have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of cooperative research in geophysics. Dr. Jeffreys, who has long been active in the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, as well as in other organizations, has been prominent in cooperative scientific activities. The William Bowie Medal was first awarded in 1939 to the late William Bowie, world-famed geodesist and geophysicist.

**Robert H. Kriebel** has been appointed engineer in

charge of the Thomson Laboratory at the Lynn (Mass.) River Works of the General Electric Company. He succeeds **John I. Hull**, who retired in March. Dr. Kriebel, who was in charge of the laboratory's Chemical and Insulation Section, has been a G-E employee since 1943.

**Harry S. Ladd**, of the U. S. Geological Survey, gave the first lecture of a newly created annual series sponsored by the William F. E. Gurley Foundation for Paleontology under the Department of Geology, Cornell University. The title of his address was "Geologic History of the Pacific Basin."

The Society for Applied Spectroscopy has announced the selection of **William F. Meggers**, of the National Bureau of Standards, as the first recipient of its newly established award for outstanding contributions to the science of applied spectroscopy. Dr. Meggers has been a physicist with NBS since 1914 and has been head of the Spectroscopy Section since 1920. The award is in the form of a suitably inscribed medal.

**Marcel Migeotte** has been appointed professor of physics at the University of Liège. Dr. Migeotte is well known for his studies of the infrared spectrum of the sun.

**Carl Neuberg**, research professor of biochemistry at New York Medical College and Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, has been invited by the Technical University of Munich, to serve as guest professor in agricultural chemistry. He will lecture during the summer session, and also before the Max Planck Gesellschaft in Goettingen.

**James S. Owens**, former executive director of the Ohio State University Research Foundation, has joined Champion Spark Plug Company as assistant to the manager of the company's Ceramic Division in Detroit. Dr. Owens, who served also as professor and chairman of the Department of Industrial Research during his five years at Ohio State, previously held industrial research posts with Dow Chemical Company and Armstrong Cork Company.

**Don Pletsch**, formerly public health adviser, Division of International Health, USPHS, has accepted a position as entomologist of a World Health Organization malaria control demonstration team in Formosa. During a two-year assignment he will work with local malaria personnel on problems of vector bionomics affecting the island-wide malaria eradication program now being initiated.

**Paul D. Rosahn**, pathologist at the New Britain General Hospital and associate clinical professor of pathology at Yale Medical School, has been designated winner of the second annual Essay Contest of the American Dermatological Association. The prize was awarded for the best essay submitted for original work on some fundamental aspect of dermatology or syphilology. The winning essay, entitled "The Ad-

verse Influence of Syphilitic Infection on the Longevity of Mice and Men," was based on investigations conducted at the New Britain General Hospital and the Yale Medical School, supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Rosahn presented his paper at the meeting of the association at Colorado Springs in April.

**Charles M. Switzer**, director of the nylon manufacturing division in the Du Pont Company's Textile Fibers Department, has retired and has been succeeded by **George E. McClellan**, director of the rayon manufacturing division. The company announced five other changes in connection with Mr. Switzer's retirement: **W. Sam Carpenter, III**, who has been director of the acetate manufacturing division, was appointed head of the rayon manufacturing division. **William L. Scarborough**, manager of the acetate production section, was appointed to succeed Mr. Carpenter as director. **Thomas Taylor**, manager of the Spruance rayon plant, Richmond, Va., succeeds Mr. Scarborough as manager of the acetate production section. **Rollin F. Conaway**, manager of the Yerkes rayon plant at Buffalo, N. Y., was transferred to the Spruance plant to succeed Mr. Taylor as manager there. **Edward M. Cooper, Jr.**, manufacturing superintendent of the Old Hickory, Tenn., rayon plant, succeeded Dr. Conaway as manager of the Yerkes plant.

**Maria Telkes**, research associate in metallurgy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, became the first to be honored by the Society of Women Engineers' Award for Meritorious Contribution to Engineering. The award was presented at the SWE national convention in New York, by Dorothy R. Young, dean of women at Drexel Institute of Technology.

The board of directors of the National Dairy Products Corporation has named **L. A. Van Bomel** chairman, and **E. E. Stewart** president to succeed Mr. Van Bomel, who had been president for 11 years. **Thomas H. McInnerney**, founder of the company and chairman since 1941, was named chairman emeritus. Mr. Stewart, executive vice president since 1950, vice president since 1944, and a director since 1945, has been with National Dairy and its associated companies 32 years.

**Julius Weber**, chief of the Department of Photo Research, Beth Israel Hospital, New York, since 1949, has been appointed director of medical photography of Medigraphics Inc. Head of photography at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center for ten years, Mr. Weber retains an affiliation with the U. S. Army Chemical Corps and the U. S. Navy Hospital at St. Albans, Long Island, as photographic consultant.

The first award of The New York Academy of Medicine Plaque has been made to **Orrin Sage Wightman**, of New York City. The award was established by the council of the academy to be granted "in recognition

of extraordinary services rendered to the Academy." Dr. Wightman is chairman of the Academy Board of Trustees. He was elected to fellowship in the academy in 1905 and was one of the founders of its Medical Information Bureau.

**Hugo Zahnd**, of the Department of Chemistry of Brooklyn College, has been granted a leave of absence for the coming academic year. He will spend his leave doing research in the Chemical Laboratories of the University of Basel, Switzerland.

## Education

The Association of University Programs in Hospital Administration, financed by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, will sponsor an 18-month study of the graduate programs in the field. James A. Hamilton, of the University of Minnesota, is chairman of the independent nine-member commission that will evaluate present educational programs and make specific recommendations for improvement. Herluf V. Olsen, of Dartmouth, will direct the study, assisted by John M. Nicklas. Universities joining in the project are Baylor, California, Chicago, Columbia, Iowa, Johns Hopkins, Minnesota, Northwestern, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Toronto, Washington, and Yale.

Under the auspices of the Medical Advisory Board of Hebrew University and Hadassah Medical School a medical workshop will be held in Israel June 3-12. Participants will include Harry Grundfest, Harry Eagle, J. J. Golub, Louis Leiter, Israel S. Wechsler, and Joseph Hirsh. On June 8-10 a symposium on the basic medical sciences will be held under the same auspices. Among the many scientists expected to attend are Ernest Chain (Microbiological Institute, Rome); Dr. Grundfest, David Nachmanson, David Rittenberg, and Heinrich Waelsch (College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University); Severo Ochoa (Bellevue); Kurt G. Stern (Brooklyn Polytechnic); and J. H. Quastel (McGill). In addition to presenting papers, the participants will confer with their Israeli colleagues on medical teaching and research problems and participate in the ground-breaking ceremony on June 5 for the new medical school in Jerusalem.

**Lehigh University** has appointed James B. Hartman head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Arthur F. Gould head of the Department of Industrial Engineering. Milton C. Stuart, a member of the Lehigh faculty since 1926, who has served as head of mechanical engineering and acting head of industrial engineering, asked to be relieved of administrative duties so that he could devote more time to teaching and research.

**Ohio State University** will offer a lecture course-colloquium on "Steric Factors in Organic Chemistry." John D. Roberts, of MIT, will lecture from June 17 to mid-July, and Herbert C. Brown, of Purdue, during August. Melvin S. Newman, of the OSU Chemis-

try Department, will also participate, and further details may be obtained from him.

**Tufts College** has established a graduate Department of Systems Analysis for the study of man-machine systems, based on the integration of mathematical, physical, engineering, and logical techniques. The work is carried on at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D. C. Assistantships paying \$1600-\$2000, with remission of tuition, are available for candidates for the M.S. degree. Applications should be made to the dean of the graduate school, Medford 56, Mass.

## Grants and Fellowships

**American Cyanamid Company** has awarded 17 graduate fellowships in chemistry and chemical engineering to students in as many universities. The stipend consists of \$1500, full tuition, and incidental laboratory fees, plus \$300 for the unrestricted use of the student's department. Cyanamid's program of grants and fellowships also includes financial aid for certain medical and agricultural research projects.

The **Morehead Foundation** has received a gift of \$1,000,000 in securities from John M. Morehead to augment previous contributions to the scholarship fund. Recipients of the second annual award of scholarships for graduate work at the University of North Carolina are William W. Abbott, James W. Coley, John L. Hazlehurst 3d, John V. Hunter 3d, Peter G. Kalogridis, Edgar Love 3d, Cornelius T. Patrick, and William A. White.

**Chas. Pfizer & Co.**, pharmaceutical manufacturers, have established a \$1000 Pfizer Scholarship for Medical Students at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine.

**A. H. Robins Company, Inc.**, of Richmond, Va., has made a three-year grant of \$10,500 to expand a program of clinical research in rheumatic disease at St. Luke's Convalescent Hospital, Greenwich, Conn. Results obtained with salicylates and *p*-aminobenzoic acid will be studied and compared with those obtained with ACTH. R. A. Higgins and Anthony A. Albanese will head the study.

**Shell Oil Company** has increased its research grants for fellowships about 25 per cent for 1952-53. Twelve grants of \$5000 each have been made for basic research in chemistry, chemical engineering, geology, mechanical engineering, metallurgy-corrosion, and physics at Caltech, Carnegie Tech, MIT, Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Princeton, and the University of Chicago. In addition, 45 graduate fellowships, totaling \$95,000, have been awarded.

The **Sloan Foundation**, which made a gift of \$5,250,000 to MIT to establish the new School of Industrial Management that will open next fall in the former headquarters of Lever Brothers, has made an additional grant of \$1,000,000 to the school.

## Meetings and Elections

The **American Academy of Arts and Sciences** elected 84 new fellows at its annual meeting, bringing its membership to within three of its statutory limit of 1000. The following were elected foreign honorary members: Cornelius Gorter, Franz Eugen Simon, Karl von Frisch, James Bertram Collip, Geoffrey Crowther, Jaime Torres Bodet, and Alfonso Caso Andrade. Edwin H. Land, of the Polaroid Corporation, was re-elected president.

The **Bibliographical Society of America** elected Curt Buhler, of the Morgan Library, president at its meeting in May at the University of Virginia. He succeeds James Babb, of Yale. Clifton W. Barrett was elected treasurer and a member of the society's council.

Under the sponsorship of FAO and various government agencies, an **International Grassland Conference** will be held Aug. 17-23 at Pennsylvania State College. An Organizing Committee, under the chairmanship of P. V. Cardon, has invited 65 countries to participate and expects an attendance of approximately 2500 specialists. Four grassland tours of typical agricultural areas are being planned to follow the congress. Full information on the congress and tours may be obtained from the executive secretary, Room 1049, 1778 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C. The five previous grassland congresses have been held in Europe.

**LOBUND Institute**, University of Notre Dame, will hold a colloquium on "Studies on the Growth Effect of Antibiotics in Germ-free Animals" June 4. Thomas D. Luckey, James A. Reyniers, and Helmut A. Gordon will speak. Notify R. F. Ervin, of the Institute, of intention to attend.

The **Mississippi Academy of Sciences** elected Clay Lyle president, succeeding A. B. Lewis, and named C. E. Lane, Jr., president-elect. Clyde Q. Sheely was re-elected secretary-treasurer and executive officer, and C. B. Galloway was named editor. Nearly 200 registered for the Biloxi meeting.

New officers elected by the **North Carolina Academy of Science** are Otto Stuhlman, Jr., president; Reinard Harkema, vice president; and John Yarbrough, secretary-treasurer. A feature of the annual meeting was a symposium on "Genetics and Contemporary Problems." The 1951 Poteat Award was presented to Steve G. Boyce, of North Carolina State, for his paper on "Source of Atmospheric Salts." The 1953 spring meeting will be held at Raleigh.

The **Pan-American Union of Engineering Societies** (UPADI) will hold its third congress at Tulane University, New Orleans, Aug. 25-30, at which it is expected the organizational work begun in 1949 in Rio de Janeiro and continued in Havana in 1951 will be completed. Several delegates and observers plan to participate in the Centennial of Engineering in Chicago after the congress adjourns. Luis Giannattasio,

of Montevideo, president of UPADI, will lead the meetings. James M. Todd, former president of the Engineers Joint Council and of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, is in charge of arrangements in New Orleans.

A **Symposium on the Dynamics of Growth Processes**, sponsored by the Society for the Study of Development and Growth and the Committee on Developmental Biology of the National Research Council, will be held at Williams College June 26-29. Among the speakers will be L. M. Kozloff, L. Szilard, A. W. Pollister, G. Fankhauser, K. R. Porter, D. S. Van Fleet, F. W. Went, F. Skoog, R. Gaunt, W. W. Greulich, D. A. Sholl, G. E. Dickerson, and F. E. Smith.

## Miscellaneous

The **American Medical Association** has established a Committee on Mental Health, to plan and develop operational programs and liaison relationships in the field of nervous and mental diseases. Leo Bartemeier has been named chairman, and Lauren H. Smith vice chairman. Other members include Walter H. Baer, Hugh T. Carmichael, Francis M. Forster, M. Ralph Kaufman, and Maurice Levine.

The **Blakiston Company**, which has published medical and scientific books in Philadelphia for more than 100 years, will move to 575 Madison Ave., New York, late this summer. The company will occupy offices with its parent organization, Doubleday & Co. Eunice Stevens has been appointed editor-in-chief, and James B. Lackey continues as science editor.

The following members of the 24-member **National Science Board of the National Science Foundation**, whose initial two-year terms expired on May 10, have been reappointed by President Truman for full six-year terms: Sophie D. Aberle, Robert P. Barnes, Chester I. Barnard, Detlev W. Bronk, Gerty T. Cori, Charles Dollard, Robert F. Loeb, and Andrey A. Potter.

Chemicals wanted by the **Registry of Rare Chemicals**, 35 W. 33rd St., Chicago 16, Ill., include calcium vanadate; sodium ferrate; diethyl arsenic bromide; zinc methionine; vinyl sulfonic acid; ethyl ortho carbonate; propargylic acid; piperolylic acid; 1,2,3,4-tetracarboxybutane; tetrahydrosylvan; tetrazolium violet; hexa-(*p*-biphenyl)ethane; 8-mercaptoquinoline; *n*-methyl acridone; 6-methyloctanoic acid; luminol; tropine; selachyl alcohol; scopolin; and epicatechin.

Three publications of possible interest to American scientists are now available at H. M. Stationery Office, London, or at the British Information Services in New York: *Directory of Collections* [of microorganisms] and *List of Species maintained in the United Kingdom and the Crown Colonies*; *Selected Government Research Reports*, Vol. 3: *Protection and Electrodeposition of Metals*; and *Report of the Radio Research Board for the Year 1950*.