

been looking for a man to carry on the work of the late S. W. Williston, the great authority on Permian vertebrates. They decided that Romer was the obvious candidate and delegated the chairman to secure him. As luck would have it, Romer was at the time under heavy medication for a stomach ailment and among the side effects were sleepiness and a fogging of the wits. When Romer and the chairman met, the latter began guardedly to inquire if he would accept an assistant professorship. Romer had no idea to whom he was talking or what was being discussed, and his response was neither enthusiastic nor affirmative. Somewhat taken aback, the chairman reflected that the faculty vote had been enthusiastically unanimous and asked if Romer would accept the position of associate professor. At this point Romer fortunately came to, realized what was happening, and agreed. As he remarked later, it was rather unlikely that a professorship would have been offered had he remained in the fog; you can go just so far by putting your worst foot forward. He became professor in 1931 and remained at Chicago until 1934, when he accepted a position at Harvard as professor of zoology. In 1947 he was appointed Alexander Agassiz Professor of Zoology. From 1944 to 1946 he served as director of the Biological Laboratories and from 1946 to 1961 as director of the Museum of Comparative Zoology. At the time he assumed the latter office the affairs of the museum were in a critical condi-

tion. By skillful administration, aided by the sympathetic attitude of the University and the assistance of members of the Agassiz family, he was able to surmount the crisis and to turn over, in reasonably flourishing condition, that lively institution to his successor.

A number of the leading vertebrate paleontologists and comparative anatomists now active in North America received their graduate training under Romer. He has imparted his knowledge and enthusiasm to generations of students at Chicago and at Harvard. He has reached a much larger circle through a series of remarkable and widely used texts, all of which have gone through several editions. Two have been translated into foreign languages. One of these books, *Man and the Vertebrates* (recently rechristened *The Vertebrate Story*), has, through its printing in the Pelican series, exerted an influence that extends far beyond classroom and study.

His scientific contributions run the whole gamut of the vertebrates, from origins to man, and range in time from the Ordovician to the Quaternary periods. The main body of his work deals with the origin and earlier evolution of the tetrapods, a time span from Devonian to Triassic. In this area his work has been of fundamental importance. In recognition of such work he has received the Thompson and Elliot medals of the National Academy of Sciences, the Penrose medal of the Geological Society of America, and the Hayden Memorial Geological Award

of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. He has been awarded honorary doctorates by Amherst College, Dartmouth College, the University of Buffalo, Lehigh University, and Harvard. A score of academies, societies, and associations, both foreign and domestic, include him among their membership.

Romer has been as active in the field as in the laboratory. Much of his collecting has been done in the classic late Pennsylvanian and early Permian deposits of northern Texas, but he has also worked in the Devonian of Canada and in the Permian and Triassic of the Rocky Mountain region, of South Africa and, more recently, of South America.

Shortly after going to Chicago, Romer married Ruth Hibbard. Three children and a flourishing crop of grandchildren have resulted. Whenever circumstances permit, Mrs. Romer accompanies her husband into the field. At the moment they are with a party in the Andean region of western Argentina where Romer celebrated his 70th birthday. As a sumptuous birthday present a rich, new and very exciting Triassic fauna was discovered. And so it goes—the pace does not slacken. As Romer has increased in years and strength he has gone from the flatlands of Texas to the Rockies and on to the Andes. At this rate of progress his friends may reasonably hope to send their congratulations on his 80th birthday to an address somewhere in the high Himalayas.

opportunities to cooperate with other organizations on matters of mutual concern.

AAAS Council Meeting, 1964

Dael Wolfe

With president Laurence M. Gould presiding, the Council of the AAAS met twice during the course of the Association's annual meeting in Montreal, at 3:45 P.M. on 27 December and again at 9:00 A.M. on 30 December. Attendance at the first session was 165 and at the second session 155.

In a brief report as chairman of the Board of Directors, Alan T. Waterman discussed the importance of the AAAS as viewed from his varied experience in dealing with scientific matters in and out of the federal government. He particularly emphasized the Association's role in science education and its

Elections and Officers

The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced that Council had by mail ballot elected Alfred S. Romer as president-elect, Mina S. Rees and John A. Wheeler as members of the Board of Directors, and Stanley S. Ballard, Barry Commoner, and Trevor Lloyd as members of the Committee on Council Affairs. Alan T. Waterman announced that the Board of Directors had reappointed Wallace Givens as secretary of the Section on Mathematics and Richard H. Mahard as secretary of the Section on Geology and Geography, and had selected the following new sec-

tion secretaries: Milton Orchin for the Section on Chemistry, Newman Hall for the Section on Engineering, Robert E. Olson for the Section on Medical Sciences, and Burton V. Dean for the Section on Industrial Science.

Upon nomination by the appropriate section committees, Council elected section chairmen and Association vice presidents for 13 of the Association's sections and voted authority to the Board of Directors to elect vice presidents and section chairmen for those sections which had not yet submitted nominations. The officers so elected are listed on page 895.

Council elected two new members of the Committee on Nominations and Elections: Dean B. Cowie and Oscar Touster.

At the request of the Board of Directors, Council discussed the possibility of changing the method of election of president-elect and members of the Board of Directors so that election would be by fellows of the Association rather than by members of Council. If such a change is made, presumably the initial steps would remain the same, namely, solicitation of suggestions from members of Council and selection of final slates by the Committee on Nominations and Elections. The election ballot, however, would go to all fellows of the Association rather than to all members of Council, as has been the practice for many years.

Following a discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed change, Council voted to ask that appropriate amendments to the constitution and bylaws be prepared and submitted for formal action at the 1965 annual meeting.

Council Organization

At Council's request, the Committee on Council Affairs agreed to submit to all Council members for their consideration a selected list of titles and descriptions of possible study committees that had been proposed by members of Council.

There was discussion of whether Council should continue to hold two meetings on 27 and 30 December or, alternatively, if one meeting would suffice or if two meetings might be held on successive days. Council voted to recommend to the Committee on Council Affairs and the Board of Directors that there be one meeting or that there be two on successive days.

AAAS Affiliates

Upon recommendation of the Committee on Affiliation, the Council voted to elect as AAAS affiliates the Academy of Religion and Mental Health, American College of Gastroenterology, and Conference of Biological Editors.

The Committee on Affiliation reported that it had reexamined the nature of the affiliate relationship because of its concern over the fact that some affiliates have apparently lost interest in the relationship to such an extent that it is difficult to get them to name Council representatives, and that some have either changed substantially in character since they became affiliates or might not be granted affiliation under current standards. No action with respect to any affiliated organization was proposed, but the committee suggested, and Council voted to approve, four changes which the committee hoped would help to maintain liaison between the Association and its affiliates, and would increase mutual intercommunication between them. Under these new provisions: (i) each affiliate will be asked to pay a nominal annual fee of \$10 per Council representative; (ii) the association will send *Science* to the one or two officers or members of the administrative staff named by the affiliate, so that the society can be kept informed of AAAS activities; (iii) nonpayment of the assessment for two consecutive years may be considered by the Committee on Affiliation as grounds for possible recommendation to the Council that affiliation be withdrawn; and (iv) failure by an affiliate to be represented at a AAAS Council meeting for two consecutive years may also be considered by the committee as grounds for possible recommendation to the Council that affiliation be withdrawn. Information concerning these changes is being sent to all affiliated organizations.

Committee Reports

Edward G. Sherburne reported on the Association's activities in the area of interest of the Committee on Public Understanding of Science. The Committee on Science in the Promotion of Human Welfare and the Committee on Cooperation among Scientists reported briefly. Papers prepared by these latter two committees constituted the major part of the symposium on the ethics of science presented on 27 December.

Centers of Excellence

Because of widespread interest in the geographic distribution of the universities of highest quality in the United States and the efforts to improve a number of additional universities to bring them up to top quality, the Committee on Council Affairs arranged for a discussion by Council of the problems of increasing the number of "centers of excellence." As background for that discussion, a paper by John Walsh of the AAAS staff was published in the 18 December 1964 issue of *Science*. Fred Stone, director of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health, and Denzel D. Smith, deputy director of the Division of Institutional Programs of the National Science Foundation, described the current policies and programs of their agencies that are designed to effect major qualitative improvements in selected institutions of higher education. Council discussion was for information purposes; no formal action was taken.

Table 1. AAAS budget for 1965.

<i>Receipts</i>	
Dues of annual members	\$ 800,000
From investment account for life and emeritus members	12,800
Nonmember subscriptions	145,000
Sale of back issues of <i>Science</i>	6,000
Advertising in <i>Science</i>	1,800,000
Sale of:	
Symposium volumes	95,000
AAAS Science Book Quarterly	40,000
Binders, emblems, etc.	6,000
Annual meeting and exposition	49,500
Rental receipts	2,700
Income from investments	27,000
Administration of projects	95,000
Miscellaneous	5,000
Total receipts	\$3,084,000
<i>Expenses</i>	
Publications	
Editing and printing <i>Science</i>	\$1,739,500
Cost of selling advertising in <i>Science</i>	450,000
Symposium volumes	56,750
AAAS <i>Bulletin</i>	10,400
AAAS Science Book Quarterly	64,800
Annual meeting and exposition	69,000
Press services	14,700
Expenses of AAAS sections	7,400
Allowances to AAAS divisions	17,500
Expenses of committees	17,500
Science education (exclusive of grant funds)	5,000
Public understanding of science (exclusive of grant funds)	34,700
Membership activities	104,500
Building maintenance and allowance for depreciation	103,650
Business office	216,000
General administration	87,900
Board of Directors	10,200
Miscellaneous	7,500
Total expenses	\$3,017,000
Net receipts	\$ 67,000

Resolution

Upon recommendation of the chairman of the Committee on Council Affairs, Council voted a resolution of thanks and appreciation to all of the persons in the local community whose efforts had helped to make the Montreal meeting such a successful and pleasant one.

Finances

In order to extend the Association's tax-exempt status to the geographic divisions—the Pacific Division, the Southwestern and Rocky Mountain Division, and the Alaska Division—certain changes were found to be necessary in the articles of the Association's constitution and bylaws dealing with regional divisions. Council voted to adopt these amendments. The new wording is as follows:

Constitution

Article VII. Regional Divisions

Section 1. Regional divisions and local branches of the Association may be authorized by vote of the Council, and shall be organized and operated exclusively to carry out, within their respective territories, the objects of the Association.

Section 2. Each regional division or local branch shall make bylaws for its own government, which shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of the Association and not inconsistent with the constitution and bylaws of the Association. Such bylaws and amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Board of Directors, through the executive officer of the Association, for approval, and each regional division or local branch shall elect its officers for such terms as it shall prescribe and shall hold its meetings and otherwise conduct its affairs as it shall deem desirable, subject to the relevant provisions of this constitution and of the bylaws of the Association, and to such special provisions as the Board of Directors of the Association shall have established.

Bylaws

Article VII. Regional Divisions

Section 1. Regional divisions authorized by the Council shall be organized and operated exclusively to carry out, within their respective territories, the objects of the Association. Each regional division shall make bylaws for its own government, which shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of the Association and not inconsistent with the constitution and bylaws of the Association. Such bylaws and amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Board of Directors, through the executive officer of the Association, for approval.

Section 2. The Pacific Division (organized in 1915) includes members of the Association resident in British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Montana west of the Continental Divide, and the Hawaiian Islands.

Section 3. The Southwestern and Rocky Mountain Division (organized in 1920) includes members of the Association resident in Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana east of the Continental Divide, Sonora, Chihuahua, and those portions of Texas and Oklahoma west of the 100th meridian.

Section 4. The Alaska Division (organized in 1951) includes members of the Association resident in Alaska and others who meet such requirements as may be established by the Division and approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Each division for its expenses shall receive from the Association an annual allowance not to exceed one dollar for each of its members who is an Association member in good standing, or three hundred dollars (\$300), whichever is larger, and shall make an annual report to the Board of Directors covering its activities and its financial situation, provided that such allowance shall be used only for local division purposes incident to the fulfillment of the Association's objects as specified in Article I, Section 2 of its constitution.

In order to provide the Board of Directors with greater flexibility in the use of the Association's endowment funds, Council voted to remove certain restrictions from two funds consisting of payments made by sustaining members and life membership fees. At one time, the constitution provided that the income from these funds (after the death of the member) "shall be

used for research, unless otherwise directed by unanimous vote of the Council or by a majority vote at two consecutive annual meetings." This provision was dropped from the constitution some years ago. The fees paid by life members since that change, and the income from such fees, have been subject to such use as the Board of Directors has decided. In order to clear the record so that the older funds might be combined with other endowment funds and so that the income from all such funds might be used more flexibly as needs of the Association require, Council unanimously voted to remove the earlier restriction. In requesting that this change be made, the Board of Directors announced that it had taken comparable action with respect to certain other small funds for which it had that option, and that no immediate change in the use of income from any of the Association's endowment funds was contemplated.

The executive officer reported that receipts and expenditures for 1964 were expected to be approximately in balance at a level of about \$2,700,000 and that the net worth of the Association increased approximately \$125,000 during the year. More exact figures will be published after the accounts for 1964 have been completed and audited. He reported further that the Board of Directors had adopted for 1965 the budget that is presented in Table 1. Membership changes during 1964 are summarized in Table 2.

Other Business

Upon recommendation of the Committee on Council Affairs, Council voted to hold at the 1965 annual meeting in Berkeley a major symposium on civil defense. The purpose of the symposium will be to consider the kinds of scientific information that are or should be available to help in making decisions on civil defense programs. A steering committee consisting of Henry Eyring (chairman), T. C. Byerly, and Barry Commoner was appointed to arrange the symposium.

Council also voted to request the Committee on Council Affairs to consider the desirability and feasibility of establishing a Section on Environmental Sciences or on Environmental Resources and to submit its recommendation and the results of its study to the Board of Directors.

Table 2. AAAS membership.

Changes during 1964			
New members			
Entered in 1963,			
activated in 1964		3,973	
Entered in 1964	19,005		
To become active			
in 1965	—4,491	14,514	
			18,487
Losses			
Deaths		328	
Resignations		2,610	
Dropped for			
nonpayment of dues		6,416	
			9,354
Net increase during 1964			9,133
Totals as of 31 December 1964			
Annual members in good standing		86,855	
Life and emeritus members		1,538	
Total active membership*		88,393	

* A member whose dues lapse continues to be counted as a member for 1 year. In addition to the active membership, there were in the Association, at the end of the year, 8907 other members whose dues were in arrears for less than 1 year. Some of these have been reinstated since the end of December and others will be as their dues are paid.