Constitution and Bylaws, as already named by the Board.
7. The proposed Committee on Resolutions was approved.
8. The following resolution prepared by Paul E. Klo-
stog was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, assembled at Boston on the occasion of its 120th meeting, expresses its approval and commendation of the proposal by President Eisenhower before the United Nations for international cooperation toward the beneficial utilization of nuclear energy. Many scientific and technical problems remain to be solved in such an undertaking. Scientists throughout the world will welcome the opportunity to work together on these problems as a service in the interests of peace and a contribution to the welfare of all peoples. Science is a major constructive force in the world. It knows no geographical boundaries. Hence the prospect of bringing scientists from many countries together in a collaborative re-
search and development effort in this promising area provides great hope not only for immeasurable material benefits but especially for better understanding and goodwill among nations.

9. Approval of a motion that the Council go on record,
in behalf of the Association, and convey the great ap-
preciation of the splendid work of the Local Committees
headed by Earl P. Stevenson, president of Arthur D.
Little, Inc.

10. Dr. Glass expressed his hope that Council members
would assume closer and more direct relationships with
the editor and Editorial Board by securing suitable
manuscripts and functioning as advisors and referees.

11. President Condon called attention to the suggestion
of the administrative staff that, as far as possible, the
affiliated societies and academies of science arrange
the terms of their representatives on the AAAS Council
to begin and end on a calendar year basis, since this has
obvious advantages in facilitating the work of the Sec-
tion Committees, in printing the Program-Directory and,
in general, could mean that representatives might have
a year’s background in Association affairs prior to the
annual meetings.

12. Approval of a motion to thank the British Associa-
tion and Dr. A. V. Hill for his active participation in
the Boston meeting.

13. Dr. W. Montague Cobb inquired if the Board of
Directors sometime in the past had passed a ruling
to the effect that the Association should meet only in
localities where equal hotel accommodations would be
open to all members without discrimination. Though it
was impossible to give a definite answer to this question
at the time, it was made clear that, in deciding on meet-
ings, the Board and the administrative staff give serious
consideration to all aspects of this matter. There was
considerable discussion on the best approaches to
the eventual solution of the problem of segregation at sci-
cence meetings, where it may exist, but no action was
taken by the Council.

A Report of the Boston Meeting, December 26–31, 1953

Raymond L. Taylor
Associate Administrative Secretary, AAAS

The report of a large scientific meeting serves
several useful purposes. For future reference, it pro-
vides a record of those data and highlights by which a
meeting can be appraised or compared, and it may call
attention to events of more than transient importance.
Those who have just attended are reminded of their
personal impressions; those who were not there may be
informed of what was missed—and may be prompted to
plan to attend another time.

The 120th meeting of the American Association for
the Advancement of Science, now with the status of
‘the past AAAS meeting,’” takes its place in the annals
as one of the best in all respects. Favoring mild, pleas-
ant weather throughout, characterized by really good pro-
grams in all principal sciences, and noteworthy for the
uniformly high level of friendly cooperation on the part
of the local members and friends of the Association, this
Seventh Boston Meeting continued in the rich vein of hos-
pitality and interest manifested in the six prior meetings
in Boston, as described in a previous article [Science 118,
924, (1953)]. The local committee entertained the board
of directors, officers, and administrative staff of the Asso-
ciation at a buffet supper; dinners and social events ar-
ranged by the sections and societies were numerous, and
many resident scientists invited out-of-town speakers and
colleagues to their homes. Both in paid registrations,
3315, and in other measured attendance, this was the
largest AAAS Boston meeting by a substantial margin.

The meeting had sessions of all types, and in good bal-
ance. No principal field of science was neglected. There
were programs for specialists, arranged by large societies
holding their national meetings with the Association and
also by some of the AAAS sections. And there were also
symposia that were in areas between, or embracing, se-
veral scientific disciplines, characteristic of meetings of
the Association. There were all the features expected at
AAAS meetings—outstanding general addresses by emi-
nent leaders in science, the latest scientific films, a large-
scale series of exhibits, a ‘‘Biologists’ Smoker’’ with re-
freshments, open to all registrants. There were confer-
ces on problems of the academies, on editorial matters,
on scientific manpower. And there was a penetrating, able
consideration of the position of scientists in American
society today. All these aspects of the 120th meeting
deserve more than passing attention.

General Symposiums. Early in March, 1953, the AAAS
Symposium Committee, appointed by President Condon
for that year, met to decide the theme of the 120th meet-

1Registration data for the previous Boston meetings:
1946—2738; 1935—2351; 1922—2339; 1909—1140; 1898—
905; and 1880—979.
ing, ‘‘Scientific Resources for Freedom,’’ and to settle upon one or more general symposia, to be sponsored by the Association as a whole. Three programs and the persons to implement them were decided upon, nearly ten months before this Boston meeting. The sound judgment of the Committee was demonstrated and fulfilled when, on December 27 and 29, all three programs were received by appreciative audiences which, in general, filled, and upon occasion, overflowed, the large Paul Revere Auditorium of the Mechanics Building. The first of these general symposia presented was Species Which Feed Mankind. It was planned to focus attention on the relatively small number of plant and animal species that form the staple foods of the world’s populations, and on some of the diverse technical problems of maintaining these species in adequate supply. Beginning on Sunday morning and before all the geneticists had arrived, it was, under the circumstances, well attended. Part I, devoted to some of the problems associated with the critical food plant, maize, was arranged by Paul C. Mangelsdorf; Part II, dealing with other problems of several animal food sources, was organized by M. R. Irwin.

The two sessions of The Sea Frontier, arranged by Alfred C. Redfield and Jerome C. Hunsaker, brought together in one program a most interesting diversity of papers on the geological, oceanographic, engineering, and food resources aspects of the margin or interface where land and sea meet. The speakers, all eminent authorities in their fields, complemented each other’s reports so that this proved to be one of the most successful interdisciplinary general symposia in recent years.

The two parts of The Scientist in American Society, were independently conceived and arranged, respectively, by Section K and a subcommittee of the Symposium Committee, consisting of Charles D. Coryell, chairman, Bart J. Bok, Philip M. Morse, and Victor F. Weisskopf. Dr. Weisskopf spoke in place of Dr. Urey who, at the last minute, found that, to accept an award, he had to delay his arrival in Boston one day. The thoughtful, well-delivered papers of this program, devoted to the general area of freedom for scientific inquiry in today’s troubled world, pleased the large and responsive audience. Requests to publish some or all these papers already have come from several quarters. The papers for Part II will appear in the March issue of The Scientific Monthly.

Other Symposia. Though several of the sections decided to have fewer and more definitive symposia at Boston, the total number of symposia and groups of invited papers on assigned subjects arranged by the sections and sub-sections was 41 (comprising 65 sessions, an average of 1.6 sessions each). With the 19 additional one-session symposia arranged by 12 of the participating organizations and the Association’s general symposia, necessarily largely concentrated on four days, there was, as usual, an embarrassment of riches. Yet, as the appended reports of the secretaries or program chairmen of the sections and societies indicate, virtually each program attracted a satisfactory and appreciative attendance.

The general problem of how many symposia may be ideal for an AAAS meeting is uncertain. A technical symposium on a subject such as Radio Astronomy will not compete with another specialized program, such as Anti-metabolites and Cancer, even if scheduled concurrently. On the other hand, all sessions of any sort are in potential competition with any large program planned to appeal to a large proportion of the entire audience. The pattern of scheduling specialized symposia and sessions for contributed papers in the mornings, the broader and interdisciplinary symposia in the afternoons, and the most general events in the evening, although followed in the main, cannot be completely realized because of the logical wish of each group to hold a two- or three-session symposium on a single day, and the tendency of the participating societies to arrange their sessions so that their memberships will have a minimum number of nights for which to pay for sleeping accommodations. Experience has shown, however, that if the total attendance at the meeting is sufficient, both the specialized and the general programs will have audiences considered satisfactory by those who arranged them; in any event, each program chairman or presiding officer has the satisfaction of knowing that every non-speaker present in the room, confronted by many alternatives, has chosen to attend his session. At Boston, it is believed that most symposia had an adequate attendance and, indeed, capacity audiences were common.

Conferences. Among the growing number of conferences at AAAS meetings, the Academy Conference again broke an attendance record, the Conference on Scientific Manpower III held three important sessions, and the Conference on Scientific Editorial Problems II evoked so much interest that it plans multiple sessions for 1954. An important conference on ‘‘The validation of scientific theories,’’ sponsored by the National Science Foundation and held at the American Academy of Sciences, one session of which was listed in Section L’s program, has been reported elsewhere in Science.

Special Sessions. The special sessions which add so much to the meetings each year—the distinguished evening addresses sponsored by the National Geographic Society, the Scientific Research Society of America, the Society of the Sigma Xi, the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, and the AAAS presidential address itself—without exception attracted large and appreciative audiences. Too late for change in the General Program-Directory, the National Geographic Society’s Illustrated Lecture, instead of the speaker listed, was given by Volkmar Wentzel, a staff member; his subject was ‘‘Into the heart of free Africa.’’ Jointly with the AAAS, the Society of the Sigma Xi sponsored the scholarly, amusingly anecdotal address, ‘‘The design and mechanism of muscle,’’ by A. V. Hill, recent past president of the British Association. The thoughtful and timely address of AAAS retiring president, Detlev W. Bronk, ‘‘The role of scientists in the furtherance of science,’’ appears in this issue; he was preceded by the general chairman, Earl P. Stevenson, who welcomed the AAAS to Boston with well-chosen and gracious remarks. At the fifth of the annual addresses of the Scientific Research Society of America, a great authority on suspension bridges, David H. Steinman, spoke on ‘‘Suspension bridges—the accrodynamic problem and its solution;’’ and it was announced that he was the recipient of the Society’s William Procter Prize for 1953. The Phi Beta Kappa address of Leonard Carmichael, ‘‘Science and social conservatism,’’ December 30, concluded this splendid series of special sessions of the 1953 AAAS Meeting.

Business Sessions. In accordance with the Constitution, the Board of Directors of the Association held one of its four regular meetings of the year at Boston, its sessions preceding the two sessions of the Council. As stated elsewhere, a gratifying number of Council members were present to listen to the new officers of the Association, to hear and to accept Detlev Bronk’s report of an eventful year, and to take action on committees, one of which will immediately undertake a study of the operation of the
Association under the present Constitution and Bylaws and report at the next meeting of the Council, December 1954, in Berkeley, California. With the filling of the vacancies in the enlarged administrative staff, the Association, now well into its 106th year, stands on the threshold of new opportunities to be of service to science and to society.

Analysis of sessions. In addition to the 18 sections and subsections of the Association, all of which had one or more sessions (for a total of 104), 63 societies and other organizations officially participated in the Boston meeting. Of this number, 16 societies had national meetings, their sessions totaling 102; 24 had regional meetings, with 45 sessions; and the remaining 23 organizations were official cosponsors of programs arranged by AAAS sections or other societies. An analysis of the grand total of 265 sessions follows (Tables 1 and 2).

Table 1. Analysis of sessions of the Boston meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>By AAS sections</th>
<th>By the societies</th>
<th>Total sessions</th>
<th>Total no. of authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of sessions for contributed papers</td>
<td>21 (by 8 sections)</td>
<td>50 (by 15 societies)</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>133 authors</td>
<td>411 authors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of sessions for symposia or groups of invited papers</td>
<td>69 (by 16 sections and AAAS as a whole)</td>
<td>19 (by 12 societies)</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>308 authors</td>
<td>69 authors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papers by discussants and program chairmen</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of addresses</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total of 1095 authors does not include junior authors of many of the contributed papers, 122 papers read by title, or presiding officers, unless marks by them were listed in the programs.

Attendance. At any annual meeting of the Association, the total number of persons who attend some session or phase of the convention, or who see the large-scale Annual Exposition of Science and Industry, typically exceeds 10,000, and this was true at the seventh Boston meeting. The total attendance, since it is not synonymous with paid registrations, can only be estimated from such data as the following:

Registrants who paid ........................................ 3315
Science writers and other reporters ................... 192
Exhibitor personnel ...................................... 472
Adults who saw Exposition by complimentary admission tickets ........................................ 7250
Total .................................................. 11,229

Undoubtedly, still other persons attended one of the evening lectures or were present at one of the sessions in Harvard or M.I.T. where no registration facilities were provided.

A majority of those who register are members of the Association or of a participating society. Individually, they may wish to secure the detailed General Program-Directory, to attend the Science Theatre or the Biologists’ Smoker (the two events which, strictly, are available only to registrants) but primarily, it is believed, they wish to be a real part of the meeting and to contribute to its support. As members of the participating societies, they realize that the AAAS has made all physical arrangements, has provided free session rooms, has absorbed the substantial costs of projection, and printed all program details; and they take satisfaction in paying the moderate $2.50 registration fee.

Registration totals for all earlier Boston meetings have already been mentioned. The seventh Boston meeting exceeded the sixth Boston meeting of 1946 by 579, or 21 percent. Though 53 percent of the attendance came from the six New England states, it was a truly national meeting, like its predecessors. There were registrants from all but three states of the nation (Idaho, Nevada, Wyoming), as the table on geographical distribution shows. More than at any meeting in recent years, there was a substantial number of distinguished foreign scientists in attendance. In addition to 29 speakers and presiding officers from all parts of Canada, there were 21 scientists from 8 foreign countries who actively participated in the program. Dr. H. P. A. de Boom officially represented the South African AAS and, as noted, Dr. A. V. Hill, recent past president of the British Association, gave an address cosponsored by the AAAS and the Society of the Sigma Xi.

Members of the sections and of the participating societies, and exhibitors who are interested in making contact with them, alike, are interested in how many scientists in a given field may have attended. It is for this reason that the registration slips include Item 5, ‘‘Field of Interest.’’ A statistical breakdown of the 3315 registration slips, grouping narrow specialties, is supplied in Table 4. Of the 7250 adults who deposited cards of complimentary admission to the Exposition, about half, or 3501, supplied their fields of interest. These data will be found in another column in Table 4.

The Biologists’ Smoker. The Biologists’ Smoker—which all registrants, biologists or otherwise, are cordially invited to attend—was sponsored jointly by the American Society of Naturalists, traditionally its original sponsor, and the AAAS, on Tuesday evening, December 29, from 8:30 until 11:30 p.m., in the Grand Hall of Mechanics Building. The starting hour, which overlapped the closing time of the Exposition by thirty minutes, was fixed to permit attendance following the dinners of the chem-
ists, geneticists, and zoologists, and the two special evening events, the RESA Address and *The Scientist in American Society*, Part II. About 2500 enjoyed the opportunity to renew contacts with their colleagues. Cigarettes were provided through the courtesy of Philip Morris & Co. Ltd., Inc.; the beer was donated by Haffenroffer & Co., Inc. of Boston; the Coca-Cola and several products of the National Biscuit Company, in each instance, were generously supplied by their manufacturers with the cooperation of local distributors. The Association acknowledges with much appreciation these generous contributions.

**Physical Arrangements.** Mechanics Building, the site of the exhibits of all large conventions in Boston, was the logical focus of the Association’s 120th meeting. Here were located the AAAS office, Main Registration-Information Center, Visible Directory of Registrants, AAAS Science Theatre, and the Annual Exposition of Science and Industry, in close proximity to the large Grand Hall, used for the Lecture of the National Geographic Society and the Biologists’ Smoker, and four regular session rooms. Four more session rooms were improvised so that not only all the general symposia but most of the sectional symposia could be held in close relationship to the Exposition and the Science Theatre.

The geneticists and botanists were based in the Copley Square hotels two short blocks east of Mechanics Building; four blocks further east the zoologists and medical groups were in the Statler, which was also AAAS headquarter hotel. The science teachers filled the Hotel Bradford on Tremont Street, and the economic and industrial science groups held their sessions at the Somerset.

**Projection and Other Equipment Requirements.** Projection and other equipment requirements were heavy but were most efficiently handled by the service committee which had complete responsibility for the complex logisti-

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**Table 3. Distribution of registrants by states and countries.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Registrants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>1354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>49</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>130</td>
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<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3315</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Table 4. Subject fields of attendance.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Registrants</th>
<th>Complimentary</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mathematics</strong></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physical Sciences</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>863</td>
<td>1054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meteorology</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astronomy</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geology and Geography</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geophysics</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>47</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Engineering</strong></td>
<td>83</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biological Sciences</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botany and Plant Physiology</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoological Sciences</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Biology</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medical Sciences</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry and Nutrition</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiology</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Research</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Medicine</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthropology and Archaeology</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic and Social Sciences</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History and Philosophy of Science</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Teaching and Education</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General</strong></td>
<td>279</td>
<td>1060</td>
<td>1339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3315</strong></td>
<td><strong>3501</strong></td>
<td><strong>6816</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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February 19, 1954
the St. Louis Meeting, appointed his committee early in 1953, and maintained close touch with all developments until the books of the meeting were closed last month. On behalf of the officers and members of the Association, and for himself, the writer expresses deep appreciation and thanks to Dr. Stevenson; and to vice chairman Walter S. Baird, president, Baird Associates, Inc., who headed the Exhibits Committee; Carlton F. Fuller, vice president, Polaroid Corporation, chairman of the finance committee; Wallace Dickson, director of public relations, The New England Council, chairman of the public relations committee; Carl M. F. Peterson, superintendent of buildings and power, M.I.T., who accepted the responsibility of directing the service committee; and to each member of all local committees. An expression of grateful appreciation is particularly due Warren S. Berg, Arthur D. Little, Inc., who served as executive secretary of the local committees with unfailing enthusiasm and efficiency throughout the year; and Donald D. Hathaway, Baird Associates, Inc., who served so effectively as secretary of the exhibits committee.

**Housing and Registration.** Housing and registration were efficiently handled by the experienced staff of the Convention Bureau of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, headed by James A. Morrison. His help throughout the year is gratefully acknowledged.

**AAAS Public Information Service.** Those who attended the Boston Meeting and visited the AAAS press room on the Mezzanine of the Hotel Statler gained some impression of the efficient way the science writers and other reporters were provided with releases during the meeting by Sidney S. Negus and his staff. Typically, the press room opens five or six days before the meeting begins and remains open for long hours thereafter until the meeting is over. In the months preceding the meeting, Dr. Negus, the Association’s director of public information, who is chairman of the Department of Biochemistry, Medical College of Virginia, is increasingly busy preparing for it; and for months after a meeting—while the supply may last—he provides copies of papers to those who request them. The Association is indebted to Arthur D. Little, Inc., Monsanto Chemical Company, American Tobacco Company, and U.S. Steel, which provided luncheons for representatives of the press, radio, and television during the meeting.

Pre-meeting publicity in the local press and magazines, for example in *The New Englander*, the dissemination of releases in Greater Boston, and the coverage of the meeting by local newspapers while it is in progress, were the responsibility of the local committee, the chairman of which was Wallace Dickson of The New England Council. This assignment was very well done and thanks are due all members of the committee. Miss June Lord of the United Community Service was most helpful in handling the radio and television arrangements. The 192 science writers and reporters who requested releases exceeded the 178 at St. Louis and 162 in Philadelphia in 1952 and 1951, respectively.

**AAAS Science Theatre.** Beginning Sunday afternoon, in seven programs, each four hours long, 40 of the latest foreign and domestic films were presented to appreciative audiences that consistently filled the improvised room of 300 capacity in Mechanics Building. Most titles, nearly all in color and with sound, were shown twice. The Association again expresses its appreciation to those who so kindly lent such excellent films.

**Annual Exposition of Science and Industry.** In addition to some 3300 registrants, 7250 science-minded adults deposited complimentary cards of admission and saw one of the best expositions ever sponsored by the Association. The 1953 Annual Exposition of Science and Industry—with 95 exhibitors and 153 booths exhibiting the latest in scientific books, instruments, and materials used by scientists—occupied some 30,000 square feet in the Main Exhibition Hall of the venerable Mechanics Building. In addition, there were individual industrial exhibits ranging from transistors to a great jet engine, and others from water fleas to live chimpanzees. On an experimental basis, nearly half of the exhibit area was developed as a “New England Section” with special decorations in prismatic colors (which were financed by premium rentals and special contributions). The New England exhibits which featured the latest technological developments in this local area both enriched the Show and assisted materially in financing the meeting.

Industrial firms with booth space in the Annual Exposition of Science and Industry not mentioned in either the 1953 General Program-Directory or in the Pre-convention Issue of *Science* were:

- Air Reduction Sales Corporation
- Alden Products
- Cambridge Corporation
- Hood Rubber Company
- F. C. Meichner Company
- Transistor Products, Inc.

As planned originally, the New England Section, in particular, included a most interesting series of exhibits of nonprofit organizations. The booths these occupied were sponsored principally by local companies who did not find it convenient to exhibit but who wished to support the meeting but there were three exhibitors among those who endowed booth space or made outright contributions. Organizations with sponsored booth space in the Annual Exposition of Science and Industry not mentioned in either the 1953 General Program-Directory or in the Pre-convention Issue of *Science* were:

- Air Force Cambridge Research Center
- Amateur Telescope Makers of Boston
- American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- Arnold Arboretum
- Boston Public Library
- Boston Symphony Orchestra
- Boston University
- Christian Science Monitor
- Federation of American Scientists
- Harvard University Medical School
- Harvard University School of Public Health (specifically endowed by the Kendall Company)
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- New England Council
- Tufts College
- U. S. Army, Watertown Arsenal
- Weston College
- Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

Companies contributing to the Boston Meeting of the Association were:

- Godfrey L. Cabot, Inc. (exhibitor also)
- Comstock & Westcott, Inc.
- Dennison Manufacturing Company
- Dewey and Almy Chemical Company
- Draper Corporation
- The Foxboro Company
- Gamewell Company
- John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company
- Carl Heinrich Company
- Howe & French, Inc.
- Jarrell-Ash Company
Reports of Sections and Societies, Boston Meeting

Section on Mathematics (A)

Section A met Dec. 28. On this occasion W. T. Martin delivered his retiring address as vice president. The title of the address was ‘‘Some probability distributions arising in the mathematical theory of Brownian motion.’’ The session was presided over by the secretary. The attendance was 40.

RUDOLPH E. LANGER, Secretary

Section on Physics (B)

A symposium on Physics of the upper atmosphere was arranged by Walter Baginsky of the Air Force Cambridge Research Center (AFCRC) and was presented in two sessions, Dec. 28.

Ludwig Katz, AFCRC, discussed the theoretical relations expected to exist between magnetic fluctuations and currents in the ionosphere. D. G. Knapp, Coast and Geodetic Survey, discussed the magnetic measurements, and T. N. Gautier of the National Bureau of Standards described experimental measurements of ionospheric winds based on ionospheric reflection of radio waves.

F. S. Johnson, J. D. Purcell, and R. Tousey of the Naval Research Laboratory presented the final results of the NRL programs of spectroscopic observations from rockets. These results were analyzed to derive the spectral distribution of solar radiation outside the earth's atmosphere in the ultraviolet. Soft x-rays make an important contribution to the ionizing radiation.

A. C. Faire, A. L. Aden (AFCRC), and O. T. Findingsland, Electronic Defense Laboratories, described laboratory experiments on the recombination coefficients of atmospheric gases using microwave techniques.

An important contribution to the symposium was the address of the retiring chairman of Section B, E. O. Halbut of the Naval Research Laboratory, ‘‘Magnetic storms, aurorae, ionosphere, and zodiacal light.’’ He gave a comprehensive survey of the current status of the observations and theories of these phenomena.

M. O’Day (AFCRC) described the broad program of research of his laboratory, in which rockets have been used to obtain upper-air measurements. S. N. Ghosh of Wentworth Institute discussed the theoretical interrelations of these measurements. R. A. Minzner (AFCRC) summarized the current status of upper-air temperature as a function of altitude. J. Pressman (AFCRC) covered variations of atmospheric temperature in the ozone layer.

The program, as a whole, gave an excellent summary of the important new developments in research on upper air phenomena.

A symposium on Physics in biology, arranged by Richard S. Bear of MIT, was held in two sessions Dec. 29. A very wide range of applications of physics to biological phenomena was covered. Only a few of the interesting contributions will be listed.

February 19, 1954
A Report of the Boston Meeting, December 26-31, 1953
Raymond L. Taylor

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