Meetings and Societies

Human Ecology and the Hungarian Episode

Representatives from Cornell University Medical College, Rutgers University, Columbia University, the National Academy of Sciences, the National Science Foundation, the Bureau of Social Science Research, International Research Associates, U.S. Information Agency, Radio Free Europe, Rand Corporation, the U.S. Department of State, and the U.S. Air Force Office of Scientific Research participated in a meeting on 12 Apr. 1957 in Forest Hills, N.Y., which was sponsored by the Society for the Investigation of Human Ecology. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss findings of the various studies on the Hungarian episode of October–November 1956 that have been completed or are now in progress and to discuss new programs that have been proposed.

The various investigative groups have focused on different aspects of the episode and have used different methods to obtain information. The Cornell University Medical College group is making an intensive interdisciplinary study of individuals. The Rutgers University department of sociology, working in conjunction with Cornell and using the same respondents, is studying the political and sociological elements of the recent Hungarian experience.

Radio Free Europe has conducted intensive psychological interviews in a broad study of the motivations that were present in the combatants and in their responses to communications. The Bureau of Social Science Research is using a self-administered questionnaire that is directed toward describing problems of readjustment among refugees.

The International Research Associates did all their interviewing in refugee camps in Vienna, Austria, and in nearby areas, and studied attitudes of refugees in the early period after their evacuation.

In spite of the differences in approach and methods, the reported findings from the various studies showed remarkable agreement. It was the consensus of the meeting that the findings of each group tend to support and validate the findings of the others.

The Society for the Investigation of Human Ecology is currently sponsoring investigations of the factors that relate to man's adaptation to his environment. Studies of the adjustment of the individual Hungarian to oppression in his country, the length of the period in which he was subjected to duress, the way in which he revolted, the effects of this revolt upon him, and his adjustment to a new culture have provided an unusual opportunity for evaluating the effects of some of these factors.

Inquiries may be made to the Society for the Investigation of Human Ecology, 440 East 69th Street, New York.

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Society for the Investigation of Human Ecology, New York

Association for Computing Machinery

After almost 10 years of existence, the Association for Computing Machinery finds itself today attempting to fulfill the functions of both a professional society in its own area and an informational bridge between the older disciplines and the new areas of information processing. To this end, it is now affiliating with the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Computing, as such, is, of course, a long-established art, portions of which may be said to have reached the dignity of a science. The advent of electronic information machines, first the so-called "analog computers" and later the "automatic stored program digital calculators," increases the quantity of computation to be performed by several orders of magnitude. At the same time, computer users, especially of the digital devices, found that the new tools were as powerful in logical decision making and information transformation and rearrangement as they were simply for computation. One may safely say, therefore, that the original founders' concept of "computing machinery" has grown with the growth in use of such equipment itself.

The title-designations of members on the organization's national council show the breadth of relationship with other disciplines. In addition to members from eight geographic sections in Europe and North America, the national council contains representatives-at-large from the areas of applied mathematics, business, engineering, programming, pure mathematics, and statistics.

A complete early history of the organization was given by S. B. Williams, and later progress reports were given in presidential addresses by A. S. Householder and J. W. Carr [*J. Assoc. Computing Machinery* **1**, No. 1, 1 (1954); *ibid.* **3**, No. 1, 2 (1956); *ibid.* **4**, No. 1, 1 (1957)]. Before the formation of the ACM in 1945, there was little activity in the field. The first meeting of a group interested in this area was at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1945 where the electronic differential analyzer of Bush and Caldwell was first demonstrated. This machine was one of the first analog machines in operation. No electronic digital computers were completed at that time, although the ENIAC, designed and built at the Moore School of Electrical Engineering, was nearing completion.

A computer symposium at Harvard University in 1947 under the leadership of Howard Aiken served as a starting point for about 200 persons who endorsed the idea of a computing society. The ACM held its first organizational meeting at Columbia University later in the same year.

The association has since grown to an international membership of approximately 2500. As a representative of computer users, it has joined with the Institute of Radio Engineers and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers to form the Joint Computer Committee, which has sponsored yearly meetings on both the east and west coasts where users and designers can meet and present papers of mutual interest. Such meetings have grown in size to an attendance of more than 2000.

The association itself now holds national meetings twice a year, once jointly with AAAS in the winter, and a summer meeting. Last year's meeting in Los Angeles attracted an attendance of more than 1000. This year's meeting in Houston will emphasize the use of the new equipments in the petrochemicals industry.

The Joint Computer Committee is at present instrumental in the organization of an international computer conference to held in Europe in 1959.

The *Journal of the Association for Computing Machinery* is now published quarterly with the standard procedures of a professional journal. Papers in a recent issue range from investigations in numerical analysis for digital computers to a "Description of a cooperative venture in the production of an automatic

coding system." Other papers which have appeared have discussed the mathematics of information sorting, alphanumeric information manipulation, wind-tunnel data reduction, and pseudo-random number generation.

Going into its second 10 years this fall, the association finds the needs for activity on its part, particularly in the areas of education and the organization of the entire field of information machine use as a discipline, growing rapidly. Among its present challenges are the need for help to universities in the establishment of modern computation laboratories and the need for organization of a formal system for circulating computer procedures and programs throughout the rapidly growing body of users.

JOHN W. CARR III
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Kansas Academy

The 98th annual meeting of the Kansas Academy of Science was held at Kansas State College, Manhattan. Some 350 members and friends registered. John R. Mayor gave a talk on the STIP program. Two hundred and seven papers in the following fields were presented: botany, 38; chemistry, 30; entomology, 29; geography, 9; geology, 20; junior academy, 25; physics, 26; zoology, 30. President H. S. Choguill's address was entitled "Some poisonous plants of Kansas."

The following officers were elected for the coming year: Pres., W. H. Horr, University of Kansas, Lawrence; pres.-elect, T. F. Andrews, Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia; v. pres., T. M. Sperry, Kansas State Teachers College, Pittsburg; sec., C. T. Rogerson, Department of Botany, Kansas State College, Manhattan; treas., Standlee Dalton, Fort Hays Kansas State College, Hays.

Pan Indian Ocean Science Association

Scientists who are aware of the existence of a Pacific Science Association may possibly be surprised to learn that an equivalent body has been in existence for some years which looks after the Indian Ocean and its bordering lands. Member nations include Australia, Burma, Ceylon, France, India, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaya, Netherlands, Pakistan, and Portugal. One may observe notable exceptions: South Africa, Great Britain, Middle East countries, and the United States, which, although she has no territorial responsibilities in the area, nevertheless has many scientists intimately concerned with it through current Point-Four programs and commerical interests of growing dimensions.

The Pan Indian Ocean Science Association is the result of an idea proposed by the present writer at a meeting of the Australian National Research Council in Perth, Western Australia, in 1947. The then local chairman of that council, A. D. Ross, vigorously pursued this initial spark, with the result that he became founder of an association which had its first formal meeting at Bangalore, India, in 1951. Its second meeting was a full-scale congress that was held in Perth in 1954. And now the third congress is to be in Tananarive, the capital of Madagascar, 24 Oct.–5 Nov.

The published proceedings of the first (Bangalore) and second (Perth) congresses may be obtained from Ross at Balnagown, Golf Links Road, Albany, Western Australia, for 7/6 and 37/6 (about $5.50, post paid). Scientists interested in the region should find these worth having. The sections represented are as follows: physical sciences; biological sciences; geological sciences; agricultural sciences; economics, education, and social sciences; geography and oceanography; and human ecology.

Committees for each section are appointed from each of the member countries. Costs and transportation have in the past been defrayed in part by the respective governments, aided by such international groups as UNESCO and the Colombo Plan organization. J. Millot is the current president, and further information can be received by writing to the secretary, Dr. Renaud Paulian, Institut de Récherche Scientifique, B.P. 434, Tananarive, Madagascar.

Tananarive can be reached easily by air (for example, Air France, via Paris) or by ship (Messageries Maritimes). At the time of the congress, the climate should be very pleasant, sunny and fairly warm in the day (70–80°), cool at night (50–55°F); rain is infrequent at this time. In addition to a full scientific program for 10 days, there will be pre- or post-sessional excursions to many parts of the country (somewhat larger than California) of particular interest to geographers, geologists, biologists, oceanographers, and anthropologists.

RHODES W. FAIRBRIDGE
Department of Geology, Columbia University, New York

Society Elections

■ New Orleans Academy of Sciences: pres., Hans B. Jonassen, Tulane University, New Orleans, La.; v. pres., Edwin C. Boudreaux, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, New Orleans, La.; sec., Joseph J. Creely, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Robert E. Lee Blvd., New Orleans, La.; treas., Letitia Beard, Loyola University, New Orleans, La.; curator and AAAS Council representative, Karlem Riess, Tulane University, New Orleans, La.

■ Xi Sigma Pi: nat'l forester, L. W. R. Jackson, School of Forestry, University of Georgia, Athens; nat'l associate forester, B. F. Grant, School of Forestry, University of Georgia, Athens; sec.-treas., J. Reid Parker, School of Forestry, University of Georgia, Athens.

■ West Virginia Academy of Science: pres., W. A. Koehler, West Virginia University, Morgantown; pres. elect, V. G. Lilly, West Virginia University, Morgantown; past pres., James T. Handlan, Jr., Potomac State College, Keyser; sec., Max Ward, Glenville State College, Glenville; treas., H. D. Bennett, West Virginia University, Morgantown. The AAAS Council representative is Leland H. Taylor, West Virginia University, Morgantown.

Forthcoming Events

July

27–3. Religion in the Age of Science, 4th annual, Star Island, Isles of Shoals, Portsmouth, N.H. (Mrs. R. Holt, Box 156, Pennington, N.J.)

28–1. Psychoanalysis, 20th internatl. cong., Paris, France. (Dr. Nacht, 187, rue Saint-Jacques, Paris 5.)

28–3. Psychology, 15th internatl. cong., Brussels, Belgium. (L. Delys, 296, avenue des Sept Bonniers, Forest-Bruxelles.)

31–5. International Assoc. for Hydraulic Research, Lisbon, Portugal. (M. Coelho Mendes da Rocha, Laboratorio Nacional de Engenharia Civil, Avenida do Brasil, Lisbon.)

31–6. Dermatology, 11th internatl. cong., Stockholm, Sweden. (C. H. Floden, Hudkliniken, Karolinska Sjukhuset, Stockholm 60.)

August

2–3. Pennsylvania Acad. of Science, Honesdale, Pa. (K. Dearolf, Public Museum and Art Gallery, Reading, Pa.)

5–11. Pan American Cong. of Pediatrics, 5th, Lima, Peru. (C. F. Krumdieck, Washington 914, Lima.)

5–17. Curare and Curare-Like Agents, internatl. symp., Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. (C. Chagas, Instituto de Biofisica, Universidade do Brasil, 458 Avenida Pasteur, Rio de Janeiro.)

6–9. Poultry Science Assoc., annual, Columbia, Mo. (C. B. Ryan, Texas A.&M. College, College Station.)

7–9. Industrial Applications of X-Ray Analysis, 6th annual conf., Denver, Colo. (J. P. Blackledge, Metallurgy Div., Denver Research Inst., Univ. of Denver, Denver 10.)

7–9. International Union against the Venereal Diseases and the Treponematoses, 31st general assembly, Stockholm,

Sweden. (Secretary General, Institut Alfred Fournier, 25, boulevard Saint-Jacques, Paris 14e, France.)

8–15. International Statistical Inst., 30th, Stockholm, Sweden. (Secretary General, ISI 30th Session, Fack, Stockholm 5.)

8–15. International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, Stockholm, Sweden. (F. Lorimer, c/o American University, Washington 16.)

11–14. Heat Transfer, national conf., University Park, Pa. (G. M. Dusinberre, Pennsylvania State Univ., University Park.)

11–17. World Federation for Mental Health, 10th annual, Copenhagen, Denmark. (Miss E. M. Thornton, 19 Manchester St., London, W.1, England.)

12–16. Canadian Teachers' Federation, annual, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. (G. G. Croskery, 444 MacLaren St., Ottawa 4, Ont.)

12–18. Theory of Functions, internatl. colloquium, Helsinki, Finland. (B. Eckmann, Ecole Polytechnique, Federale, Zurich, Switzerland.)

12–25. International Soc. of Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering, 4th Conf., London, England. (A. Banister, Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George St., London, S.W.1.)

18–21. American Astronomical Soc., Urbana, Ill. (J. A. Hynek, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, 60 Garden St., Cambridge 38, Mass.)

19–21. National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Northfield, Minn. (M. H. Ahrendt, NCTM, 1201 16 St., NW, Washington 6.)

19–22. American Veterinary Medical Assoc., annual, Cleveland, Ohio. (J. G. Hardenbergh, AVMA, 600 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.)

19–23. Clay Conf., 6th natl., Berkeley, Calif. (Dept. of Conferences and Special Activities, Univ. of California Extension, Berkeley 4.)

19–23. Clinical Chemistry, 2nd international European cong., Stockholm, Sweden. (K. Agner, Box 12024, Stockholm 12.)

19–24. Finite Groups, internatl. colloquium, Tübingen, Germany. (H. Wielandt, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science, Eberhard-Karls-Universität, Tübingen.)

19–24. High Energy Physics Symp., Oak Ridge, Tenn. (University Relations Div., Oak Ridge Inst. of Nuclear Studies, P.O. Box 117, Oak Ridge.)

19–24. New England Assoc. of Chemistry Teachers, 19th summer conf., Waterville, Maine. (Rev. J. A. Martus, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester 10, Mass.)

19–24. Origin of Life, internatl. symp., Moscow, U.S.S.R. (G. A. Deborin, Inst. of Biochemistry, U.S.S.R. Acad. of Sciences, B. Kaluzskaya 33, Moscow, B.71.)

20–22. Liquid Scintillation Counting Conf., Evanston, Ill. (C. G. Bell, Jr., Technological Inst., Northwestern Univ., Evanston.)

20–23. Western Electronic Convention, annual, San Francisco, Calif. (D. B. Harris, Electron Tube Research, General Electric Microwave Lab., Palo Alto, Calif.)

21–24. Pi Lambda Theta, New York, N.Y. (C. Johnson, Pi Lambda Theta, 307 Portland Bldg., 1129 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington 5.)

22–5. International Scientific Radio Union, 12th general assembly, Boulder, Colo. (K. A. Norton, Boulder Laboratories, National Bur. of Standards, Boulder.)

24–26. International Soc. for Biological Rhythm, 6th conf., Semmering, Austria. (A. Sollberger, Anatomical Department, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm 60, Sweden.)

25–27. Pacific Division-AAAS, annual, in conjunction with American Inst. of Biological Sciences, Stanford, Calif. (R. C. Miller, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, Calif.)

25–28. American Farm Economic Assoc., natl., Asheville, N.C. (L. S. Hardin, Dept. of Agricultural Economics, Purdue Univ., Lafayette, Ind.)

25–29. American Institute of Biological Sciences, annual, Stanford, Calif. (H. T. Cox, AIBS, 2000 P St., NW, Washington 6.)

The following 28 meetings are being held in conjunction with the AIBS meeting at Stanford, Calif.

American Bryological Soc., annual. (W. C. Steere, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

American Fern Soc., annual. (I. L. Wiggins, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

American Microscopical Soc., annual. (G. M. Smith, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

American Phytopathological Soc., annual (W. B. Hewitt, Dept. of Plant Pathology, Univ. of California, Davis). 26–28 Aug. only.

American Soc. for Horticultural Science, annual. (H. P. Olmo, Dept. of Viticulture, Univ. of California, Davis.)

American Soc. of Human Genetics. (E. J. Gardner, Dept. of Zoology, Utah State College, Logan.)

American Soc. of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. (W. C. Brown, Menlo College, Menlo Park, Calif.)

American Soc. of Limnology and Oceanography. (D. E. Wohlschlag, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford, Univ.)

American Soc. of Naturalists, annual. (D. Perkins, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

American Soc. of Plant Physiologists, annual. (W. R. Briggs, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

American Soc. of Plant Taxonomists, annual. (I. L. Wiggins, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

American Soc. of Zoologists, annual. (J. F. Oliphant, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

Biometric Soc., WNAR. (D. E. Wohlschlag, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

Botanical Soc. of America, annual. (W. C. Steere, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

Ecological Soc. of America, annual. (I. L. Wiggins, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

Genetics Soc. of America, annual. (D. Perkins, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

Mycological Soc. of America, annual. (R. M. Page, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

National Assoc. of Biology Teachers. (Miss E. Larson, Box 2841, Carmel, Calif.)

Nature Conservancy, annual. (W. Drake, Canyon, Calif.)

Phycological Soc. of America, annual. (G. F. Papenfuss, Dept. of Botany, Univ. of California, Berkeley 4.)

Sigma Delta Epsilon. (Mrs. C. B. Parker, 7 Lloyd Rd., Malvern, Pa.)

Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, Pacific Coast Section. (J. P. Baumberger, Dept. of Physiology, Stanford Univ.)

Society of General Physiologists. (D. Mazia, Univ. of California, Berkeley 4.)

Society for Industrial Microbiology, annual. (J. C. Lewis, Agricultural Research Service, USDA, 800 Buchanan St., Albany 10, Calif.)

Society for the Study of Evolution, annual. (R. W. Holm, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

Society of Protozoologists, annual. (J. F. Oliphant, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Stanford Univ.)

Society of Systematic Zoology, Pacific section. (D. P. Abbott, Hopkins Marine Station, Pacific Grove, Calif.)

Western Soc. of Naturalists, annual. (W. M. Hiesey, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Stanford, Calif.)

26–28. Gas Dynamics Symp., 2nd, Evanston, Ill. (A. B. Cambel, Technological Inst., Northwestern Univ., Evanston.)

26–29. Boundary Layer Research, internatl. symp., Freiburg, Breisgau, Germany. (H. Görtler, Mathematisches Institut der Universität, Hebelstrasse 40 Freiburg, Breisgau.)

26–29. Mathematical Assoc. of America, 38th summer, University Park, Pa. (H. M. Gehman, Univ. of Buffalo, Buffalo 14, N.Y.)

26–30. American Mathematical Soc., 62nd summer, University Park, Pa. (J. H. Curtiss, AMS, 190 Hope St., Providence 6, R.I.)

26–30. Infrared Spectroscopy Inst., 8th annual, Nashville, Tenn. (N. Fuson, Infrared Spectroscopy Inst., Fisk Univ., Nashville 8.)

26–31. Low Temperature Physics and Chemistry, 5th internatl. conf., Madison, Wis. (J. R. Dillinger, Dept. of Physics, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison 6.)

27. Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, summer, University Park, Pa. (D. L. Thomsen, Jr., 807 Enquirer Bldg., Cincinnati 2, Ohio.)

27–29. American Sociological Soc., annual, Washington, D.C. (Mrs. M. W. Riley, ASS, New York Univ., Washington Sq., New York 3.)

27–30. Biological Photographic Assoc., 27th annual, Rochester, Minn. (S. J. McComb, Section of Photography, Mayo Clinic, Rochester.)

28–30. Gas Chromatography, internatl. symp., East Lansing, Mich. (H. J. Noebels, IGC Symp., Instrument Soc. of America, 313 Sixth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.)

28–31. Soil Conservation Soc. of America, annual, Asilomar, Calif. (H. W. Pritchard, 838 Fifth Ave., Des Moines 14, Iowa.)

(*See issue of 21 June for comprehensive list*)